

Music

Hayes Greenfield's a jazzman with an eco-mindset

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SPECIAL TO THE RECORD

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WHAT: Hayes Greenfield and Friends present "Music for a Green Planet."

WHEN: Noon Sunday (doors open at 11 a.m.).

WHERE: The Highline Ballroom, 431 W. 16th St., Manhattan; 212-414-5994 or highlineballroom.com.

HOW MUCH: \$10.

In the traditional song "She'll Be Coming 'Round the Mountain," the "she" of the song is "driving six white horses" when she comes.

That's such a 20th-century way to get around.

In Hayes Greenfield's version, called "We'll Be a Part of the Solution," on his new CD "Music for a Green Planet," the lyrics are a bit different:

We'll be cruising in our hybrids when she comes

We'll be getting better mileage when she comes

We'll be a part of the solution

'Cause we're making less pollution

We'll be cruising in our hybrids when she comes

Greenfield released his album on Earth Day but is holding a CD release party and concert Sunday in Manhattan. The album takes songs familiar to children and gives them an environmental spin, written by Greenfield and New York environmental activist Margo Schepart.

Greenfield is the creator of Jazz-A-Ma-Tazz, a kids' music workshop program, and has been leading the interactive concerts at schools and children's groups nationwide since 1998. About 20,000 children see a Jazz-A-Ma-Tazz show each year.

"Music for a Green Planet" has more than just green-themed songs; there is no plastic jewel box, and the inks on the 100 percent post-consumer-recycled paper sleeve are vegetable- and soy-based.

Greenfield said the combinations of children, jazz and environmental themes is natural. Children, he said, naturally love the slightly subversive idea of taking a tune they know and changing it around.

Jazz and the environment go together because in both, there is not one answer. There are dozens of ways to "be green," just as there are scores of styles of jazz, he said.

"It's all about opening up our minds to a different language," said Greenfield, who peppers his thoughts with random exclamations like "oh wow boom biggie bop!" The diversity of jazz is evident on the CD. "We'll Be a Part of the Solution" is toe-tappy and upbeat; "This Little World of Mine" (modeled