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# Hal Willner has died, reportedly from coronavirus

BROOKLYNVEGAN STAFF | April 7, 2020

Hal Willner in Prospect Park, 2011 (more by David Andracko)



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Music and television producer and all-around legend **Hal Willner** has died, just one day after his 64th birthday. According to *Variety* **multiple sources confirmed** the sad news, citing coronavirus. His friend Penny Arcade **wrote on Facebook**, "Oh no! Not Hal.....Ladies and gentleman Hal Wilner has left the auditorium."

Hal's production credits include albums by Marianne Faithfull (**who also has Coronavirus**), Lou Reed, Bill Frisell, William S. Burroughs, Lucinda Williams, Laurie Anderson, Allen Ginsberg, and more, and he was *Saturday Night Live*'s sketch music producer since 1981. Hal is also famous for producing tribute concerts and albums, including *Lost in the Stars: The Music of Kurt Weill*, *Stay Awake: Various Interpretations of Music from Vintage Disney Films*, *Weird Nightmare: Meditations on Mingus*, and many more.

The list of **musicians and actors paying tribute to Hal** already includes Sonic Youth, Julia Louis Dreyfus, Van Dyke Parks, Beth Orton, Ben Stiller, Judd Apatow, Sean Ono Lennon, and more.



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Last year, Hal performed alongside Laurie Anderson and AHOHNI at **The Kitchen's Spring Gala**. He was producing the **"Bans Off My Body" Planned Parenthood benefit** at Town Hall with Courtney Love and Melissa Auf Der Maur that ended up getting **postponed** due to COVID-19 sheltering.

Hal, your contribution to music cannot be overestimated. Rest in peace.

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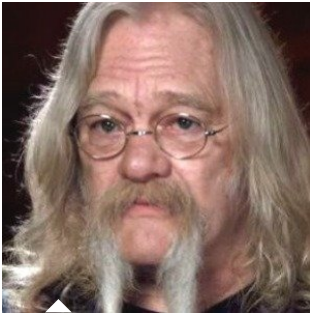
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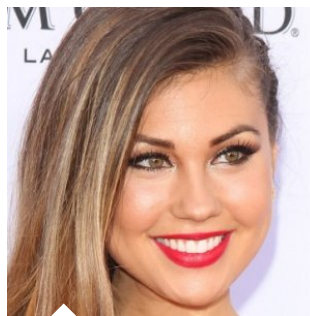
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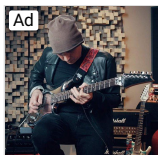


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