

# NEW YORK POST

## 'Yo' - it's live!

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Hit kiddie TV show bops into town

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For preschoolers, having a play date with the gang from TV's "Yo Gabba Gabba!" is on par with their parents having cocktails with the cast of "Mad Men."

Nickelodeon's trippy show uses a retro style and beat-driven music to teach simple life lessons. Today, it breaks out of the television set for three 50-minute shows at the Beacon Theatre called "Yo Gabba Gabba! Live: There's a Party in My City."

"We're just gonna come out and kick out the jams," says **Christian Jacobs**. The 37-year-old surfer-dude-musician and father of four created the show with his high school pal **Scott Schultz** because they didn't like the kids' shows their own children were watching.



DJ Lance Rock (below, with boom box) leads the charge onto the stage.

What they did was combine ideas from the shows they loved to watch when they were growing up — shows like "Sesame Street" and "H.R. Pufnstuf."

Parents of a certain age — listen up, Gen Xers — may be in for a treat, too. In its three seasons, the show's cool factor has attracted a who's who of hip musical guests ranging from the Roots to the Shins.

The TV show's mainstays include rap legend **Biz Markie**, who teaches kids how to be a human beatbox, and **Devo's Mark Mothersbaugh**, who has a drawing segment.

A recent episode starred **Jack Black** as a stranger in Gabba-land who learned to make new friends, fast.

The live show's expected to attract a slew of A-list talent, though Jacobs isn't saying just who'll wind up onstage. Someone you can count on seeing is DJ Lance Rock (Lance Robertson), a funky father figure fond of orange jumpsuits and fuzzy hats. He'll be joined by the show's other regulars: Brobee, the little green one; Foofa, the pink flower bubble; Muno, the red Cyclops; Toodee, the blue cat-dragon and Plex, a yellow robot — Jacobs' alter ego.

Unlike the series, the live show won't focus on a specific lesson such as going to sleep, eating or being nice — the last memorably immortalized in the song, "Don't Bite Your Friends."

"This will be just a big party," Jacobs promises. "A memorable moment for kids with their parents, we want it to have the ebb and flow of one of those crazy, lose your mind songs."

"Yo Gabba Gabba! Live" plays at 11 a.m., 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. at the Beacon, 2124 Broadway, at 74th Street; 866-858-0007.