

In 2012, a movement was born to raise big money to get Bob Avakian's vision and works into every corner of society—involving thousands of people across the country in a multitude of ways, reaching out into the urban ghettos and barrios coast to coast, the deep South, college campuses, inside the prison walls, and beyond. But this was just the beginning—it has to truly reach everywhere, changing the whole social atmosphere and culture of society; many thousands, hundreds of thousands, and eventually millions of people becoming actively aware of the works and vision for a whole new society and world brought forward by BA; breaking open great debate and wrangling over truly big questions about the nature of the present system (capitalism-imperialism), a concrete and worked out vision of an alternative way of organizing society that really would benefit the vast majority of people, concentrated in the new synthesis of communism developed by BA, and the strategy for revolution to get there.

This could make all the difference, radically changing what people think is tolerable about the world today and what is possible for a whole new, better world.

**But it won't happen without you—without your financial support, ideas, and participation.**

## BA speaks

In 2013, imagine BA's voice on the airwaves, in print, in theaters, heard in the barber shops and bodegas, played on campus quads and in living rooms across the country.

Imagine people coming together for listening parties—first of the Cornel West interview with Bob Avakian, and then the longer Michael Slate interview. A movement of people across the country tuning in together... listening and debating what they hear. Playing excerpts in classes, informal gatherings, and organized sessions... blasting the interviews from campus and community radio stations.

Imagine a national debut in February of the major new talk given in the fall of 2012. BA speaking to the greatest and most urgent need of our times, in a timely way—with fire, passion, urgency, humor, and science. It is a journey that anyone and everyone who is looking for answers needs to take. Imagine the national debut happening simultaneously in key theatrical venues across the country—this would be a societal “happening.”

Funds raised from all kinds of people to make this possible—a national fundraising weekend in January with yard sales, car washes, food sales, arts and crafts sales, penny drives... as well as people of more means giving larger sums. Imagine the unity forged with blocks of tickets for people in the projects purchased by people in the middle strata. And the engagement fostered with this cross section of people experiencing and discussing the talk together.

Meanwhile, this whole movement crackling with the deeper debate and ferment fostered through engaging the extensive interview with A. Brooks, a younger-generation revolutionary—*What Humanity Needs: Revolution, and the New Synthesis of Communism*. Discussions late into the night about the strategy for revolution, the process of “fight the power, and transform the people, for revolution,” the relationship between science and morality, the scientific method needed to know and change the world in the most radical ways possible.

**“The disparity between the haves and have-nots, the degradation of earth, the oppression and exploitation of the poor, people of color, women, and all beings is thoroughly unacceptable. The capitalist-imperialist system that has created and perpetuates this disparity and oppression and the horrors of it must be dismantled. Those of us who are called to name and change this situation will need to participate in appreciative engagement with all who share our cause. Bob Avakian models for us how we can weave multiple perspectives to this struggle and invites us to live bravely and boldly to bring about the world we know can be.”** —a Unitarian Universalist minister, ecofeminist, and animal rights activist discussing the Cornel West interview with Bob Avakian

**“I... received a small note saying that one wanted to know what I felt about the interview between Brooks/B.A. I Love It!! I've definitely made this interview a point for reference... For me, the more I study, the more my confidence builds up about engaging in debates with others. Just recently I received a letter from a friend of mine who's doing time a different prison. We've been dialoguing through the mail for years now, so quite naturally I'm going to introduce him to B.A. and the New Synthesis of Communism, and the movement we are building.”** —a prisoner in the Midwest

**“I want to tell you that I listened to the Bob Avakian tape with Cornel West. What struck me most was Avakian's direct and clear analysis, which seems, at once, to be both obvious and rare! It's like a good poem: Avakian makes you see the world that you know—because you live in it every day—in a way you never clarified for yourself. You are lost in the fog of the capitalist bullshit, the fog of spin and lies. I found myself saying, Of course! Ah, that's what I knew all along, but I never had the courage and the clean thinking to recognize or articulate the simple facts...”** —an attorney on the West Coast

In early October, the *Smiley & West* radio show on PRI (Public Radio International) across the country aired an interview that Cornel West conducted with Bob Avakian. The interview is sharp and wide ranging, challenging, and inspiring. Cornel West, a prominent public intellectual, engages with Bob Avakian, the leader of a new stage of communist revolution. Promoting this on Twitter, Dr. West wrote: “Check out my dialogue with my dear brother, Bob Avakian. He never sold out. Never caved in. Never gave up.”

# IMAGINE... 2013



## IMAGINE THIS hitting the ground with BAsics Bus Tours

**“No more generations of our youth, here and all around the world, whose life is over, whose fate has been sealed, who have been condemned to an early death or a life of misery and brutality, whom the system has destined for oppression and oblivion even before they are born. I say no more of that.”** —BAsics 1:13

**“Just imagine a room full of sweaty, mosquito-bitten... social scientists trying to change the world—that's what we went through in this BAsics Bus Tour. On the road 24/7 with this movement for revolution and with what Bob Avakian is all about, and it's just been mind-blowing to see the potential that exists out in the world... When people see the seriousness of this, when they see that it's not just another person telling you how fucked up the world is, but we have a strategy for making a revolution, and when we link that up with people, we see their potential—people want leadership.”** —young Latino BAsics Bus Tour volunteer

**“When I got into [BAsics] last night, it was like I could not put it down because I was like, wow. I never even thought that it could be this way... He's opening our understanding to the way it is, where other people are afraid to speak because it'll put their life on the line, and this man put his life on the line for everybody to know the truth. And he just told it just how it is. How can we make that change if we don't know the basics?”** —Virginia, Sanford, Florida

Three BAsics Bus Tours took place in 2012: through California; from Atlanta, Georgia, to Sanford, Florida (where Trayvon Martin was killed); and through the urban hellholes of New York City and surrounding areas. These tours brought the campaign to those who catch the most hell every day under this system and found a deep resonance. Multinational, multigenerational crews of volunteers connected BA's voice directly to the people through spreading BAsics, from the talks and writings of Bob Avakian, showings of BA's talk *Revolution: Why It's Necessary, Why It's Possible, What It's All About*, and more. Across the country, people contributed to the tours and followed them online.

In 2013 these will reach further—stirring things up on college campuses and hard-hit communities, and connecting the two.



## IMAGINE THIS debating two futures

The new synthesis of communism brought forward by BA has been concretized in the *Constitution for the New Socialist Republic in North America (Draft Proposal)*, a sweeping and concrete vision and program that provides an inspiring and living sense of a socialist state and society with the goal of communism. In 2012, debates were held at college campuses, and this Constitution was taken out in the midst of those fighting the power and lifting their heads to ask the biggest questions of what kind of world is really possible.

**April 15, 2013** has now been set as the date for a debate between Raymond Lotta, who advocates for BA's new synthesis, and Slavoj Žižek, well-known philosopher and cultural critic, on the theme of “the history and prospects for communist revolution.” This is a major opportunity to break open mass debate among students and many others who don't like the way the world is but have never heard a real, really radical argument for the viability and desirability of revolution.



## IMAGINE THIS a whole different culture

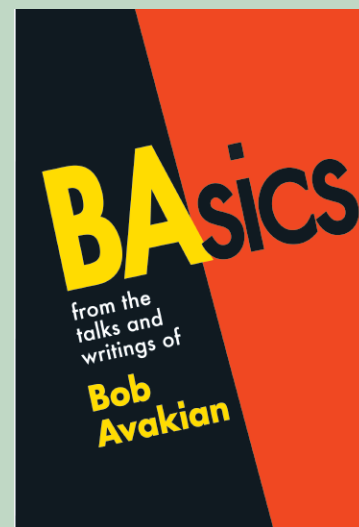
BA Everywhere has pulsed with the participation of student poets and rappers to professional musicians... from the parks and street corners to the theaters and jazz clubs.

In 2013, imagine this taking off to a whole new level. BA Everywhere open mics fostering a “culture of revolt against this revolting culture,” theatrical readings of letters from prisoners engaging BA's voice, and the BA film project going to a major new level including new ways of connecting the special connection between Avakian and the voices of those cast to the bottom of society engaging the biggest questions of the revolution. Think of the people inspired and the new kinds of culture and cultural scenes that can begin to emerge modeling and projecting a different way to think, feel, and be. Stay tuned for more on the release of the film about a very special event held in spring 2011, *On the Occasion of the Publication of BAsics: A Celebration of Revolution and the Vision of a New World*.

**“Basic as the voice, the words, the simple yet inexplicable thoughts of Bob Avakian, who may have the blueprint, the recipe, the undeniable common sense socialist solution necessary for our ever growing global community to make real change.”** —reg E. gaines, poet and playwright

## Get BAsics... Spread BAsics

Order the e-book at amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com, or itunes. Or the book: \$10 plus \$3.98 shipping/handling/tax. Send money orders or checks to RCP Publications, PO Box 3486, Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL 60654.



## IMAGINE THIS inside the prison walls

Over 2.4 million people are imprisoned in this country, over half of them Black and Latino – cast off, degraded and demeaned, systematically stripped of their rights and their humanity. In the midst of this, a growing number of prisoners have taken up BAsics as a lifeline. Prisoners have been passing BAsics and other works by BA hand to hand, holding discussion groups, writing to *Revolution* newspaper and deeply engaging BA's work, wrangling with the biggest questions of making revolution, and speaking out about the need to emancipate all humanity.

In 2013 this has to spread, with many thousands of dollars raised to not only fill all the prisoner requests for BAsics and other revolutionary literature, but to spread the word throughout the prison population and society. If the voices from those inside and the impact of BA's work on them were reverberating throughout society. Think of the inspiration that this can spark about the potential for those on the bottom to make revolution, and the unity forged among people who this system works overtime to keep divided.

**“I want to urge everybody out there to get their hands on this book [BAsics] and to help get it into the hands of others, not just prisoners, but into the hands of youth who are in danger of becoming prisoners themselves... Help them unlock their potential and give them a sense of purpose that doesn't involve killing each other. Give them an alternative to the criminal lifestyle that doesn't involve conforming to this horrid system. That is what they need, that is what they ache for. They want to rebel, they just have to be introduced to the correct way to do so. Put them on the path to becoming communists...”** — from a California prisoner