

PRESS RELEASE

17th Edition of the Mawazine Festival Rhythms of the World

Jamiroquai, the “Space Cowboy”, a great hit!

Rabat, June 24th 2018: For his first concert in Morocco, Jamiroquai promised us to lots of emotions. Promise kept! The British singer delivered a spectacular and energetic show on the OLM Souissi stage. For over an hour and a half, the man with 35 million albums sold, has interpreted his greatest hits, such as *When You Gonna Learn?*, *Space Cowboy* and *Cosmic Girl*, imposing his funk, groove, pop and electro sonorities in front of an audience that was conquered in advance!

Previously, the Nahda stage welcomed Melhem Zein, nicknamed "Al Rayes", and considered one of the most appreciated Lebanese voices of "tarab". The artist has presented with immense talent a variety of songs inspired by folklore, with a pop and funk remix of the great popular songs of the Middle East. Following him, the Syrian Rouwaida Attieh, who became famous for winning second place in Super Star, captivated the audience with her powerful voice and perfect lute control.

At the Mohammed V National Theater, the public had a special rendezvous on this third evening with a unique group of its kind: Babylon, from Algeria and formed in 2012 and led by the singer and author Amine Mohamed Djemal. Symbols of the renewal of Algerian music, the songs of Babylon were inspired by the Algerian regional styles, mixing Andalusian, Arabic, Mediterranean, Oriental and African influences ... for the greater happiness of the festival-goers!

Another venue, another style: it is cha-cha music that was present on the stage of the Bouregreg, where Las Maravillas of Mali, a Malian group of exception, unleashed the public with its rumba swaying inspired by the music of Blacks from Cuba. A Pan-African anthem for an orchestra that has marvelously mixed Cuban rhythms with the traditions of the continent ...

At the same time, the big names of Moroccan music shone on the Salé stage. The legendary band Nass El Ghiwane, no longer needed to be introduced, played their greatest hits in chorus by an exceptional crowd. Born in Casablanca, Hassan Boussou has subsequently beautifully interpreted the "gnawa" tradition, in the tradition of his father, the late Maâlem Hmida Boussou, while Tarek Farih, a young artist from Imzouren and one of the winners of Studio 2M, proved that he was one of the artists to follow in Morocco!

Bringing together the most distant cultures, Mawazine also allowed the public to discover Italy on the mythical Chellah stage. Accompanied by a duo of musicians, the great Patrizia Laquidara reviewed, with happiness, traditional jazz and contemporary music!

Beyond the different venues of the festival, Mawazine has also made the locals dream ... The main arteries of Rabat have lived through the different shows of Moroccan troops, including Groupe Soleil, composed of acrobats and stilt-walkers trained at the Shems'y National Circus School, as well as Timing Boys, bringing together a dozen percussionists on frantic rhythms of samba, hip hop, salsa, house and chaâbi!



Useful Information:

17th edition of the Mawazine Festival Rhythms of the World: From the 22nd to the 30th of June 2018.

About Mawazine Festival Rhythms of the World

Established in 2001, the Mawazine Festival Rhythms of the World is the essential rendezvous for music amateurs in Morocco drawing for the past 15 years, over 2 million festivalgoers at each edition. Held over a period of nine days, Mawazine offers a rich and diversified program where performers from all four corners of the world make of the cities of Rabat and Salé a world stage for music. Committed to promoting Moroccan Music, the Festival devotes more than half of its shows to national artists. As a firm believer in the values of peace, tolerance openness and respect, 90% of the concerts are free of charge for everyone to enjoy. Mawazine participates in the region's economy, attracting tourists from all over the world; and is a leading player in the creation of a real entertainment industry in Morocco

About Maroc Cultures Association:

Created in compliance with the provisions of November 15, 1958 Dahir, and further to a General Assembly held in Rabat on October 23, 2001, Maroc Cultures is a non-profit association whose main mission is to offer to the public of Rabat-Salé-Zemmour-Zaër region a highly professional cultural and artistic entertainment worthy of the capital of the kingdom. Echoing the fundamental values of His Majesty King Mohammed VI development policy, Maroc Cultures materializes this mission through Mawazine Rhythms of the World Festival as well as various events, multi-disciplinary symposia, plastic art exhibitions and concerts.