

PRESS RELEASE

**17<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Mawazine Festival Rhythms of the World**

**The legend Texas perform their greatest hits,  
Majida El Roumi celebrates Moroccan music  
and the trio DJ Hamida, H-Kayne and Muslim  
showcase the national creation!**

**Rabat, June 28<sup>th</sup> 2018:** After a week of memorable concerts and shared emotions, Mawazine has offered, for its seventh day, an exceptional evening with the presence of a key figure in the rock scene since the 1990s: the group Texas. The Glasgow-based band has performed for over an hour and a half presenting all of the big hits that have been legendary since their inception, from the hit *I Don't Want to Lover*, which sold over 2 million copies, to the single *Say What You Want* and *Black Eyed Boy*. The hits of their latest album, *Jump on Board*, released in April 2017, were also on the program of a superb performance that electrified the crowd!

At the Mohammed V National Theater, it is a real tribute to Moroccan music that was given by the great Majida El Roumi, who sang the famous song *Ya Bent Bladi* in front of a conquered public! The Lebanese soprano, an icon of Arabic music, has sung her finest songs by advocating peace, rebirth and union.

Another mythical voice of the Arab world, faithful to Mawazine, the beautiful Nancy Ajram, literally charmed the audience! Figure of pop, the singer with two million albums sold, has proved her immense talent. Just like the Tangier native Amine Temri, aka Aminux, one of the most followed Moroccan artists on YouTube with tens of millions of views! Winner of the 2015 Morocco Music Awards in the "pop" category, the artist, who has already performed at Mawazine in 2016, delivered an unforgettable performance on the Nahda stage!

Moroccan music was also featured on the Salé stage, where festivalgoers had a rendez-vous with a trio of iconic artists from the new generation: DJ Hamida gave a spectacular show, while two emblems of national rap, H-Kayne and Muslim, brought a breath of fresh air with music and lyrics that won the hearts of the crowd!

At Bouregreg, it is one of the oldest African groups that has marked the spirits! The Poly-Rythmo orchestra, created more than fifty years ago, gave a unique performance: a mix of influences from traditional music from Benin, soul and American funk, Nigerian Afrobeat, Congolese rumba, Ghanaian high-life and Afro-Cuban rhythms ... A cocktail of music that has thrilled the audience!

A little earlier, the site of the Chellah has honored Sepideh Raissadat: incarnation of new singers of Persian classical music and virtuoso of Sétâr, the long-handled Iranian lute. The artist made a strong impression!

For this seventh day, Mawazine continued to be present on the streets of Rabat showcasing Moroccan troops: Colokolo, dedicated to the arts of the circus with a dozen acrobats, jugglers, fire eaters and musicians, as well as the Gnawa Art Lux troop, used to participating in many festivals in Morocco and abroad to present Gnawa music shows with dance, saxophone and percussions.



***Useful Information:***

17<sup>th</sup> edition of the Mawazine Festival Rhythms of the World: From the 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> 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.