

12th FMA PROGRAM

CHARABIA

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12th FMA – PERFORMING ARTS

OCTOBER 30, 2011

8:00 PM, Théâtre Maisonneuve, Place des Arts

MANHATTAN IN QUARTER TONES

Omar Faruk Tekbilek, Simon Shaheen, and their ensembles

(United States, Palestine, Turkey, Ontario)

Opening Night

The FMA opens the doors to its 12th edition with two outstanding, unexcelled composers: polyinstrumentist Omar Faruk Tekbilek, and great Master of the *Oud* Simon Shaheen offer an exceptional encounter between two worlds: Middle Eastern rhythms and melodies illuminated by modern sounds, ranging from jazz and blues, to psychedelic music.



Inspired by Sufi trance, yoga, *tai chi* and Turkish music, **Omar Faruk** describes his compositions as "cosmic", and stemming from

the intersection between the mystical, the traditional, and romance. Having started his career as part of a Turkish classical music ensemble, he moved to the United States where he became a world-renowned reference for *World Music*. His prolific career has earned him numerous awards including *Best Artist of the Turkish Music Award*, the *US Golden Belly Musician-Of-The-Year-Award* for two consecutive years, as well as being nominated for the *BBC World Music Award* in 2003.

Lute and violin Virtuoso, Palestinian-born New Yorker **Simon Shaheen** dazzles his public with the brilliance of his performance and technique, blithely sailing from the subtleties of Arabic *Maqâms* (modes) to jazz, to classical and Latin music. Considered as one of the greatest Arab musicians and composers of his time, Shaheen has received the *National Heritage Award* at the White House, and is founder of the *Near Eastern Music Ensemble* in New York, as well as faculty advisor in the most prestigious United States universities (Columbia, Harvard, Princeton and Yale).

In a unique performance, two great masters turn a chaos of traditions, sounds and rhythms into a harmonious polyphony. A major 12th FMA opening night event, *Manhattan in quarter tones*, an ever recreating canvas!

Links:

www.omarfaruktekbilek.com

www.myspace.com/omarfaruktekbilek

www.simonshaheen.com

www.myspace.com/simonshaheen

Ticket price: \$ 28, \$ 38, \$ 48, plus taxes and fees. 15% discount for students, seniors and OPUS card holders.

Reservation: 514 842-2112 / www.laplacedesarts.com

NOVEMBER 13, 2011

8:00 PM, Théâtre Maisonneuve, Place des Arts

CHARABIA (Babble), an FMA creation

Music: Ensemble OktoEcho, Abdel Karim Shaar, The Kordz, Paul Baraka

Composition: Katia Makdissi-Warren, Franck II Louise

Choreography: Kadia Faraux

Dance : Ahmed Derhamoune, Dorine Aguilard, Jérémy Dorville, Bernard Wayak Pambe

Illustration and calligraphy: Kevork Mourad, Mohammad Makhfi

Visual effects: Hassan Aziz

(Quebec, Lebanon, France, United States, Syria, Morocco)

Closing night

Taking a leaf out of the personal experiences, words and music of the youth in the Arab world, as well as from current burning issues, this original creation of the FMA aims at bridging the gap between divided spaces and speeches in order to re-establish a reuniting dialog.



After the release of their album *Beauty and the East*, which

led to an international tour with Deep Purple, the unavoidable Lebanese band **The Kordz** voices in *Charabia* the inextricable paradox wherein lives a youth that swings between the recollections of a racking war and a tremendous hope for reconstruction. Gusts of notes and electrifying chords blend in alternative rock with Eastern sounds and flow into the world of the great *Sufi* singer **Abdel Karim Chaar**.

Katia Makdissi-Warren – Artistic Director of Montreal ensemble **Oktoecho** - sees the urban gift of gab of these artists as a challenge and call to arms that she takes on with the ardor and gusto of a passionate apprentice. She explores, scrutinizes, spins out, interrupts and renders more complex, endlessly trying to create both rich and light and thick and joyful musical stokes.

On this very path of adventure and challenge also treads the French choreographer **Kadia Faraux**, seeking the unsaid and the fleeting aspect of these intimacies delivered with such vigor or, at times, sarcasm. Inspired by the various themes in Molière's *Tartuffe*, she transcribes the different mechanisms of language and its interactions in a modern choreography streaked with Eastern fragrances.

Such a spectacle of wisdom and folly does not leave **Kevork Mourad** indifferent. The Armenian-born painter and illustrator, whose creativity is recognized by the Brooklyn Museum of Art in New York, as well as by many museums in the Middle East and Japan, adorns sounds and movement with his

spontaneous ink paintings, combining calligraphy and abstract art. Last but not least, **Hassan Aziz**, artistic director of DearMinds, seeps in and, from the underground, broadcasts the video of his *Charabia* deviations, to fully encircle ... the chaos!

The FMA brings its 12th edition to a close with an interdisciplinary "banquet", where dialogue is done in music, dance, words and visual illustrations of intertwining and seemingly irreconcilable spheres of sound, thus deconstructing "our" Tower of Babel. Sounds as novel as life, rhythms and music freed from the gravity of old tales emerge out of nowhere, and flourish in an imaginary spring ... *Charabia*, chaos is only creative on stage!

Links:

www.oktoecho.com

www.compagniekadiafaraux.org

www.thekordz.com

www.kevorkmourad.com

www.makhfi.net

www.dearminds.com

Ticket price: \$ 25, \$ 35, \$ 45, plus taxes and fees. 15% discount for students, seniors and OPUS card holders.

Reservation: 514 842-2112 / www.laplacedesarts.com

OCTOBER 12, 2011

8:00 PM, Théâtre Maisonneuve, Place des Arts

THE MAGNIFICENT THREE

Naseer Shamma, Ashraf Sharif Khan, Romero Iglesias.

With the participation of **Shahbaz Hussain**

Illustration: **Kevork Mourad**

(Iraq, Pakistan, Spain)

An FMA production

*"With The Magnificent Three, the Arab World Festival of Montreal reached a peak. Three different soundscapes, three great musical traditions, three Master musicians offered their audience a very high-caliber encounter."
(Alain Brunet, La Presse)*



After triumphant success at the 10th edition of the FMA, *The Magnificent Three*, a blazing musical journey from Iraq to Spain, from the banks of the Tigris to Andalusia, from Punjab to Montreal, will make a stop at Théâtre Maisonneuve, as part of a Canadian tour*.

It is to the rhythm of their boldness and creativity that these great artists share their musical gift, with melodies that both soothe and overwhelm, seizing all the senses to the point of exhilaration. A magnificent performance is what the undisputed master of the *Oud* **Naseer Shamma** promises, in this fascinating dialogue with **Ashraf Sharif Khan** on the zither and **Romero Iglesias** on flamenco guitar, with the participation of **Shahbaz Hussain** on percussion. This ensemble will offer its audience improvisations and original compositions, where Iraqi *Maqâms*, Indo-Pakistani *ragas* and flamenco cycles meet, tame each other and interweave, all in total, fusional harmony!

What happens when prominent artists learn to know each other, perform together on several occasions, each taking the time to immerse themselves in the technique of the others, to draw on their heritage, to explore their repertoire? *The Magnificent Three*, a true musical summit, a unique rendez-vous with the natural elegance of virtuosity!

* Nov. 13 – Ottawa / Nov. 15 – Sherbrooke / Nov. 24 – Québec / Nov 25 – Toronto / Nov 26. – L'Assomption

Links:



COMMUNIQUÉ POUR DIFFUSION IMMÉDIATE

www.naseershamma.com

www.asksitar.com

www.romeroiglesias.es

www.myspace.com/shahbazhussainkhan

Ticket price: \$ 30, \$ 40, \$ 50\$, plus taxes and fees. 15% discount for students, seniors and OPUS card holders.

Reservation: 514 842-2112 / www.laplacedesarts.com

NOVEMBER 11, 2011

8:00 PM, Théâtre Maisonneuve, Place des Arts

UPON BAÂZIZ'S WORD!

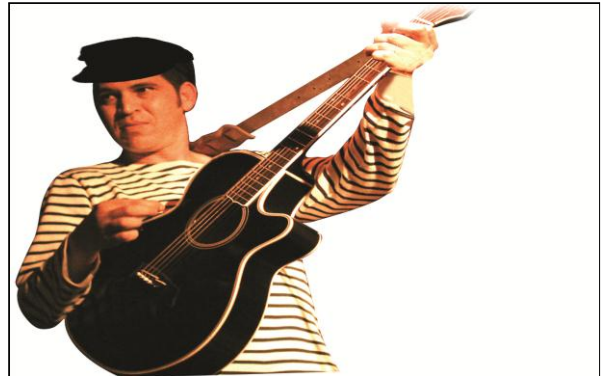
Baâziz and his band

Calligraphy: **El Seed**

(Algeria, France)

"The freedom of speech, of movement, of expression, of women, these are at the heart of my struggle. Every day, a piece of that freedom is taken away from us. This is what I'm singing against ... " (Baâziz).

A rebel and incorrigible provocateur, Baâziz has relentlessly fought against the powers that be, with words as divisive as they are subversive. In a sarcastic tone coupled with corrosive humor, this wildly successful and incomparably gutsy Algerian Dylan,



with his cabbie hat, his acoustic guitar and harmonica, also knows how to surprise his audience with moving songs like *Algeria, my Love*, which has become the anthem of the Algerian diaspora.

Renegade artist, censored in his country and banned from Tunisia, Baâziz offers in his Montreal guerilla, a show with the colors of a newfound freedom, where mediocrity is fought with strokes of derision and dark humor.

Links:

www.myspace.com/baaziz

www.youtube.com/watch?v=03HGDVKwDA0

www.dailymotion.com/video/x8prrz_algerie-baaziz-bledi-ya-blediyyyyyyy_music

Ticket price: \$ 25, \$ 35, \$ 45, plus taxes and fees. 15% discount for students, seniors and OPUS card holders.

Reservation: 514 842-2112 / www.laplacedesarts.com

OCTOBER 31, 2011

8:30 PM, Petit Moulinsart

CONVIVENCIA, the album, the concert

La Mandragore

(Québec)

Medieval and world music ensemble, The Mandragore presents their new concert, *Convivencia*, meaning coexistence and conviviality, and brings back on stage a mythical Andalusia where Saracen, Jewish and Christian cultures lived in harmony.

More than a historical document, the band creates a vibrant and passionate tribute to the crossbreeding of cultures, blending medieval melodies with original compositions, textures, sounds and languages going from Italian to Arabic, not to forget French and *Ladino*. *The Nay* mixes with the *Traverso*, the *Oud* converses with the cittern; the *Darbukas* meet with the *palmas*... in a happy marriage of sounds and civilizations.



La Mandragore has been touring Québec since 1995. They introduce Middle-Ages times and stories to an audience of all ages through energetic and interactive performances along with a story-teller troupe.

Links:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=T4fPKBhHtxI

lamandragore.bandcamp.com.

Ticket price: 20 \$ (including taxes) – limited seating.

Reservation: www.mandragore.ca/man_vente_billet_f.html

NOVEMBER 1, 2011

8:00 PM, Maison de la culture Frontenac

YEMENI ESSENCES

Marie Trezanini and her ensemble

(Québec)

Through both a traditional and modern audio-visual creation, *Yemeni Essences* retraces and explores the musical journey of the Jews of Yemen, a fascinating people whose artistic tradition has been a great contribution over the millennia, to Middle Eastern culture.

Singer-songwriter **Marie Trezanini** draws her inspiration from the

repertoire of songs of both women and men –performed in Arabic and Hebrew at wedding ceremonies and religious celebrations – thus adding a fresh perspective at the confluence of traditions and eras. Instruments from different cultures, such as the Bulgarian *Kaval* flute, or the Ravanhattha violin from Rajasthan, fuse with the bass and Middle Eastern *Oud*, so as to subtly bring to life a cross-border ethnic music.

Yemeni Essences, from Montreal to the heart of the Yemeni desert ... to recall the time of a mythical Eden.

Link:

www.myspace.com/marietrezanini

Free admission. Passes to be collected from the Maison de la Culture Frontenac.



NOVEMBER 1, 2011

8:00 PM, Studio-théâtre, Place des Arts

AFTER BELA

Kinan Azmeh, Dinuk Wijeratne

(Syria, Sri Lanka, USA, Nova Scotia)

"A love-making in public through instruments" (*The Daily Star*)

Described as "engagingly flamboyant" in the *Los Angeles Times*, clarinet prodigy Kinan Azmeh brings forth an unprecedented alchemy of sound, in concert with pianist Dinuk Wijeratne, praised by CBC as "internationally respected for his virtuosity and sensitivity". Exploring musical spheres that saltate on a myriad of musical genres, the duo presents an anthology of compositions where strokes of classical music, jazz, Arabic and South-Asian melodies intertwine, commune, or diverge.

Born in Damascus, in residing in New York, **Kinan Azmeh** was the first Arab musician to win the Nicolai Rubinstein International Competition in Moscow. He has performed solo in prestigious venues worldwide, such as the the Tchaikovsky Conservatory Great Hall in Moscow, L'Opéra Bastille in Paris, and Carnegie Hall in New York.

A former student of John Corigliano, Canadian artist of Sri Lankan descent **Dinuk Wijeratne** is the recipient of the Jean-Marie Beudet Award for young conductors, from the Canada Council for the Arts. He has directed, for the past few years, the "Nova Scotia Youth Orchestra".



With an outstanding clarinetist who subtly reaches into the depths of each member of his audience, and a pianist/percussionist who wields his instrument as if it were sometimes a harp, and sometimes a drum, *After Bela* promises a great performance, universal music, with no name or belonging to any category, and whose center of gravity pendulates continuously between the musician's imagination and the audience's sensibility. *After Bela*, when music, musicians, and audience are One!

Links:

www.kinanazmeh.com

www.dinukwijeratne.com

Ticket price: \$ 22 plus taxes and fees. 15% discount for students, seniors and OPUS card holders.

Reservation: 514 842-2112 / www.laplacedesarts.com

NOVEMBER 2, 2011

8:00 PM, Cinquième Salle, Place des Arts

SUFI-YOGI

Siamak Nasr, the group Sufi-Yogi and the troupe Khorshid Khanoom

(Iran, Quebec)

A unique opportunity for Montrealers to delve into the East's sacred traditions, to experience moments of ecstatic trance-and-dance!

A fine connoisseur of Indian and Persian music, improviser, composer and artistic director of *Fous de Dieu* (2008), **Siamak Nasr**, virtuoso sitar player, offers a new masterpiece of cosmic music where Indian surges merge with ancient Persian melodies, calling for a most mystical and euphoric experience .

Through the voices of ten Reciters, accompanied by the **dance troupe Khorshid Khanoom** and traditional instruments like the zither, the *Oud* and the *Riq* (drums), the ensemble transmits to the audience the elixir of its enthrallment through trance states called *Hal*.

Sufi-Yogi... rhythm, melodies and dance are a vessel guiding us to a great sacred celebration, at the intersection of several traditions which lead to the Divine ... or to the Other.



Links:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=fWB5Vk0tTel

www.youtube.com/watch?v=i6qCgTI-J1g

Ticket price: \$ 25, plus taxes and fees. 15% discount for students, seniors and OPUS card holders.

Reservation: 514 842-2112 / www.laplacedesarts.com

NOVEMBER 2, 2011

9:00 PM, La Sala Rossa

A-RAP REVOLUTION

Khaled M, RahZemos, Monk E., Low C, Jiggy

(Libya, United States, Lebanon, Ontario, Quebec, Iraq)

A young Libyan rapper living in the United States, **Khaled M** voices his rebellion and struggle through his writing, strongly inspired by his father, a supporter of the revolutionary movement and a survivor of Libyan prison after five years of torture. Having spent his childhood escaping from city to city to evade the Kadhafi regime, Khaled claims the right to



freedom through his famous piece, "*Can't take our freedom*" which has become the anthem of the Libyan resistance. With brilliantly chosen collaborations (Lupe Fiasco, Bone Thugs-N-Harmony, Tech N9ne, Brother Ali, Lowkey) and performances at Lollapalooza or the North Coast Music Festival, Khaled steadily rises to international fame which has already earned him the title of "Lyricist of the year" from the Chicago Urban Music Award, and the "Chicago hip hop connects" award, among many others.

A strong-tempered rapper with a love for words and rhymed protest, Khalid M will, for the first time, shake Montreal, along with Lebanese-Canadian MC **RahZemos**, **Monk E.** and **Jiggy** from the Montreal hip hop scene.

Links:

thisiskhaledm.com

www.myspace.com/rahzemos

www.myspace.com/monkemusic

www.myspace.com/jiggy514

Ticket price: \$ 15, plus taxes and fees. 15% discount for students, seniors and OPUS card holders.

Reservation: www.casadelpopolo.com/Admission: 1-855 790-1245

NOVEMBER 3, 2011

8:00 PM, Cinquième Salle, Place des Arts

JAZZY BREEZE

Randa Ghossoub, Cyrus Chestnut, Michel Donato, Jim Hillman

(Lebanon, Quebec, United States)

Randa Ghossoub promises oriental jazz lovers an exceptional performance! For the third time at the FMA, she returns to the stage with an outstanding trio, featuring American jazz pianist Cyrus Chestnut, Michel Donato on double-bass and Jim Hillman on the drums.

Leading Lebanese-Canadian jazz singer **Randa Ghossoub** has dwelled between Beirut, Africa, Europe and Canada, which allowed her to illuminate her music with many colors, thus giving it a highly commingled style.

Internationally renowned jazz musicians **Cyrus Chestnut**, **Michel Donato** and **Jim Hillman**, boldly mix the genres and ventures in the experimental channels of improvisation, all brilliantly borne by Randa's vigorous voice.

An excellent prelude for those not acquainted with oriental jazz, and a unique opportunity to witness one of the most successful instances where the minds of four great artists meet!

Links:

www.randamusic.com

www.youtube.com/watch?v=4kRhgxEoM0k

cyruschestnut.net

www.micheldonato.com

themerlinfactor.com/JimBio.html

Ticket price: \$ 25 plus taxes and fees. 15% discount for students, seniors and OPUS card holders.

Reservation: 514 842-2112 / www.laplacedesarts.com



NOVEMBER 3, 2011

8:00 PM, Corona Theater

CAMÉLÉON IN CONCERT

(Algeria)

Presenting such a stunning fusion of most diverse influences and rhythms, the group Caméléon is so aptly named! With a versatile genius that goes beyond categorization, form or musical genre, the group nevertheless manages to preserve its fundamentally North African musical identity. It draws its inspiration at times from the *Chaâbi* - Algerian popular music – and at others from *rai*, jazz and alternative rock.



Having conquered the hearts of thousands of young Africans, Caméléon comes bearing the ardour and revival of North Africa to the Montreal public.

Link:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=895BTfwk9qY&feature=related

Ticket price: \$ 22, plus taxes and fees. 15% discount for students, seniors and OPUS card holders.

Reservation: www.theatrecorona.com 514 931-2088

NOVEMBER 4, 2011

8:00 PM Cinquième Salle, Place des Arts

ANDALUSIAN NIGHTS

Layali Al Andalus

(Morocco, United States)

Reviving the golden age of a mythical Andalusia, the Layali Al Andalus (Andalusia Nights) ensemble draws inspiration from the Islamic-Judeo-Christian heritage of plural Spain and Maghreb, both a confluence of Arab and Western civilizations, a crossroads for science, art and culture for more than five centuries.



Bringing together musicians of various origins - **Rashid Halihal** on the lute and violin, **David Buchbut** and **Brahim Fribgan** on percussion, **Daphna Mor** on the flute, and **Uri Sharlin** on the accordion - this New York group interprets popular songs from the North African repertoire, alloying the colors and rhythms of the *Andalusi*, *Gharnati*, and *Chaabi* genres.

Andalusian Nights, a dreamlike journey, to embrace the essence of the real *convivencia*.

Links:

www.layaliandalus.com

www.youtube.com/watch?v=B3bNXpf0ZNk&feature=player_embedded

www.youtube.com/watch?v=7aCHqVS_xVM&feature=player_embedded

Ticket price: \$ 25, plus taxes and fees. 15% discount for students, seniors and OPUS card holders.

Reservation: 514 842-2112 / www.laplacedesarts.com

NOVEMBER 5, 2011

8:00 PM, Cinquième Salle, Place des Arts

TUNISIA WANTS...

Emel Mathlouthi, Imed Jemaa

(France, Tunisia)

A dual performance devoted to protest. Through movement and sound, two artists sing a young Tunisia, awakening deep dreams, buried temptations and a powerful desire for freedom.



Emel Mathlouthi, who shone in the crowd of rebels when interpreting *Kelmti horra* (*My words are free*), returns to Montreal to breathe renewal and pay a glowing tribute to her country. A true icon of the Tunisian revolution, Emel joins the ranks of this cohort of rebellious and unsubdued artists, through a breathtaking voice! With an amazing ability to adapt her voice to a variety of registers and musical genres, she glides easily from Arabic lyricism, to the impetuosity of rock, the lightness of trip hop, or the power of flamenco, thus bringing a unique touch to modern Tunisian music. Her vocal prowess has earned her great collaborations with leading artists including Tricky, CharElie Couture and Jean-Jacques Milteau, as well as comparisons with the outstanding voices of Joan Baez, Fayrouz, or Amalia Rodriguez.

While placing his movements within the proper continuity of the spiral, the Arabic calligraphy and the chaotic disruptions of daily life, **Imed Jemaa** delivers his choreographic vision of the Tunisian revolution. Choreographer and classic and contemporary dancer, he goes back to the ancient Sub-Saharan slave possession cults, to represent a current reality made up of oppression and liberation, of death and hope. Featured in 2004 at *Tangente*, as part of the FMA, Imed has since achieved international fame that has earned him, above all, the silver medal for best choreography for the 1994 Francophone Games.

Tunisia wants ... an evening combining lyricism and vehemence, a cross-border mouthpiece for a youth avid for freedom.

Links:

www.myspace.com/amelmathlouthi

www.emelmathlouthi.com/home.html

www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkRsd04RHnU&feature=player_embedded

www.youtube.com/watch?v=oAvOfkLR-PU&feature=player_embedded

Ticket price: \$ 25, plus taxes and fees. 15% discount for students, seniors and OPUS card holders.

Reservation: 514 842-2112 / www.laplacedesarts.com

NOVEMBER 6, 2011

8:00 PM, Cinquième Salle, Place des Arts

MINOR EMPIRE

(Turkey, Ontario, Quebec)

Turkish-Canadian ensemble **Minor Empire** astonishingly blurs the line between traditional Turkish music and contemporary electronic tones. With Middle Eastern instruments such as the lute and the *kanun*, mixed with electric guitars and machines, the group succeeds genuinely in projecting us in both the caravanserais of the past and the modern digital age.

A most multifarious concert that mixes Turkish folk music with jazz, electronica, psychedelic rock, the frenzied rhythms of *darbukas* and hypnotic guitar chords, all exalted by the spellbinding voice of the exceptional singer **Ozgu Ozman**.



Links:

www.minorempire.net

www.youtube.com/watch?v=sINU9ND_utg

Ticket price: \$ 25, plus taxes and fees. 15% discount for students, seniors and OPUS card holders.

Reservation: 514 842-2112 / www.laplacedesarts.com

NOVEMBER 6, 2011

8:30 PM, Studio-théâtre, Place des Arts

SAOMETIS

(Québec)

World Music enthusiast Montreal group Saometis pushes its musical horizons beyond the Canadian borders. It is through the exploration of the musical language and rhythms of Africa, the East and West that this group has created an amalgam of non-traditional instrumental compositions, in which multiple instruments of diverse origins come together: the guitar, *Oud*, *Cuatro*, *Tambo*, *Djembe*, *Darbuka*, *Udu* and *Cajon*. Guitarist and lutenist **Martin Verreault**, percussionist **Marise Demers**, and their ensemble transport us to a beyond, warm and bright, where proximity generates openness and enthusiasm!



Links:

www.myspace.com/saometis

www.youtube.com/user/SaOmetis

Ticket price: \$ 22, plus taxes and fees. 15% discount for students, seniors and OPUS card holders.

Reservation: 514 842-2112 / www.laplacedesarts.com

NOVEMBER 8, 2011

8:00 PM, Studio-théâtre, Place des Arts

MARE NOSTRUM FLAMENCO

Georges Kazazian, Pedro Soler

(Egypt, Armenia, Spain)

If there is one music that embodies perfectly the creative potential of the encounter between East and West, it is indeed flamenco! Georges Kazazian and Pedro Soler offer an *Oud* / guitar duo drawing together the sounds of the two peninsulas, in an enthralling embrace.

Born in Cairo to an Armenian family, **Georges Kazazian** brings to

the Eastern tradition of the lute entirely novel tones, inspired by Hindu, Turkish, and Armenian folk music.



Spain's **Pedro Soler**, a disciple of the great masters of the "golden age" of flamenco, and onstage accomplice to legends such as Pericón de Cadiz and Bernardo de los Lobitos, has also worked with Maria Bethania, Germaine Montero, and more recently with Maria Casares, on the poems of Antonio Machado.

Mare Nostrum Flamenco, a meeting of two extraordinary musicians, for a journey from the banks of the Nile to the heart of Madrid, the old souks of Cairo to the Alhambra Gardens in Granada!

Links:

www.oud-sajaya.com

www.myspace.com/pedrosolerflamenco

Ticket price: \$ 22, plus taxes and fees. 15% discount for students, seniors and OPUS card holders.

Reservation: 514 842-2112 / www.laplacedesarts.com

NOVEMBER 9, 2011

8:00 PM, Studio-théâtre, Place des Arts

SARV ENSEMBLE

(Iran, Ontario)

Sarv Ensemble offers us the essence of thousand-year-old Persian music and its traditional *Dastgâh*, those complex melodic modes of such eccentric elegance, so distinctive of Iranian music.

With the entrancing sounds of typical instruments such as the *Santoor*, the *Kamancheh* or the *Tombak*, SARV helps us discover an enchanting world in which each parcel evokes an apotheosis of creativity emanating from the various eras of ancient Persia.



Link:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=k2FBNfiOvB4

Ticket price: \$ 22, plus taxes and fees. 15% discount for students, seniors and OPUS card holders.

Reservation: 514 842-2112 / www.laplacedesarts.com

NOVEMBER 10, 2011
8:00 PM, CABARET DU MILE END
SOUL SUDANI
Alsarah and the Nubatones
(Sudan, Yemen, USA)

The Cabaret du Mile End opens its walls to flavors that awaken the spirit, to soul music drawn from the ancient traditions of North Africa...

Of Sudanese descent, exiled to Yemen then to New York, to escape her country's political regime, **Alsarah** draws her inspiration from rhythms and sounds collected throughout her travels, to exhale, with her powerful and ethereal voice, the warm colors of the Nubian Desert. Her eclectic, electrifying, or even eccentric performance explores, travels through, and combines a diapason of musical genres ranging from pure African tradition, to the hypnotic flights of soul and *Gnawa*, all with the subtle allusions to the socio-political conditions of the Sudanese people.



Soul Sudani, when the Nubian Desert wind blows heat and life into the neighborhoods of Brooklyn.

Links:

www.alsarah.com

www.myspace.com/soulsudani

Ticket price: \$ 22, plus taxes and fees. 15% discount for students, seniors and OPUS card holders.

Reservation: www.admission.com, 1-855 790-1245

-30-

Source: Emily-Jane Aouad, 514 747-0000 extension 214, emily@festivalarabe.com

Media: Béata Ginel, 514 378-9063, beatacommunications@videotron.ca

CINEMA

En partenariat/in partnership with **TV5**
En collaboration/in collaboration with le **Cinéma du Parc**

3575 Avenue du Parc – Montréal (Qc)
Tél. : (514) 281-1900 www.cinemaduparc.com
Place des Arts – autobus 80 Nord ou 129 Nord / Métro Parc – autobus 80 Sud

Vendredi 4 novembre à 19h / Friday, November 4th at 7pm

Blagues à part de Vanessa Rousselot – France – 54 minutes – 2010

Documentaire / Documentary – arabe, anglais et français / Arabic, English and French
Sous-titres : Français / French subtitles

Convaincue que l'humour n'a pas de frontières, une jeune réalisatrice se lance dans une quête inattendue : trouver l'humour en Cisjordanie. Aux premières désillusions ("notre situation toute entière est une blague") succèdent les découvertes surprenantes, comme cet anthropologue de Ramallah qui a rassemblé plus de 2000 blagues politiques depuis la première Intifada, ou ces habitants d'Hébron qui sont les protagonistes favoris des blagues palestiniennes. Brouillant les lignes de la tragédie et de la comédie, *Blagues à part* est un voyage émouvant sur l'espoir et la résilience des hommes face à la douleur et au chagrin.

Convinced that humor knows no frontiers, a young filmmaker embarks on an unusual quest: to search for humor in the West Bank. At first, she finds only disillusionment – "our whole situation is a joke" – but little by little she uncovers a vibrant culture of humor that defies conventional wisdom. From inane stories mocking the residents of Hebron – the classic butts of Palestinian jokes – to self-deprecating, political quips and bitter-sweet anecdotes about the absurdity of everyday life, her journey plunges her into a little known universe, one in which a glimmer of hope and humanity endure in the shadow of conflict...

Samedi 5 novembre à 15h / Saturday, November 5th at 3pm

Rap arabe de Bachir Bensaddek – Québec-Algérie / Quebec-Algeria – 51 minutes – 2010

Documentaire / Documentary – Français / French
En présence du réalisateur / The director will be present

Plusieurs artistes, trois pays. Une seule langue, l'arabe. Un seul style, le hip hop. De Casablanca à Alep, de jeunes voix s'élèvent. Leur or noir, ce sont les mots qu'ils distillent comme un carburant dans leur véhicule de choix, le rap, une mécanique bien huilée de tables de mixage et de sons échantillonnés. Ils s'appellent Malikah, Ashekman, Lil Zac ou Don Bigg et brossent un portrait sans complaisance de leurs sociétés d'origine. Des jeunes exécutant des contorsions d'est en ouest, de la tradition à la modernité, osent prendre la parole si on ne la leur donne pas.

Several artists, three countries. One language, Arabic. One flag, Hip Hop. From Casablanca to Alep, the voice of the youth rise. They fill up their gas tank with words in their own chosen car, Rap music, keeping under their car's hood samples and mixing tables while the speakers are going hammer! Their names? Malikah, Ashekman, Lil Zac and

Don Bigg. The quatuor outlines a no-holds-barred portrait of their societies. Young people at crossroads, between East and West, tradition and modernity, they dare to take the microphone, if not given.

Samedi 5 novembre à 17h / Saturday, November 5th at 5pm

Pour le plaisir des yeux de Izza Genini – France – 52 minutes – 1997

Documentaire / Documentary – Arabe / Arabic – Sous-titres : Français / French subtitles

Au Maroc, l'art et la manière d'embellir repose essentiellement entre les mains d'une femme appelée *neggafa*, "l'embellisseuse". Autrefois désignée au sein de la famille ou du clan, la *neggafa* est aujourd'hui une professionnelle accomplie. À travers un périple qui va du Nord au Sud marocain, Hajja Khadija et Fanida, captivantes conteuses, nous initient aux secrets des soins de beauté. Gardiennes du patrimoine, elles nous dévoilent des trésors de parures accumulées de génération en génération...

In Morocco, the art and skills required to beautify is held in a woman's hands called *neggafa*, "the beautifier". Designated in olden times within the family or clan, the *neggafa* is now a real professional. Through a journey going from Northern Morocco to the Southern part of the country, Hajja Khadija and Fanida, breath-taking storytellers, will teach us their beauty secrets; heritage gatekeepers, they unveil treasures of arrays that have been stored up through ages...

Samedi 5 novembre à 19h / Saturday, November 5th at 7pm

Dimanche 6 novembre à 17h / Sunday, November 6th at 5pm

Trances de Ahmed El Maanouni – Maroc – France – 84 minutes – 2007

Documentaire / Documentary – Arabe / Arabic – Sous-titres : Français / French subtitles

Dès les années 70, le Maroc a connu, grâce à cinq musiciens formés à l'école de la rue et décidés à rompre avec les « langueurs orientales » envahissantes, une explosion musicale qui devait être pour les jeunes le cri de leurs désirs, de leurs frustrations et de leur révolte. A travers les chansons du groupe *Trances*, le film aborde les thèmes sociaux traditionnels, mais aussi les grandes questions contemporaines.

Premier film restauré pour la World Cinema Foundation (WCF), *Trances* a été présenté à Cannes Classics 2007 par Martin Scorsese.

During the 70's, thanks to five self-taught musicians all dedicated to break up with the teeming "Eastern lassitude", Morocco has known an impressive musical explosion voiced by the young people as means for expressing their desires, frustrations and crave for revolt. Through the band *Trances*, the movie addresses social traditional them

but also different prominent issues of nowadays. First film to ever be reestablished by the World Cinema Foundation (WCF), *Transes* has been presented at the Cannes Classics Festival of 2007 by Martin Scorsese.

Dimanche 6 novembre à 15h / Sunday, November 6th at 3pm ***Séance de courts-métrages / Short-movies screening – 104 minutes***

- ***The wind is blowing in the street*** de Saba Riazi – Iran-Etats-Unis / Iran-USA – 16 minutes – 2010 – Arabe / Arabic – Sous-titres : Anglais / English subtitles
- ***Mokthar*** de Halima Ouadiri – Canada-Maroc / Canada-Morocco – 16 minutes – 2010 – Arabe / Arabic – Sous-titres : Français / French subtitles
- ***On ne mourra pas*** d’Amal Kateb – France – 20 minutes – 2010 – Arabe / Arabic – Sous-titres : Français / French subtitles
- ***Check-point*** de Ruben Amar – France – 19 minutes – 2011 – Arabe / Arabic – Sous-titres : Français / French subtitles
- ***Short memory*** de Marwan Khneisser – Liban / Lebanon – 9 minutes – 2010 – Arabe / Arabic – Sous-titres : Français / French subtitles
- ***Into the Belly of the whale*** de Hazim Bitar – Jordanie-Palestine / Jordan-Palestine – 24 minutes – 2010 – Arabe / Arabic – Sous-titres : Anglais / English subtitles

Dimanche 8 novembre à 19h / Sunday, November 8th at 7pm

Que vienne la pluie de Bahij Hojeij – Liban / Lebanon – 98 minutes – 2010 – Fiction – Arabe / Arabic – Sous-titres : Français – French subtitles

Kidnappé en 1984 en pleine guerre libanaise, Ramez refait surface vingt ans plus tard. Il retrouve sa famille qui, peu avant sa libération, avait perdu tout espoir. Son retour ébranle les siens. C’est alors qu’il croise, lors de ses déambulations au cœur de la ville de Beyrouth, le chemin d’une femme qui attend désespérément le retour de son mari enlevé à la même époque.

Kidnapped in 1984 during the Civil War, Ramez comes back to life after 20 years of complete disappearance. Abducted during the war in Lebanon, he was sent to jail and tortured. His return back home shakes his family and jeopardizes the plans of his two children and wife who try in vain to recreate the family. While wandering in Beirut, he meets Zeinab, who has been desperately awaiting the return of her missing husband for over 20 years.

Site : <http://www.chattiyadini.org/>

Prix du billet/Ticket price: 11.50\$

Prix réduits/discount tickets: 8.50\$ pour les étudiants de moins de 25 ans et pour les aînés de plus de 60 ans/ for students under 25 and seniors over 60.