Programme

FES: Reflections of Andalusia
Friday 7 June

Bab Al Makina

21h00 - Premiere -

Love is my religion

Original Creation of the Fes Festival, this opening is a poetic, choreographic and musical evocation of Andalusia.

Directed by: Andres Marin
Artistic and musical coordination: Abdellah Ouazzani and Khaloufi Abdeslam

With Andres Marin, Carmen Linares, LaMacanita, Cherifa, Françoise Atlan, Bahaa Ronda …

“...A white-blazed gazelle is an amazing sight, red-dye signalling, eyelids hinting, Pasture between breastbones and inwards. O Marvel, a garden among the flames! My heart can take on any form: a meadow for gazelles, a cloister for monks, For the idols, sacred ground, Ka‘ba for the circling pilgrim, the tables of the Torah, the scrolls of the Qur’an. I profess the religion of love; wherever its caravan turns along the way, that is the belief, the faith I keep."

Extract from Khirman al Ashwaq - The Interpreter of Desires Ibn Arabi

Following last year’s Be happy for a moment from Tony Gatlif’s Leyla and Majnoun by Armand Amar, the Festival continues along the lines of Faouzi Skali’s idea with Love is my religion, signifying the celebrated poetry of Ibn Arabi.

This show evokes the pinnacle of a civilisation where culture was leavened by the quest for mystical love. It will use the words and poetry of the great philosophers and mystics of the three monotheistic religions: from Ibn Tufayl, Sufi philosopher and mystic, Maymoun Maimonides, Jewish thinker and mystic, Raymond Lulle, a Christian apologist and Majorcan novelist, to Ibn Arabi.
Saturday 8 June

Musée Batha

16h00 - Nomadic Voices of the Steppes and the Mountains - Sardinia, Mongolia
Cuncordu E Tenore de Orosei and singers Ts. Tsogtgerel and N. Ganzorig of Mongolia

« Only the sky sees the sparrowhawk’s back »
- Mongolian proverb -

The songs of Sardinian tenors meet the diphonic Mongolian chant khöömii

In the heart of countryside still considered sacred, the harsh beauty of the Sardinian mountains meets the vast Mongolian steppes through the polyphony of the Tenores and khöömii overtone chant.

Within the confines of the sacred and the profane, somewhere between liturgy and peasant celebrations, these voices resonate in the heights of the Sardinian mountains. It is here that the beauty of a pastoral culture is still to be found.

Far, far away, where the Altaï mountains meet the immense Gobi desert, khöömii throat singing can be heard. This song is a musical metaphor for the hilltops and the valleys, the vastness of the steppes, the herds and the tumult of nature.

Bab Al Makina

21h00 - The Golden Gate - Greece, Turkey
A musical journey from Constantinople to Istanbul
Artistic direction - Kyriakos Kalaitzidis
En Chordais Ensemble
Byzantine Orthodox Choir of St Jean de Damas
Mevlevi whirling dervishes directed by Necip Gulses
Halil Necipoglu - voice
Fahrettin Yarkin - percussion
Volkan Yilmaz - ney flute

« We have fallen into the place where everything is music.
The strumming and the flute notes rise into the atmosphere,
and if the whole world’s harp should burn up,
there will still be hidden instruments playing, playing
This singing art is sea foam.
The graceful movements come from a pearl somewhere on the ocean floor.»
- Djalal al din Rûmi -

The Ancient Greeks built Byzantium that later, as Constantinople, became a capital of the Holy Roman Empire. Nowadays, Istanbul (whose name derives from the Greek eis tin polis or city) supremely expresses the idea of a city that encompasses different peoples and religions, lying as it does between the East and the West.

Similarly to Andalusia, this Ottoman city became a place of cohabitation for Orthodox Christian tradition, mystical Persian or Arab Sufism, and for Jewish Ladino culture. Istanbul opens her gates to reveal such musical treasures as the vocal beauty of the Mediterranean Orient of Greece and Turkey, and the Mevlevi tradition of celestial turning.

Dar Tazi

23h00 - Sufi Night
Sunday 9 June

Musée Batha

16h00 - Coumbane Mint Ely Warakane – Mauritania
The art of the Mauritanian griots

One day, the great Sufi master Lal Shabbaz Qalandar was wandering in the desert with his companion, Baba ud-Din. It was winter and the night was cold, so they wanted to make a fire.

Baba ud-Din suggested to Lal Shabbaz that he should change himself into a falcon and go to fetch the fire of hell. So he flew away, but returned empty-handed. ‘There is no fire in hell’, he said. ‘Those who go there take their own fire and their own suffering from this world.’

The art of the Mauritanian griots is full of classical wisdom. An expression of Ghassanid culture, it is an extraordinary point of convergence between the Arabo-Berber world and the West African world.

Bab Al Makina

21h00 - Paco De Lucia - Spain
The legendary flamenco guitarist
Antonio Sanchez - second guitar
Antonio Serrano - keyboards
Alain Perez - bass
Piranha - percussion
Duquende - voice
David de Jacoba - voice
Farruco - dance

Paco de Lucía is one of the great living legends of flamenco, and one of the greatest guitarists in the world. Possessing the very soul of flamenco, imbued with the quest for passion and freedom, he gives the art a universal dimension.

Dar Tazi

23h00 - Sufi Night
Monday 10 June

Musée Batha

16h00 - Abeer Nehme - Aramean, Syriac and Byzantine Song - Lebanon

Abeer Nehme excels in the art of singing a religious repertoire of Maronite, Byzantine and Syriac origin. Simple, touching and buoyed by personal faith, Abeer Nehme revives the Aramean roots of this ancient tradition.

Night in the Medina I

20h30 - At the heart of the Sufi Nile – Egypt

A ceremony in a village in Upper Egypt

Sheikh Hamid Hossein Ahmad and Sheikh Ghanan from the village of Deir

In the village square, a rudimentary stage is set up. There are a few wooden benches set side by side, a cloud of incense, and garlands of light bulbs illuminate the scene ...

This spectacle combines filmed images and ritual dance, leading us to the universe of dhikr and hadra (praise and trance) that is popular in Upper Egypt.

Produced by the Musée Quai Branly

Musée Batha

19h30 - Pandit Shyam Sundar Goswami - Northern India

Khyal Song

Pandit Shyam Sundar Goswami, originally from Bengal, trained in the Khirana Gharana style. He sings the classical Hindustani khyal with great subtlety.

Dar Adiyel

19h30 - The Telephe Family and the Bélé tradition of Martinique - France

A tribute to Aimé Césaire

« My surname: insulted; my first name: humiliated; my country: rebellious; my age: stone-age; my race: the human race; my religion: brotherhood »

Poet, playwright, writer, politician, tireless fighter for dignity and equality, Aimé Césaire wanted to spend his whole life as a rebel, as an independent. Césaire was a major player of his time.

Dar Mokri

22h00 - Ykeda Duo - Tamayo Ykeda and Patrick Zygmanski

Piano concert - Presented by the French Institute in Fes

With the Ykeda Duo – Tamayo Ikeda and Patrick Zygmanski - we discover another kind of music: the classic and completely original piano works written for four hands.

Crossing between France and Spain, the concert features works of the great composers from Debussy to Manuel de Falla, from Emmanuel Chabrier to Isaac Albéniz, from Joaquim Rodrigo (of the famous concerto Aranjuez) to Maurice Ravel.

These two elegant and sensitive artists are masters of this repertoire which they present with refreshing conviction.

Dar Batha

23h00 - Sufi Night
Tuesday 11 June

Musée Batha

16h00 - Aïcha Redouane and the Amazigh tradition - France, Morocco

Aman, the waters

Aïcha Redouane, with master of Arab percussion, Habib Yammine, returns to her Amazigh roots.

In the Tamazight language, ‘aman’ means ‘waters’

As the source of life, water is precious, a grace, an immense gift that must be protected. From the vigorous mountain stream to the gentle murmuring brook, water sings of the purity of its origin. At the well, water splashes children, women and men with joy, and at waterfalls, poets are inspired by truth.

Night in the Medina II
A musical journey of initiation into the heart of the riads of Fes.

Musée Batha

20h30 - El Gusto - Algeria

« And the lute is a king who advances without haste
leading his soldiers who follow him closely. »

Ibn Zeydoun

This great orchestra of Algerian Chaâbi origin, is at the heart of Arabo-Andalusian and Judeo-Arab music. It brings together the great masters and stars of this historic and happy music, originating in the Casbah of Algiers. This ‘el gusto’ music celebrates life, but also the sacred in this repertoire specially chosen for the Festival.

Dar Adiyel

19h30 - Rosemary Standley and Dom La Nena - France

Birds On A Wire / Rosemary’s Songbook

A poetic and musical journey from the profane to the sacred, is presented by Moriarty singer Rosemary Standley and cellist Dom La Nena, including baroque music, songs by Leonard Cohen, Tom Waits, Dylan and Fairouz.

Dar Mokri

19h30 - Samira Kadiri - Morocco

23h00 - Sufi Night

Dar Tazi
Wednesday 12 June

Dar Mokri

14h00
16h30 - **Moultaqa**

These workshops and meetings with masters and enthusiasts are proposed as an initiation into the choreographic and musical arts through the language of meditation, approaches that are both ancient and contemporary.

- Indian dance and the mudras of Manochhaya
- Tschen Tessen : the art of the fan : movement art by Georges Stobbaerts
- Arabo-Andalusian music with Ali Alaoui

**Night in the Medina III**
*A musical journey of initiation into the heart of the riads of Fes.*

Dar Adiyel

19h30
22h00 - **Sacred songs from the Kingdom of Bhutan**

Jigme Drukpa, Pema Samdrup and Namkha Lhamo
With the collaboration of the Ministry of Home and Cultural Affairs, Bhutan.

Bhutan’s sung tradition is presented for the first time in Fes, including Zhungdra, the Bhutanese classical tradition, Boedra, the Tibetan tradition, and Gurma, a devotional chant dedicated to Milarepa, the great Tibetan mystic and poet (1040-1123) and to his disciple Rechungpa.

Dar Mokri

19h30
22h00 - **Reflections of an Indian night - France, India**

XVIII-21 Le Baroque nomade and Pandit Shyam Sundar Goswami

Jean-Christophe Frisch, flautist and artistic director of the XVIII-21 Le Baroque Nomade Ensemble, singer Cyrille Gerstenhaber and Pandit Shyam Sundar, Bengali master of khyal song, conjure up 18th century Chandernagor with both western music and nocturnal ragas. The music lies somewhere between reflections and dreams, with works by Couperin, Marin Marais, Lully and Michel Lambert ...

Musée Batha

20h30 - **Ana Moura – Portugal**

The fado of Lisbon

This celebrated fado singer gives a recital based on the origins of fado, those harmonious and nostalgic laments, yearnings of those witnessing the vicissitudes of life, combined with ancient religious poetry.

Dar Tazi

23h00 - **Sufi Night**
Thursday 13 June

Musée Batha

16h00 - Axivil Aljamía - Spain
Felipe Sánchez Mascuñano - lute, arrangements and artistic direction
Israel Paz - flamenco cantor
Javier Aguirre - viola
Wafir S. Gibril - percussion and oud
Javier Paxarriño - wind instruments
Jota Martinez - zanfona (hurdy-gurdy)
David Mayoral - percussion

Perfume Mudéjar: an evocation of the music of the Muslim Moorish communities who stayed in Andalusia until the 17th century.

«There's never a bad Moor/good Christian
nor a bad Christian/good Moor »
- Moorish saying -

Bab Al Makina

21h30 - Assala Nasri - Syria

Damascus-born Assala Nasri's first success, Ouala Tssadak, soon made her a major singer in the Arab world. Then her song Ighdab, which she sang for the great Syrian poet, Nizar Kabani, led to her being regarded as one of the great artists to sing for this poet along with such luminaries as Abdelhalim Hafez, Nadjet Saghira, Fayza Ahmed, Majida Erroumi and Kazem Essahir.

Dar Tazi

23h00 - Sufi Night
Friday 14 June

Musée Batha

16h00 - Françoise Atlan and the Al Quds Ensemble - Palestine, Morocco

Maher’s repertoire encompasses original works from the great tradition of Jerusalem to the Sufi songs of Sohravardi Alhâllâj, touching upon Ahmed Rifaí and interpretation of spiritual texts in the form of Mouwashshahat poetry.

Françoise Atlan is to be found at the very centre of musical tradition in Morocco. From Ladino song to the Judeo-Arab tradition, from the Judeo-Berber tradition to Andalusian music, she has nourished this fundamental heritage over many years. Such heritage springs from a labyrinthine history and a fascinating oral transmission in such a country as this; Atlan’s work has made these traditions accessible and alive.

O garden now closed to our encounters,
You have been discarded through the fires of exile,
Bring me, bring me those blossoming trees
And their perfume of eternal bliss
Ibn Hamdis – 11th century

Bab Al Makina

21h00 - Ladysmith Chicago Gospel Experience - South Africa, USA

Leanne Faine & Favor – Chicago – USA
Ladysmith Red Lions – Ladysmith – South Africa
Bill Dickens and the Ladysmith Chicago Gospel Experience Band
Butterscotch, beatbox

This exceptional project is directed by bassist Bill ‘The Buddha’ Dickens, one of the legends of Black American music, and conceived by artistic producers Mohamed Beldjoudi and Larry Skoller. It is an exciting encounter between one of the great voices of Gospel in Chicago, Leanne Faine and her Favor Ensemble with the Ladysmith Red Lions, a Gospel group from the town of the same name in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. An exceptional appearance by Butterscotch, a young Californian expert on the beatbox, will make this evening one of the great events of this year’s Festival.

Dar Tazi

23h00 - Sufi Night
**Saturday 15 June**

**Musée Batha**

16h00 - **Lo Còr de la Plana - France**

From the Plaine quartier of Marseille, Lo Còr de la Plana reinvents the songs of the south, combining the ancient sounds of a Mediterranean both violent and sacred.

**Bab Al Makina**

21h00 - **Patti Smith - USA**

Patti Smith is both timeless and contemporary. Bright and vibrant, today she pursues her creative quest, still influenced by a fascinating period in a tumultuous New York that birthed a new culture inspired by the deep roots of America.

Singer and song-writer, but also writer, poet, painter and photographer, Smith expresses all the ambivalence of rock culture, a culture that oscillates between revolt, shocking urban violence, a desire for justice and emancipation, and also the perpetual quest for spirituality, love, humanity and utopia.

**Dar Tazi**

23h00 - **Sufi Night**