



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Montreux, 9 June 2022

PRESS RELEASE

FREE PROGRAMME - 56TH MONTREUX JAZZ FESTIVAL

Over **450** activities across **11** free stages

Many free activities will be on offer at the 56th edition of the Montreux Jazz Festival. From 1 to 16 July, the public will finally rediscover the effervescence of the Montreux waterfront, with its many venues, terraces, stands and bars by the lake. Emerging artists will be in the spotlight more than ever on the free stages. A major new feature of this year's event is the Lake House, which invites the public to take a unique journey into the world of the Montreux Jazz Festival.

Concerts and DJ sets:

Sam Ryder, Alfa Mist, Kiddy Smile, Ichon, Steam Down, Joya Marleen, Emma-Jean Thackray, Blue Lab Beats, Fishbach, Requin Chagrin, Carl Craig, Peach Tree Rascals, Theon Cross, Zac Harmon, Tigran Hamasyan, Regard, YEENDRY, Lewis OfMan, Lonny, Mara, CMAT, Donkey Kid, Biga* Ranx, Erika de Casier, TSHA, Nastia, DJ Bone b2b Goldie, Hunee etc.

And many more activities:

Jam sessions, pool parties, silent discos, concert and film screenings, vinyl listening sessions, workshops, literary meetings, podcasts, exhibitions and dance classes.

The Montreux Jazz Festival continues its vocation to make a wide range of musical and cultural experiences accessible to all audiences. Designed with the same attention to detail as the main programmes, these activities will take place in breath-taking locations.

New additions are included in the free programme: the **Ipanema**, a nightclub built on the lake, the **Super Bock Stage** in Parc Vernex, which has been completely redesigned as a beer garden, the **Parallel by Audemars Piguet** experiences in an unusual location and, of course, the **Lake House**. Open non-stop from 5 p.m. to 5 a.m., this large three-story residence will house eight themed rooms. The public will be able to enjoy the different atmospheres and activities offered in each room, whether musical, visual, dance, educational or technological.

Support for emerging artists is more than ever at the heart of this year's free stage programme. The transformation of the Montreux Jazz Club into **The Memphis**, a club dedicated to contemporary jazz music, is emblematic of this forward-looking approach. The Festival wants to open up jazz music to a younger audience and to rely on a new generation of striking artists.

LAKE HOUSE

EIGHT ROOMS, EIGHT MOODS

The main residence of the 56th edition, the **Lake House** will host a breathtaking variety of experiences over three floors. The public will be able to wander freely from 5 pm to 5 am, through eight themed rooms, each one more captivating than the last. Concerts, workshops, podcasts, screenings, exhibitions, DJ sets, literary and musical encounters: over 250 activities will be on offer over sixteen days.

Seduced by this project exploring art in all its forms, around a hundred musicians, producers, researchers, directors, journalists and writers accepted the Festival's invitation. Two striking examples: **Carl Craig**, pioneer of Detroit techno, and **Don Letts**, a key figure in the London punk and dub scenes, will each embark on a veritable marathon. Wandering from one room to another in the Lake House, they will introduce us to a vinyl or a book at La Bibliothèque, present a workshop at The Memphis, take part in a podcast at La Loggia, present a documentary at Le Cinéma and wrap up the evening with a DJ set at La Coupole. Other prominent guests include DJ and label owner **Gilles Peterson**, American conductor **John Axelrod**, legendary guitarist **John McLaughlin** and singer-songwriter **Asaf Avidan**.

The Lake House will allow us to learn more about the Festival's extended universe with the presence of the various entities gravitating around the Foundation. **Montreux Media Ventures** will present two projects it has co-produced: the vinyl series *The Montreux Years* and the documentary series *They All Came Out To Montreux*. **Montreux Jazz International** will retrace the history of the Montreux Jazz Festival spin-offs since 1976 with the participation of Camille Love (Montreux-Atlanta Music Festival), Marco Mazzola (Montreux Jazz Festival Rio) and Junichi Harada (Montreux Jazz Festival Japan).

The **Montreux Jazz Artists Foundation** (MJAF) celebrates its 15th anniversary with two special evenings at the Memphis, inviting artists it has supported or discovered, including **Tigran Hamasyan** and **Soweto Kinch**, both winners of competitions organised at the Festival in 2003. The MJAF also presents the "**Jazz in Motion**" programme: a selection of six artists representative of the evolution of jazz, chosen by the Foundation and a committee of artists (José James, Michael League and Terri Lyne Carrington). Jam sessions and workshops are also organised by the MJAF.

THE MEMPHIS SUPPORTED BY JULIUS BAER

EMERGING JAZZ CONCERTS, WORKSHOPS AND JAM SESSIONS

A true American jazz club with its round tables and bar, The Memphis, supported by bank Julius Baer, will be dedicated to jazz music in all its forms. Workshops will be offered at the beginning of the evening, followed by concerts featuring the greatest sensations of the current jazz scene. The legendary jam sessions will take over until 5am.

The cream of the current UK scene is represented by a dozen or so groups, each exploring new combinations of jazz, soul, hip-hop, African and electronic sounds. We will discover the bubbling **Steam Down** collective, the intrepid tuba player **Theon Cross** (member of Sons of Kemet), the multi-instrumentalist **Emma-Jean Thackray** or the **Blue Lab Beats** duo, the new figurehead of the Blue Note label. The United States is not forgotten either, with pedal steel guitar virtuoso **Roosevelt Collier** and Mississippi bluesman **Zac Harmon**.

A unique experience to be discovered on 9 July: **Emile Londonien**, **Leon Phal** and **Antoine Berjeaut** will offer a performance between Montreux and Jazz à Vienne, thanks to a new musical videoconference technology developed by the start-up Tyxit.

LA COUPOLE

DJ SETS AND SOUNDS MENU

With its large central bar, **La Coupole** will be an essential night spot of the Festival, hosting DJ sets in funk, disco and house. During the day, there will be a menu of drinks as well as sound clips – accessible via a QR code – immersing the public in a series of anecdotes, interviews and stories from Montreux.

Among the nightly sessions not to be missed: the disco-tinged house of **Hunee**, the explosive Marseille collective **Famille Maraboutage**, the French touch icon **DJ Falcon** and the disco-funk bangers of DJ and keyboardist **Deborah Aime La Bagarre**. The edition will end with a voguing party with two iconic LGBTQI+ activists, **Barbara Butch** and **Kiddy Smile**, accompanied by a crew of dancers ready to set the stage on fire. **Carl Craig** will play a set tailor-made for Montreux, venturing far beyond techno.

LE CINÉMA

SCREENINGS OF CONCERTS, DOCUMENTARIES AND FILMS WITH COMMENTARY

Equipped with Meyer Sound's latest prototype, an 11-speaker 5.1 surround sound system, Le Cinéma will screen films, documentaries and concerts from the Festival. **Don Letts**, a key figure in the London punk scene of the 1970s, will present his documentary **Two Sevens Clash** (2017). **They all came out to Montreux** (2022), the three-part documentary about Claude Nobs and the Festival, will of course be screened with commentary from its director **Oliver Murray**. The Cinema's programme will include special evenings in tribute to David Bowie and Nick Cave, during which the public will be able to see a series of films and documentaries featuring these artists, such as **Ziggy Stardust** (1973) and **20,000 Days on Earth** (2014)

Some forty concerts recorded at the Festival will be screened and presented by guests from the cultural world, such as the famous conductor **John Axelrod**, who will present a **Robert Plant** concert, or **Asaf Avidan**, who will present his own concert from 2015.

LA BIBLIOTHÈQUE

LITERARY AND MUSICAL ENCOUNTERS, BOOK & VINYL COLLECTIONS

La Bibliothèque will host two exceptional collections: the largest Swiss collection of books on jazz and contemporary music and more than 300 *Live at Montreux* vinyl records. More than 20 books and 40 records will be presented by journalists, writers, producers, musicians and actors of the music and culture world. For example, **Gilles Peterson**, the renowned BBC radio host, will present his book **Lockdown FM**, Swiss producer **Stefano Knuchel** will lead a discussion on music and film and TV5 Monde director **Yves Bigot**, will present **Marvin Gaye's** Live at Montreux.

In the book section, **Gilles Peterson** will present his book **Lockdown FM**, **Don Letts** will talk about his autobiography **There and Back Again** and **Adam Fell**, president of Quincy Jones Productions, will present Quincy Jones' latest book, **12 Notes, On Life and Creativity**. In the vinyl section, **Carl Craig** will introduce a listening session of the Montreux-Detroit International Jazz Festival record (1981), **John McLaughlin** will present his latest album **The Montreux Years** and **Yves Bigot**, director of TV5 Monde, will present **Marvin Gaye's** *Live at Montreux* record.

LA LOGGIA

PODCAST RECORDINGS

La Loggia will host the recording of a daily podcast open to the public. The podcast "Jazz Is...", produced in collaboration with Chahut Media, will attempt to provide a plural and surprising definition. Distinguished guests will talk about their personal relationship with jazz, including **John McLaughlin**, **Marc Rebillet**, **Emilie Zoé**, **Gregory Porter**, **Patrick Watson** and **Gilles Peterson**.

LA GALERIE, LE BOUDOIR & LE PATIO AUDEMARS PIGUET

EXHIBITIONS, BAR AND GAMES ROOM

These three spaces do not host daily programming, but will be no less lively for that. **Le Boudoir** is a retro games room with a pool table, pinball machine and jukebox. **La Galerie** will offer both a visual and auditory exhibition, immersing the public in the world of NFTs. **Le Patio Audemars Piguet**, a meeting and relaxation area, will host an interactive experience, between heritage and innovation, with the opportunity to win tickets for the **Parallel** experiences.

LISZTOMANIA

Created in 2017, Lisztomania is continuing its exploration of emerging trends in all kinds of styles. The 500-seat indoor venue will host concerts every evening except Mondays. The public will be able to discover a live set by the British producer **Ross From Friends**, the jazz-rap groove of the British **Alfa Mist**, the vaporous reggae of **Biga* Ranx**, the singular hip-hop of the Frenchman **Ichon**, the languorous nineties-inspired R'n'B of **Erika de Casier** or **Peach Tree Rascals**, the TikTok phenomenon born in a high school in San José. Local hip-hop artists from Lausanne will be honoured at the opening of the Festival, including **VVSPANHER**, **Princesse Daniel** and **Yakary**.

The artists **YEINDRY**, **Sam Tompkins** and **RIOPY** will perform as part of the MJF Spotlight Nights. At least one of these performances will be livestreamed on TikTok, the project's media partner. Launched in 2020 by the Festival, MJF Spotlight is a digital brand dedicated to promoting emerging artists through live sessions and original content for social media and streaming platforms. Several artists previously highlighted by MJF Spotlight are scheduled this summer on the Festival's various free and paying stages.

SUPER BOCK STAGE

The Parc Vernex will be transformed into a beer garden. In this festive place, open to all, the public will be able to enjoy relaxation and games - including a petanque court - during the afternoon. The Super Bock Stage will host two concerts per evening with a line-up of emerging Swiss and international artists, covering a wide spectrum of pop and rock sounds.

From the four corners of Europe, the folk ballads of French singer **Lonny**, the crazy country-pop of Ireland's **CMAT** and the indie rock of the very young German group **Donkey Kid** are just a few examples. The Swiss scene is proudly represented in all its diversity, from the retro soul-rock of **Olympic Antigua** to the addictive pop of **Joya Marleen**, not forgetting the glittering disco-rock of **Barrio Colette** and the neo-soul groove of **Evita Koné**, a singer-songwriter chosen last year as one of the Montreux Jazz Artists Foundation's Swiss Rising Talents.

IPANEMA

A nightclub above the lake, the Ipanema will see Swiss and international DJs make quite a splash. The place to be to party at sunset or under the stars.

Among the most prominent names: the up-and-coming English DJ **TSHA** and her sharp sense of melody; the energetic Americans **Octo Octa & Eris Drew**, queer activists and a couple in the city as well as on the decks; France's **Anetha** and her sets steeped in old school techno; Ukrainian DJ star **Nastia**, whose recent shows have turned into intense communions in yellow and blue; the two pioneers of the nineties, **DJ Bone** and **Goldie**, whose unprecedented back to back will provoke fascinating collisions between Detroit techno and UK drum & bass.

TERRASSE IBIS MUSIC

The atmosphere of the Terrasse ibis MUSIC will evolve throughout the day: a bar and a laidback vibe in the afternoon, followed by intimate electro-pop performances in the evening and DJ sets at night. Thursdays will be dedicated to silent discos.

A gradation of synthetic shades will be discovered at sunset, rather mystical with **Fishbach**, romantic with **Requin Chagrin**, solar with **Synapson** or funky with **Breakbot & Irfane**. The British vocal phenomenon **Sam Ryder** will play in Montreux after having impressed millions of spectators at the Eurovision and Elizabeth II's jubilee. Several months before these feats, Sam Ryder was presented by the Festival as one of the MJF Spotlight 20 Artists to Watch in 2022.

EL MUNDO & POOL PARTY

Latin rhythms and sounds are celebrated every day at **El Mundo**, from dance classes in the afternoon to lively DJ sets in the evening. The **Pool Parties** are back every Saturday at the historical Casino pool, animated by sun-drenched DJ sets.

PARALLEL BY AUDEMARS PIGUET

Finally, Audemars Piguet is taking a select few to an exceptional location, which is being kept secret for the time being, to attend performances by **Arlo Parks** and **The Blaze**. These **Parallel** experiences are reserved for the winners of competitions organised on social networks and at the Patio during the Festival.

THE FREE PROGRAMME IS...

- **More than 450** concerts, dj sets & workshops, **250** of which are at the lake house
- **11** free stages
- **2000 m²** of terraces on the lake
- **55** food stands and bars

PRESS AREA

www.montreuxjazzfestival.com/en/presse

PRESS CONTACT

Kevin Donnet
Communication & media
relations manager
k.donnet@mjf.ch, +41 21 966 44 39

Eduardo Mendez
Press officer
presse@mjf.ch, +41 21 966 45 16