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PRESS RELEASE

Over 500 free events at the 58th Montreux Jazz Festival

Concerts, DJ sets, jam sessions, workshops, screenings, pool parties: the Montreux Jazz Festival expands its lineup with a wide range of free events, to be discovered from 5 to 20 July 2024. Due to works at the Convention Centre, several stages will be relocated along a redesigned route on the quays. The lineup of concerts and DJ sets, largely devoted to emerging artists, is made up of 45% Swiss talent and more than fifty different nationalities.

CONCERTS & DJ SETS

Black Coffee, Kenya Grace, Good Neighbours, Faraj Suleiman, Ron Trent, aupinard, Lakecia Benjamin, Roni Kaspri, Sid Sriram, Jersey, Elmiene, Wasia Project, Venna, corto.alto, S.Pri Noir, Yuston XIII, Merveille, Zaoui, Maëlle, Anaïs MVA, Joseph Kamel, Poppy Fusée, Marcel Dettmann, Darwin, Job Jobse, Crystallmess, Curses, DJ Tennis, Kléo, Natasha Diggs, Jamie Grey, Mauvaise Bouche, Iniko, ELOI, Okvsho, Roshâni, Gaspard Sommer, ...

AND MANY FREE ACTIVITIES

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

With over 500 activities on 15 stages, the free programme constitutes over 80% of the Montreux Jazz Festival's total offering. These figures illustrate one of the Festival's fundamental values: making a vast range of quality cultural events accessible to everyone. Largely dedicated to promoting emerging artists, the free programme offers a rich balance of live music, festive and educational activities. Each day, festival-goers can put together their own personal programme of around thirty concerts, DJ sets, workshops and other events. Big dilemmas ahead!

The Festival's 58th edition has been completely redesigned, with an extended route along the quays due to the construction work at the Centre des Congrès. Audiences will have no trouble finding their bearings, however: while a number of free stages have been relocated, all will retain their same spirit and musical positioning. The **Super Bock Stage** has moved from the Parc Vernex lawn to another green space, the Parc Suisse, where a wide variety of music will be heard. The **Lisztomania**, which explores the latest trends, will retain its identity as an indoor club, finding a new home in the Mona (ex-Eurotel).

Four stages will be set on sun-drenched terraces built on the lake. Opposite the Congress Centre you will find **Ipanema**, the Festival's must-see electronic club, and **El Mundo**, home of Latin sounds. Opposite the Fairmont Le Montreux Palace will be the **Terrasse ibis MUSIC x ALL.com**, dedicated to emerging French pop, and the new **Terrasse Nestlé**, featuring daily DJ sets and, on Thursdays and Fridays, concerts by artists supported by the Montreux Jazz Artists Foundation.

Almost a festival in itself, the **Lake House** will once again take over the three floors of the Petit Palais. A multitude of experiences awaits music lovers in its various rooms: **The Memphis**, supported by Bank Julius Baer, a club dedicated to new jazz music and jam sessions; **La Coupole**, a nightclub with a house, funk, disco and urban feel; **Le Cinéma**, a screening room for films, concerts and documentaries; and **La Bibliothèque**, a collection of vinyl records and books, presented each day by guest speakers.

The highly anticipated **Audemars Piguet Parallel** experience will once again be held in a secret location on the Riviera that is as unusual as it is breathtaking. The iconic Casino pool will host nine **Pool Parties** (compared with three in previous years). Last but not least, two well-known Montreux venues will be joining the Festival programme: **Funky Claude's Bar**, located in the Fairmont Le Montreux Palace, will be presenting 100% Swiss and female concerts. And **Li Lo**, a waterfront bar, will be offering sun-drenched house DJ sets in an idyllic setting.

STAGE BY STAGE

LAKE HOUSE

The Lake House is taking over the Petit Palais for the third year running. This three-storey residence allows the public to wander freely from room to room and immerse themselves in a variety of musical, cultural and festive experiences.

The Memphis supported by Julius Baer

An American-style jazz club with its bar and round tables, The Memphis, supported by Julius Baer, is dedicated to new jazz music. Workshops will be held in the early evening, followed by concerts and the emblematic jam sessions until 5am.

The Memphis offers a striking overview of current jazz music. The British jazz scene, always abundant and multi-genre, is represented this year by new talents such as saxophonist **Venna**, collaborator with Yussef Dayes and Masego among others; producer and guitarist **DARGZ**, who left New York for the London scene; and Scottish multi-instrumentalist **corto.alto**. A number of European bands are following the same trend of jazz permeated by hip-hop, funk and electro grooves, including the Zurich duo **okvsho**, Hungary's **Jazzbois** and Spanish bassist **Vincen García**. Embodying a more traditional jazz style but just as audacious, two of today's leading American musicians will be in the house: saxophonist **Lakecia Benjamin** and double bassist **Endea Owens**, both invited by the Montreux Jazz Artists Foundation. Finally, there's **Sid Sriram**, an artist born in India and raised in California, who is both a vocal superstar of Indian cinema and a promising R&B singer.

The workshops will start each day at 5.30pm, with the participation of jazz musicians such as **Lakecia Benjamin**, **Faraj Suleiman** and **Roni Kaspi**. Three workshops will retrace key episodes in Montreux's musical history, to celebrate the town's inclusion in UNESCO's Creative Cities Network in the music category. The members of **Deep Purple** and **Nick Mason** (Pink Floyd) will be taking part, sharing their memories of the Montreux pop concerts of the seventies. 14 July will be dedicated to Serge Gainsbourg, in collaboration with the **Maison Gainsbourg**, with a workshop at the Memphis and four events at the Cinéma and the Bibliothèque to discover films, clips, books and iconic albums by the French artist.

ACTIVITIES AND CONCERTS PRESENTED BY THE MONTREUX JAZZ ARTISTS FOUNDATION

The Memphis jam sessions and workshops are organised by the Montreux Jazz Artists Foundation (MJAF), a non-profit set up in 2007. In addition to these activities, MJAF is continuing its role as a talent scout by offering a springboard to musicians in the early stages of their careers, including French singer-bassist **Amy Gadiaga**, French-Moroccan trumpeter **Daoud** and Italian-German electro-jazz duo **505**. Other artists close to the Foundation have also been invited back, including **Emile Londonien** (Talent Awards in 2021) and **Jowee Omicil** (mentor in 2022), who will be presenting a work based on Thelonious Monk, and Aniel Someillan (participating in the MJF Residency in 2023) with the Cuban jazz group **Ilú Trio**, accompanied for the occasion by the talented **Shai Maestro**.

La Coupole

One of the Festival's essential nightspots, La Coupole will be hosting a series of colorful house, disco and funk DJ sets, programmed in collaboration with two leading figures on the electro scene in Switzerland, Mirko Loko (Polaris) and Michel Catanese (After Season). A **record fair** will be held at La Coupole on Sunday July 13 from 2pm.

Living legend of Chicago house, **Ron Trent** will be teaming up with **Rich Medina**, a renowned selector from the American East Coast, for the opening night of La Coupole. On 14 July, techno stalwart **Marcel Dettmann** will be offering a 100% house set in Montreux, an event that usually only happens a handful of times a year, exclusively at Berghain's Panorama Bar. He will be preceded by **Ryan Hope**, member of the Gabriels trio who dazzled the Montreux Jazz Lab in 2022. Straight from Marseille, the **Twerkistan** collective will be combining incendiary DJ sets with performative dance. There's also the great Italian selector **DJ Tennis**, who has been headlining major festivals for years, the queen of 45s **Natasha Diggs**, and the Dutch artist **Kléo**, with her cutting-edge selections. Finally, an exceptional line-up will be announced during the Festival for the closing night, presented by Audemars Piguet.

Le Cinéma

Once again, the Montreux Jazz Festival is offering rare and privileged access to its vast audiovisual collection. Two thematic series run through the entire programme: **'Great Ladies'** will allow us to (re)discover concerts by women artists in Montreux, from **Nina Simone** to **Angèle**, while **'Southern Rhythms'** reminds us that the Festival has always explored beyond Western music, from **Shakti** to **Fatoumata Diawara**. In all, some forty concerts recorded in Montreux will be screened at the Cinéma, in collaboration with the Claude Nobs Foundation, Montreux Sounds, RTS and EPFL.

Around twenty films and documentaries have also been carefully selected in collaboration with various entities from the film industry, including Locarno Film Festival, the Cinémathèque Suisse and Tourne-Films Festival. Several artists, including **Miriam Makeba**, **Nick Cave**, **Sun Ra** and **Gil Scott-Héron**, will be honoured with a documentary followed by one of their performances recorded in Montreux.

La Bibliothèque

La Bibliothèque houses Switzerland's largest collection of books on jazz and contemporary music, as well as over 2,000 vinyl records, including 300 *Live at Montreux* albums. All of which will be freely accessible, with the very first Nagra turntable available for playing these albums. Dozens of records and books will be presented by journalists, writers and players from the world of music and culture. Contributors from Couleur 3 and Option Musique will be presenting an iconic record each evening. Three artists, including **Rylsee**, the creator of this year's Festival ooster, will be offering **'Drawing in Music'** workshops in partnership with Caran d'Ache.

LISZTOMANIA

Lisztomania is continuing its mission of exploring new trends with the aim of unearthing tomorrow's greatest success stories, without genre limitations. Country music opens the programme with American singer **Dylan Gossett**. Two French sensations renowned for their wild and energetic shows, **Jersey** will transform the club into a proper rave party, while singer **ELOI** will shake up Lisztomania with sounds mixing gabber and garage rock. Two major British 2.0 phenomena, **Kenya Grace** and **Good Neighbours**, have dominated the social media soundscape this year. The brother and sister duo from **Wasia Project** offer a dynamic bedroom pop that evokes Billie Eilish's musical atmosphere.

SUPER BOCK STAGE

By the lake, between the trees and statues of the Parc Suisse, the Super Bock Stage offers a festive and popular Biergarten atmosphere. The Swiss scene will be in the spotlight, with two soul phenomenons, **Noémie Beza** and **Naveni**, the rebellious pop-rock of Bern's **Leila** and the psychedelic oriental project of **Roshâni**. The pop worlds of France's **Mauvaise Bouche** and **Poppy Fusée** blend gently with the British folk ballads of **Jamie Grey** and the Irish melodies and banjo arpeggios of **Kingfishr**.

TERRASSE IBIS MUSIC X ALL.COM

The atmosphere on the terrace will change throughout the day: bar and relaxed atmosphere in the afternoon, concerts by French electro-pop sensations in the evening and DJ sets at night. Two artists successfully combine rap with sunny musical genres: **aupinard** with Brazilian bossa nova and **Nelick** with funky pop. **Anais MVA** and **Styleto** bring a bit of freshness to the mix, both singing a zesty pop music. On the French chanson front, two artists revealed through television music competitions: **Joseph Kamel** with his deep, moving voice and **Maëlle**'s comeback with a more electro project.

IPANEMA

The Ipanema stage offers a vibrant and diverse panorama of club electronic music that's both cutting-edge and unifying. Carefully orchestrated, each evening has been thought out in terms of coherence and musical progression. Among the artists not to be missed: **Darwin**, a German DJ with expertise in bass and breakbeat; **Curses**, a Neapolitan producer and DJ based in Berlin with a reputation for dark disco; **ANZ**, a prolific DJ based in Manchester known for her punchy garage and jungle sets; **Job Jobse**, a major player on the Dutch scene with his 360 selection; **Crystallmess**, a fast-growing French artist capable of moving from Latinx to ultra-modern techno; and finally, a back-to-back between **Alienata** and **Bloody Mary**, two iconic DJs of the techno and EBM scene who rarely tour together.

AUDEMARS PIGUET PARALLEL EXPERIENCE

The Audemars Piguet Parallel experience is back for the 58th edition of the MJF. Designed as an interlude during the Festival, this event offers the chance to spend a moment out of time at intimate concerts in an unexpected location on the Montreux Riviera.

For this new edition, three festive electronic artists will take the stage on July 17: the Swiss trio **Mont Rouge**, Brazilian sensation **Mochakk** and South-African afro-house legend, **Black Coffee**. The unusual location will be revealed to ticket holders at the last minute for an unforgettable immersive experience. This year again, tickets will be up for grabs at the Audemars Piguet Parallel space within the Festival in zone D, Place du Marché, and through the Festival's Instagram.

TERRASSE NESTLÉ

The Nestlé Terrace will welcome activities such as yoga classes and live cooking sessions by internationally renowned chefs. On Thursdays and Fridays, the terrace will host concerts by emerging Swiss artists supported by the Montreux Jazz Artists Foundation, including **Gaspard Sommer** and **Pilar Vega**. Finally, from 9pm onwards, DJ sets featuring house, soul and funk sounds will round off each evening in style.

POOL PARTY, EL MUNDO, FUNKY CLAUDE'S BAR & LI LO BAR

As the Festival celebrates its return to the Casino de Montreux, it was only natural that the swimming pool, so emblematic of the first editions of the event, should once again become an essential party venue. So the number of **Pool Parties** has been increased from three to nine, spread over the Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays of the Festival. On the programme: sun-drenched DJ sets.

This year, **El Mundo** has a prime spot on the terrace overlooking the lake, offering a dream setting for a daily celebration of Latin rhythms and sounds. The programme begins with dance classes in the afternoon, followed by lively concerts and DJ sets in the evening.

Funky Claude's Bar is well known to Montreux residents and is located within the Fairmont Le Montreux Palace, next to the Montreux Jazz Café. Every evening, you'll find an all-Swiss and all-female live music line-up, in a setting honouring both the Festival and its founder.

Li Lo, a tropical guinguette-style bar located on the waterfront opposite the 2m2c, will be serving up house DJ sets in an idyllic setting right by the lake.

THE 2024 FREE PROGRAMME IN FIGURES

- MORE THAN **500** FREE ACTIVITIES
 - **150** CONCERTS
 - **260** DJ SETS
 - **160** OTHER ACTIVITIES (WORKSHOPS, SCREENINGS, DANCE CLASSES, ETC.)
- **15** VENUES OFFERING FREE PROGRAMMING
- **45%** SWISS ARTISTS AND OVER 50 NATIONALITIES FEATURED IN THE LINEUP
- **66** FOOD STALLS AND BARS
- **1,000 M** OF QUAYS INTEGRATED INTO THE 2024 PROJECT (TWICE AS MUCH AS IN 2023)
- **3,400 M²** OF TERRACES BUILT ON THE LAKE (COMPARED WITH 2,000M² IN 2023)

Programme



PRESS AREA

www.montreuxjazzfestival.com/en/press

PRESS CONTACT

Kevin Donnet
CCO
k.donnet@mjf.ch
+41 79 545 04 02

Eduardo Mendez
Press officer
e.mendez@mjf.ch
+41 21 966 45 16