



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Montreux, 4th February 2026

PRESS RELEASE

DISCOVER TOMORROW'S STARS

AT THE MJF SPOTLIGHT
SESSIONS IN VILLARS



SESSIONS

For the fourth consecutive year, the MJF Spotlight Sessions will energize the resort of Villars-sur-Ollon. Six emerging artists, selected by the Montreux Jazz Festival programming team, will perform at the Villars Palace Theatre over three weekends between March 6 and April 4, 2026. Ticket sales open on February 4 at 11:00 a.m.

Rising stars in a spectacular setting: the MJF Spotlight Sessions continue their exploration of new musical trends in Villars. After unveiling artists such as Yamê, Victor Ray, and Sienna Spiro, the Montreux Jazz Festival presents a new selection of six promising talents.

TO BE DISCOVERED AT THE VILLARS PALACE THEATRE

06.03 **Etta Marcus**

A rising voice in British indie pop, somewhere between Lana Del Rey and Portishead

07.03 **Ino Casablanca**

A new prodigy of French rap, nominated at the Victoires de la Musique, whose sun-drenched groove blends Moroccan, Hispanic, and Caribbean influences

13.03 **Steve Ibrahim**

A Paris-based singer-songwriter with raw emotion, navigating between indie folk and alternative R&B, inspired by Dijon and Bon Iver

14.03 **Friqtao**

A French pianist revealed through his improvised performances in train stations, blending pop, hip-hop, and classical music

03.04 **Sekou**

A British singer whose deeply moving sensitivity draws equally from gospel and pop

04.04 **Mathilde Fernandez**

A singular figure in French pop and half of the rising duo ascendant vierge, unveiling an intimate piano-and-voice project

SECOND WAVE OF SPOTLIGHT SESSIONS IN OCTOBER



The MJF Spotlight project, dedicated to showcasing emerging artists, continues to expand within the Montreux Jazz Festival calendar. MJF Spotlight events are now structured around three key moments throughout the year:

- MJF Spotlight Sessions in Villars: **March 6-7, March 13-14, April 3-4**
- MJF Spotlight Stage at the Montreux Jazz Festival: **July 3-18, 2026**
- MJF Spotlight Sessions in Villars: **October 2-3, October 9-10**

The programme for the July and October concerts will be announced at a later date.

ABOUT MJF SPOTLIGHT

MJF Spotlight was launched during the pandemic in 2021 to support and promote emerging artists through digital content. Since then, the concept has evolved with the creation of events during the Montreux Jazz Festival and throughout the rest of the year. The digital dimension remains at the heart of the project, notably through the filming of live video sessions. These are produced by Montreux Media Ventures, a subsidiary of the Festival responsible for diversifying the event's activities through the production and distribution of audiovisual content.

MJF Spotlight has already helped shine a light on many emerging artists, including Swiss-Ecuadorian duo Hermanos Gutiérrez, Argentina's Nathy Peluso, Belgium's Pierre de Maere, France's Yamê, and the UK's Luvcat.

MJF Spotlight is supported by bank Julius Baer.

DATES

Friday, March 6	Etta Marcus (UK)
Saturday, March 7	Ino Casablanca (FR)
Friday, March 13	Steve Ibrahim (FR)
Saturday, March 14	Friqtao (FR)
Friday, April 3	Sekou (UK)
Saturday, April 4	Mathilde Fernandez (FR)

HORAIRES

7:00 p.m.	Doors open
8:00 p.m.	Concert

PRIX

CHF 35.-	Single concert
CHF 60.-	Weekend pass
CHF 150.-	All 6 concerts

Visual assets

— ZIP



PRESS AREA

www.montreuxjazzfestival.com/en/press

PRESS CONTACT

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