

Tabernacle, 34-35 Powis Sq, Notting Hill, London W11 2AY

EVENT LIVESTREAMED:

Bethlehem Singer Café, West Bank (9pm) - Al Hub, Chicago, USA (1pm) - Darna Lounge, Washington DC, USA (2pm) - Club Palestino, Santiago, Chile (2pm) - The Palestine Tent, Ingensteds, Oslo, Norway (8pm)



presents an evening of Palestinian music as an alternative to Eurovision Song Contest 2024.

https://www.bethlehemculturalfestival.com



Ahmed Najar

Playwright and Director from Gaza

Ahmed Najar is a Palestinian director, playwright and dabke expert from Gaza. He has written and directed several productions. In 2020, he wrote the forthcoming play, Defiance, in collaboration with Canadian-American writer, Laura Hope-Gill. In 2019 The Cockpit Theatre and RichMix theatres in London presented his play, I Have Two Names, which questions the nature of solidarity movements and explores the complex experience of exile, identity and homesickness. Najar was one of the curators of a weeklong festival in 2018 at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art-Rada theatre and one of the curators of a weeklong multi-arts festival at RADA Theatre celebrating Palestinian culture and history. He wrote and directed Water and Salt -Slovenia (2015) and Project 51 (London 2016 & 2018). Ahmed is a co-founder and artistic director of Al-Zaytouna (founded in 2005). He wrote Between the Fleeting Words London (2010) followed by a tour through the UK and Europe in 2011. Najar took dabke teaching abroad and established it in the Hava dance group in Slovenia (2014). He lives in London where he engages in advocacy and education regarding Palestinian Human Rights and Palestinian Culture.



Dr. Abdelfattah Abusrour

Director of Alrowwad Centre for Arts and Culture in Palestine

Abdelfattah, who grew up in Aida refugee camp, is empowering Palestinian children with a new form of non-violent resistance by providing alternative activities for creative expression and positive changeas well as therapeutic outlets for anger. He has pinpointed a relationship between non-violence and healthy self-expression among children living in Palestinian refugee camps and developed venues and practices to build "beautiful resistance." There, children can be separated from the violent and politically charged atmosphere that surrounds them each day. They learn how to use peaceful, cooperative means to release emotions and express their hopes and dreams in an artistic and constructive, rather than violent, manner. The political instability and violence in the West Bank has taken the greatest toll on children. According to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East, approx. 181,241 refugees reside in the 19 refugee camps in the West Bank and approx. 471,555 live in the eight refugee camps in Gaza and approximately 40 percent of all Palestinian refugees are children —experiencing violence, discrimination and deprivation. Given the chance to be creative and learn to set their own priorities, children can provide a bridge for a democratic and independent society —building a better future.



El Far3i

Tareq Abu Kwaik known by his stage name El Far3i is a rapper, singer, songwriter, and drummer. He is Palestinian-Jordanian, currently London based and a member of the band 47Soul. Since 2012, he has released six solo albums.

https://soundcloud.com/search?q=Al%20Far3i



Faris Ishaq

Bethlehem based Musician, Nay Master,
Music Therapist, Percussionist and Composer.
Faris is known for his mastery of the
ancient Egyptian 'Nay' Flute. Faris redefines the
parameters of the Nay flute, pushing musical
boundaries, and exploring innovative melodic,
percussive, and harmonic sounds. With an
evocative and improvisational approach, he plays
the Nay while simultaneously accompanying
himself on leg-percussion, seamlessly embodying
a fresh and unique fusion of Middle Eastern, Jazz,
and contemporary Folk sounds.

https://www.farisishag.com/



Yaz

French/Palestinian singer. Yaz's music is more than just entertainment, it's a window into a life that many of us can only imagine, mixing her London music scene vibe with Arabic tradition and contemporary jazz.. It's a reminder to never take our own circumstances for granted and to always have empathy for those who have faced struggles beyond our own

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wnAww2DcGvg



Lina Sleibi (via video link)

Palestinian Jordanian singer based in Dubai. Raised in a family of music lovers, Lina studied at the music conservatory in the West Bank, releasing her first single in 2014 in collaboration with Bahraini composer Mohammed Al-Hasan. She conveys both artistic and humanitarian messages through her voice, songs and the events she takes part in. She has participated in several local, regional and international music productions, TV and radio shows, and concerts in Europe, the United States, and the Middle East. Her latest concert was a "Tribute to Dalida" at the Dubai Opera in the UAE where she sang a repertoire of 19 songs of Dalida's in 5 languages including "Salma Ya Salama" and "Bambino". Her Youtube channel has over 130,000 subscribers in which she has a discography of more than 40 original and cover songs in diverse languages - including English, French, Arabic, Aramaic, German. Italian and Hindi.



Bashar Murad

A Palestinian singer-songwriter based in East Jerusalem producing globally-influenced pop music that highlights the issues facing Palestinian youth, including living under occupation. He has collaborated with Icelandic techno-punk band Hatari which was released shortly after Hatari raised banners at the final of Eurovision Song Contest 2019 in Tel Aviv. This year Murad was runner-up in Iceland's Eurovision competition to find an artist to represent them in Sweden

https://soundcloud.com/basharmurad/sets/wildwest-607952016



Noor XO

Chicago-based,19-year-old Palestinian/Jordanian making waves in the Chicago music scene. Born into a family of musicians, Noor creates a fusion of modern R&B, pop rap, and alternative pop genres infused with an Arab spirit.

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=OLAK5uy_n4a48Xe677R9ZENLPh0pEfL7yaa_7pe7I



Tamer Nafar

Palestinian, Lyd-based actor, rapper and the leader and founding member of Dam, the first Palestinian hip hop group. In January this year he wrote about the death of his uncle in Gaza in The Guardian.

https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2024/jan/24/poetry-israel-bomb-palestine

https://we.tl/t-aaRKixFuvv?utm_campaign=TRN_TDL_05&utm_source=sendgrid&utm_medium=email&trk=TRN_TDL_05

https://soundcloud.com/tamer-nafar-min-dam

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