

Press release of the International Festival of Nomads 2022

THE 2022 NOMADS FESTIVAL, AN EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIENCE IN M'HAMID EL GHIZLANE

"Culture is not a luxury, it is a necessity" Gao Xingjian

The International Festival of Nomads announces its return to M'Hamid El Ghizlane after a two-year Covid break with a special edition full of surprises, from 12 to 13 November 2022. Two days of musical and cultural events will showcase talented international artists from diverse backgrounds.

According to the festival founder and director, Nourredine Bougrab , *"The festival's return to the desert sends a powerful message to the world that the beautiful energies that have come together in this festival since its creation in 2004, survive"*.

The town of M'hamid El Ghizlane, once a stopover on the trans-Saharan caravan trade route, will host the 2022 edition of the International Festival of Nomads on November 12 and 13, organized by the Association Nomades du Monde. The festival is famous internationally for hosting artists such as Cheick Tidiane Seck, Bombino, Afel Bocoum, Kader Tarhanin, Tamikrest and Terakaf; well-known Moroccan musicians such as Nass El Ghiwane, Nouamane Lahlou, Mehdi Nassouli, Doueh and Saïda Charaf; and young local talents. It is one of the biggest cultural events in southern Morocco with the principal objective of preserving the precious cultural heritage of the nomads, their traditions, customs and wisdom.

This annual large gathering also aids the development of skills and improves livelihoods in M'hamid El Ghizlane and the Drâa-Tafilalet region. The event is supported by the Province of Zagora, the Ministry of Culture, the Moroccan National Tourist Office, the Maison de l'Artisan, the Orange Foundation, the Drâa-Tafilalet Regional Council, the Provincial Council of Zagora, the Agence du Sud, the Banque Populaire Foundation, the French Institute of Morocco, and several other partners.

The two-day programme includes more than ten performances, an exhibition of Moroccan crafts, a fashion show, a comic strip workshop, conferences, and demonstrations of traditional activities and sports such as baking 'sand bread', camel racing, sand hockey and archery. This year's festival welcomes Angolan lyrical singer **Té Macedo**, Malian Tuareg blues artists **Aratan N'Akalle**, and other artists from Algeria, India and Senegal. Moroccan musicians include, amongst others, gnawa maalam **Majid Bekkas**, rising gnawa star **Hind Ennaira**, and the Amazigh (Berber) group **Tassuta N-Imal**. With its varied and dynamic program, this event attracts festival-goers from all over the world and suits all tastes and all audiences.

The International Festival of Nomads gives pride of place to intercultural dialogue and is a model of unity in diversity. With many great surprises in store for you once again, the 2022 edition welcomes you in a spirit of openness, tolerance and respect, friendship and peace.

Dates / Places / Rates / Contacts:

Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 November 2022

M'hamid El Ghizlane - Zagora – MOROCCO

www.nomadsfestival.org

<https://web.facebook.com/nomade.monde>