

PRESS RELEASE

17th Edition of the Mawazine Festival Rhythms of the World

**Melhem Zein, Rouwaida Attieh, Ameer Dandan and Wael Jassar
to perform at Mawazine**

***Celebrating the most beautiful voices of Lebanon, Syria and Palestine on the
Nahda stage***

Rabat, April 3rd 2018: The Mawazine festival Rhythms of the World, organized under the High Patronage of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, presents for its 17th edition four great names of Arabic music:

- Melhem Zein from Lebanon will start the evening of Sunday June 24th followed by Rouwaida Attieh from Syria.
- Ameer Dandan from Palestine and Wael Jassar from Lebanon will be present for a highly anticipated evening on Tuesday June 26th.

Nicknamed "Al Rayes", **Melhem Zein** will perform on the Nahda stage and offer a concert punctuated with traditional Lebanese sounds. Considered as one of the most popular "tarab" voices, Melhem Zein has produced 5 albums to date, including the last "El Jereh Ely Baadou", in July 2017. The artist presents a variety of songs inspired by folklore, with a pop and funk remix from popular Lebanese music.

The Syrian artist **Rouwaida Attieh** will perform on Sunday June 24th evening. She became famous by winning the 2nd place of the show "Super Star" (Arabic Version-2003). Rouwaida Attieh is part of the new generation of great Arab artists. She stands out with her powerful voice and perfect control of the lute. Rouwaida collaborates with renowned composers such as the Lebanese Imad Shamseddine, the singer Wadih El Safi and the Egyptian composer Salah El Sharnoubi (who composed the last hits of Warda Al Jazairia). The singer has 4 albums to her credit and has performed in many Arab countries.

On Tuesday June 26th, Palestine and Lebanon will be in the spotlight with the artists **Ameer Dandan** and **Wael Jassar**. Born in a family of artists, **Ameer Dandan** stood out during the 4th season of Arab Idol. This 27-year-old artist studied at the Maison de la Musique in Palestine, where he learned to sing and play the lute. He has just launched two new titles: "Soukar Kalamak" and "Ya Batal".

Wael Jassar will then perform on the same stage. Known for his relevant texts and respect for tradition, Wael Jassar is distinguished by a unique style and an exceptional voice. The artist has released two albums of religious songs and more than 13 opuses. The album "Teweedi Leih" is considered the most successful album of his career.

Useful Information:

17th edition of the Mawazine Festival Rhythms of the World: From the 22nd to the 30th of June 2018.

Program:

Melhem Zein concert –Nahda stage – Sunday, June 24th 2018

Rouwaida Attieh concert – Nahda stage – Sunday, June 24th 2018

Ameer Dandan concert – Nahda stage – Tuesday, June 26th 2018

Wael Jassar concert- Nahda stage – Tuesday, June 26th 2018

About Mawazine Festival Rhythms of the World

Established in 2001, the Mawazine Festival Rhythms of the World is the essential rendezvous for music amateurs in Morocco drawing for the past 15 years, over 2 million festivalgoers at each edition. Held over a period of nine days, Mawazine offers a rich and diversified program where performers from all four corners of the world make of the cities of Rabat and Salé a world stage for music. Committed to promoting Moroccan Music, the Festival devotes more than half of its shows to national artists. As a firm believer in the values of peace, tolerance openness and respect, 90% of the concerts are free of charge for everyone to enjoy. Mawazine participates in the region's economy, attracting tourists from all over the world; and is a leading player in the creation of a real entertainment industry in Morocco

About Maroc Cultures Association:

Created in compliance with the provisions of November 15, 1958 Dahir, and further to a General Assembly held in Rabat on October 23, 2001, Maroc Cultures is a non-profit association whose main mission is to offer to the public of Rabat-Salé-Zemmour-Zaër region a highly professional cultural and artistic entertainment worthy of the capital of the kingdom. Echoing the fundamental values of His Majesty King Mohammed VI development policy, Maroc Cultures materializes this mission through Mawazine Rhythms of the World Festival as well as various events, multi-disciplinary symposia, plastic art exhibitions and concerts.