

**Antalya Akra Jazz Festival Begins**

World-renowned artists and masters of jazz music will meet art lovers at **Antalya Akra Jazz Festival**. The festival, which will be held for the first time in Antalya, is preparing to meet the audience with a colorful musical spectrum that blends modern and classical jazz and jazz music with funk, rock, Latin, soul, and electronic styles. **Antalya Akra Jazz** Festival will take place between **May 02-12, 2018, on the** open-air stage to be built in the garden of **Akra Hotels Antalya**, accompanied by the unique view of the Mediterranean Sea and Beydağlar.

Festival tickets are on sale at Biletix in Turkey and abroad.

The first guest of the festival is **Yasmin Levy, who** blends world music with magnificent harmony and takes her audience on a journey through a vast geography extending to Sephardic music**; she** will meet the audience on **Wednesday, May 2.**

The French band **Electro Deluxe**, which combines funk, soul, hip-hop, and electro music with jazz music, will offer an extraordinary experience with the energy in their piece on **Friday, May 4**.

One of the most memorable nights of the festival will be the **"Cesaria Évora Night," which** will take place on **Saturday, May 5,** in memory of Cesaria Évora, the Grammy award-winning legendary name who left her mark in the memory as the Barefoot Diva. The **Cesaria Évora Orchestra** will accompany the great Cape Verdean musicians such as **Lura, Teofilo Chantre, Nancy Vieira, Lucibella, and Elida Almeida,** who worked with this legendary name for years.

World-renowned composer and pianist **Fazıl** Say's "İlk Şarkılar" (First Songs), the first of his song albums composed by composing the poems of unforgettable poets of Turkish literature, and his latest album "Güz Şarkıları" (Fall Songs) will meet the audience with a beautiful concert on **Wednesday, May 9th**. The powerful voice of soloist Serenad Bağcan accompanies Fazıl Say's bold and original interpretation of the piano. In Güz Şarkıları, **Ece Dağıstan**, a creative interpreter, brings the piano to life, while **Güvenç Dağüstün is the** soloist with his impressive voice.

On **Friday, May 11th,** the festival will bring together the masters of jazz in Turkey on the same stage. While **Elif Çağlar**, one of the best jazz vocalists in Turkey, will take the step with her quartet, on the same night, **Ediz Hafızoğlu**, one of the most successful drummers of the local music scene, will be in front of the audience with **Jülide Özçelik** and **Ülkü Aybala Sunat**, one of the best jazz vocalists of Turkey, in his project called **"Nazdrave & Friends."**

The festival will end on **Saturday, May 12, with the** concert of French singer **Dany Brillant**, who captures magnificent energy on stage with her lively and emotionally charged songs and dances, blending Cuban, Puerto Rican, Mediterranean, and French rhythms with jazz.

In addition to the musical feast that the festival will offer to art lovers, the festival will also host the **"Akra Jazz Talks"** conversation that will take place on **Thursday, May 3, at 17:30 at Akra Hotels**. **Görgün Taner, Selçuk Yöntem,** and **Şenay Lambaoğlu** will discuss the contribution of culture & art festivals to the city in the **"City - Jazz - Festival"** themed talk moderated by **Yekta Kopan**. The world **is open to the public and free of charge.**

**Passionate and harmonious *"*Yasmin Levy."**

The festival starts with Yasmin Levy, who blends world music with magnificent harmony and takes her audience through a vast geography extending to Sephardic music. Yasmin Levy, who will meet with the audience at **Akra Hotels on Wednesday, May 2 at 20:00**, blends Western music instruments with the rhythms of the East and presents a unique and original style.

**Unlimited, extraordinary, and full of energy "Electro Deluxe."**

The French band **Electro Deluxe combines** funk, soul, hip-hop, and electro music with jazz music and offers an extraordinary experience with the energy in their music. The band consisting of **Thomas Faure** (saxophone), **Gael Cadoux** (piano), **Arnaud Renaville** (drums), **Jeremie Coke** (bass), **Vincent Payen** (trumpet), **Bertrand Luzignant** (trombone), and **James Copley** on vocals will take the stage at **Akra Hotels on Friday, May 4 at 20:00. The** band, which does not fit itself into any musical mold, constantly trying new things and rediscovering itself every time, continues to push the boundaries of their music in every album they make and on their stages.

**Barefoot Diva "Cesaria Évora" Night**

One of the most memorable nights of the festival will be the **"Cesaria Évora Night,"** organized in memory of the Grammy award-winning legendary name Cesaria Évora, who is remembered as the Barefoot Diva. **On Saturday, May 5, at 20:00 at Akra Hotels,** Cesaria Évora Soloists and Orchestra will take the stage. **Cesaria Évora Tribute**, consisting of great Cape Verdean musicians such as **Lura, Teofilo Chantre, Nancy Vieira, Lucibella, and Elida Almeida**, who worked with this legendary name for years**, is a** group formed as a tribute to Évora after her death. The night will feature the songs of Cesaria Évora, the world's number-one representative of Morna, a blend of Latin music, especially Portuguese fado, Brazilian sambas, and jazz music.

**Fazıl Say's First Songs & Fall Songs on the same stage...**

World-renowned composer and pianist **Fazıl** Say's *"İlk Şarkılar"* (F*irst Songs),* the first of his song albums composed by composing the poems of unforgettable poets of Turkish literature, and his latest album *"Güz Şarkıları"* (F*all Songs)* will meet the audience on the festival stage with a beautiful concert. In İlk Şarkılar, Fazıl Say's bold and original interpretation on the piano is accompanied by the powerful voice of soloist **Serenad Bağcan**. In Fall Songs, **Ece Dağıstan**, a creative interpreter, brings the piano to life, while **Güvenç Dağüstün is** the soloist with his impressive voice. **Ediz Hafızoğlu** (drums), **Volkan Hürsever** (double bass), **Gürtuğ Gök** (saxophone), **Derya Türkan** (kamancheh), **Hakan Güngör** (kanun) are among the masters in the orchestra. With its East-West synthesis, Turkish music, jazz, cabaret music, nostalgic melodies, and catchy lyrics for everyone, the songs, each with different styles and subjects, can be listened to at **Akra Hotels** stage **on Wednesday, May 9 at 20:00.**

**Elif Caglar Quartet / Ediz Hafizoglu 'Nazdrave & Friends'**

**Elif Çağlar**, who signed the first English-language album in Turkey - with all lyrics, music, and arrangements by herself - and transitions between many musical genres in her compositions, is another name on the festival stage. **Elif Çağlar**, who is widely acclaimed with her third album *"The Art of Time"* and attracts attention with her magnificent jazz interpretation and powerful voice, will meet the audience as a quartet with **Çağrı Sertel** (piano), **Volkan Hürsever** (double bass) and **Ediz Hafızoğlu** (drums). Following Elif Çağlar Quartet, **Ediz Hafızoğlu**, who is considered one of the most successful drummers of the local music scene as a studio and concert musician, invites **Jülide Özçelik** and **Ülkü Aybala Sunat**, one of the best jazz vocalists of Turkey, to the stage with his project called **"Nazdrave & Friends."** The masters will perform songs from 'Nazdrave' as well as arrangements of Jülide Özçelik's and Ülkü Aybala Sunat's songs suitable for the 'Nazdrave' group. The concert will be held at **Akra Hotels on Friday, May 11, at 20:00**.

**The soul of French melodies " Dany Brillant."**

French singer **Dany Brillant is the** last name to take the stage at the festival. Her vibrant and emotionally charged songs and dances blend Cuban, Puerto Rican, Mediterranean, and French rhythms. The artist**,** who will meet jazz lovers at **Akra Hotels on Saturday, May 12 at 20:00,** frequently expresses that he dreamed of becoming a famous musician and actor one day by dancing and singing at an early age. In addition to nostalgic songs, **Brillant** will give the audience an extraordinary concert experience with French songs dominated by Latin, salsa, swing, and jazz melodies.

**Jazz and festival will be discussed in the city with "Akra Jazz Talks."**

In addition to the musical feast it will offer to art lovers, the festival will also host **"Akra Jazz Talks."** In the conversation-themed **"City - Jazz - Festival,"** valuable guests will discuss the contribution of culture & art festivals to the city. The guests of Akra Jazz Talks, which will be moderated by the famous journalist, voice actor, writer, and presenter **Yekta Kopan**, who has made a name for himself with culture and arts programs such as "Gece Gündüz" and "Cumartesi" for many years; **Görgün Taner, the** general director of Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts (İKSV), which has brought many influential culture and arts events such as Istanbul Jazz Festival, Istanbul Biennial, and Istanbul Music Festival to our country; Görgün **Taner, the** president of the European Cultural Foundation and the former president of the European Jazz Festivals Association; **Selçuk Yöntem, the** master theater artist, director, presenter, and jazz lover; and **Şenay Lambaoğlu, the** famous jazz artist. The talk, which will be open to the public, will take place **on Thursday, May 3, at 17:30 at Akra Hotels, and** participation is free of charge.

**Tickets are on sale at Biletix.**

Tickets for **Antalya Akra Jazz Festival**, which will take place **at Akra Hotels Antalya** between **May 02-12, 2018,** are on sale at Biletix in Turkey and abroad.

Single concert tickets for **Antalya Akra Jazz Festival are priced** at 100 TL, and combined tickets for all concerts are priced at 450 TL and can be purchased from Biletix box offices or www.biletix.com.

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