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**The Antalya Akra Jazz Festival Begins in June**

World famous jazz musicians will come to Akra Hotels this June for the Antalya Akra Jazz Festival. The festival, which will be held in Antalya for the second time, is preparing to impress audiences with a colourful musical spectrum, blending jazz music with funk, rock, latin, soul and electronic styles, as well as modern and classical jazz. **The** **2nd Antalya Akra Jazz Festival** will be held on **June 19-29 2019**, in the garden of **Akra Hotels**, surrounded by the unique views of the Mediterranean and the Bey Mountains.

Tickets can be purchased via Biletix.

The festival will open with a concert by Spanish artist **Monica Molina**, who combines traditional Spanish and Latin music with her own unique style, and captivates audiences with her beautiful voice. Before the concert, the Akra Jazz Band will host **Barbaros** and **Şallıel Brothers**, both of which have been very successful in their musical careers.

Afterwards, the festival will host the Cuban jazz pianist **Roberto Fonseca**, whose musical style and wonderful improvisations always stand out, both solo or with other musicians for “Havana Night”. On the same night, Ece Göksu, one of Turkey’s best jazz vocalists, will be on stage with her Quartet.

Nigerian American artist **Iyeoka** has attracted attention with her innovative style, topping world music charts with her song “Simply Falling”, and will also be joining us at the festival. Before Iyeoka, the **Tin Pan Band,** an energetic band of American Folk Music, and Jazz and Blues from New Orleans and New York, will take the stage.

The world-famous pianist and composer **Fazıl Say** will perform at the festival for the second time, performing his latest works “Troy Sonata” and “Izmir Suite”.

Russian saxophonist **Igor Butman** will perform with musicians of the **Moscow Jazz Orchestra**. Turkey's own guitar virtuoso, **Önder Focan**, will also play at the festival with his band.

This year, the festival will close with a performance by **Dee Dee Bridgewater,** who is among the best jazz vocalists in the world, and won a Grammy Award for Best Jazz Vocal Album in 2011. The **Akra Big Band**, composed of Turkey's most important virtuoso artists, will accompany Bridgewater on stage.

**The romantic voice of Spain, Monica Molina**

The first guest of the festival will be the world-famous Spanish artist **Monica Molina**, who combines traditional Spanish and Latin music with her own unique style, and has attracted on the opening night of the festival.

Molina, who did the photo shoot for her latest album ‘’Autorretrato’’ in Istanbul and has always had a love for Turkey, will meet perform on **Wednesday, June 19th** at **21:00** at Akra Hotels. Before the concert, the **Akra Jazz Band**, which consists of jazz musicians who live in Antalya, will perform accompanied by the incredible **Barbaros**, and **Şallıel Brothers**, who have achieved countless successes in their musical careers.

**“Havana Night’’ with Roberto Fonseca**

On the second night of the festival, Cuban jazz pianist Roberto Fonseca will take the stage. Roberto Fonseca has shared the stage with world-renowned figures such as Ibrahim Ferrer, Orlando ‘Cachaíto’ López, Rubén González, Guajiro Mirabal y Manuel Galbán, and plays in the Buena Vista Social Club. An outstanding artist, Fonseca is able to produce incredible improvisations both solo, and with other musicians on stage. Roberto Fonseca will perform his concert “Havana Night” on **Thursday, June 20th** at **21:00** at Akra Hotels, playing songs from his eighth album, ABUC, on this special night. ABUC has been described as “surprisingly broad and fully intertwined” by The Guardian newspaper, calling the artist “a storyteller”. Prior to the concert, Ece Göksu, one of the best jazz vocalists of Turkey, will be take the stage with her Quartet.

**With her innovative interpretation of soul and rhythm’n blues; Iyeoka**

Nigerian American artist Iyeoka released the Black and Blues album in 2004 with The Rock By Funk Tribe band, and has built a large fan base with her “Yes” album. The artist, who topped world music charts with her song “Simply Falling”, attracts attention with her strong voice and stage performance. With her innovative interpretation of soul and rhythm’n blues, Iyeoka will perform on **Saturday, June 22th** at **21:00** at Akra Hotels. Prior to Iyeoka's performance, the **Tin Pan Band,** an energetic band of American Folk Music, and Jazz and Blues from the streets of New Orleans and New York, will take the stage.

**Fazıl Say on Stage with “Troy Sonata” and “Izmir Suite”**

The world-famous pianist and composer Fazıl Say will perform at the festival for the second time, on **Wednesday June 26th** at **21:00** at Akra Hotels. Say will be performing his latest works “Troy Sonata” and “Izmir Suite”. Troy Sonata, requested by the Çanakkale Municipality for the Troy Year, is a 40-minute and 10-movement piano sonata. The movement titles of the sonata are “Poet tells, Homer”, “Aegean Winds”, “Heroes of Troy”, “Sparta”, “Helen, Love”, “Troy”, “Achilles”, “The War”, “The Trojan Horse”, and “The Epilogue”. Izmir Suite Opus 79, requested by the Izmir Metropolitan Municipality for their the 150th anniversary, was composed by Say for the piano, and consists of “Gulf Waves”, “Brahms in Izmir”, “Quiet morning in Kordon”, “Chopin in Izmir”, “Urla Poetry”, “Rahmaninov in Izmir”, and the “Final jazz-zeybek” movements.

**A colourful night of the festival; Igor Butman and the Moscow Jazz Orchestra**

The festival will be home to a very colourful and fun concert, thanks to world-famous Russian saxophonist Igor Butman, performing with the Moscow Jazz Orchestra. Igor Butman, who is known as the “Jazz Bridge from Moscow to New York”, has shared the stage with many impressive orchestras and names, and will perform on **Friday, June 28th** at **21:00** at Akra Hotels. The Moscow Jazz Orchestra, created in 1999 and composed of outstanding musicians, will accompany Butman on stage. On the same night, Önder Focan, one of Turkey's guitar virtuosos, will also perform on the festival stage with his band.

**Closing concert with Dee Dee Bridgewater, one of the world’s best jazz vocalists**

The second year of the festival will end with a performance by Dee Dee Bridgewater**,** who is among the best jazz vocals in the world, and won a Grammy Award for Best Jazz Vocal Album in 2011. Dee Dee Bridgewater, known for her extraordinary performance of jazz classics, will be accompanied by the Akra Big Band, composed of Turkey’s most important virtuoso artists. Bridgewater won two Grammy Awards with her album “Ella Fitzgerald”, and has shared the stage with many artists such as Dizzy Gillespie, Sonny Rollins, Dexter Gordon and Max Roach. Her performance will take place **on Saturday, June 29th** at **21:00** at Akra Hotels.

**Tickets on sale via Biletix**

Tickets for the Antalya Akra Jazz Festival, held between June 19-29 , 2019 at Akra Hotels Antalya, can be purchased at Biletix offices or at www.biletix.com. Single concert tickets are 120 TL, and combined tickets for all concerts are 500 TL.

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