

PALESTINE ON THE PIER 2022



FREE ENTRY
Sunday 4 September
12 noon - 6pm

Welcome to Palestine on the Pier 2022

We are thrilled to be back on Hastings Pier celebrating Palestinian culture in its many forms as well as in all the new venues that have joined the festival this year. All culture tells a story and this is particularly true of the heritage dress collection that we have brought from Ramallah in the West Bank, embroidered with 'tatzreez,' the famous



Palestinian cross-stitch. The symbols and designs of tatzreez describe where a person has come from and what has happened to them so that 'every stitch tells a story'.

We have also introduced a 'Talking Tent' so that some of the stories of Palestinians and the diaspora can be shared in person. We invite you to explore all the different aspects of Palestinian culture this weekend. We invite you to share the story of Palestine; one woven with love, joy, heartbreak, memories, resilience, beauty and resistance.

Best wishes from the Hastings and Rye PSC.

Cultural resistance

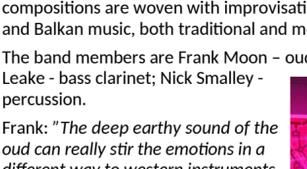
The phrase 'To Exist is to Resist' brings together the importance of cultural endurance and resistance, the two elements that are interwoven in the Palestinian struggle for liberation. Everyday activities are essential in keeping traditions alive when so much has been done to destroy them. For example, in the refugee camps, creative youth groups preserve the stories handed down by their grandparents; Aida Camp in Bethlehem called their group Beautiful Resistance.

Today on Hastings Pier is a snapshot of some aspects of Palestinian life: food, so important to family life and in their generous hospitality; music, 'dabke', the national dance and handicrafts. The design of traditional dresses featuring tatzreez cross stitch are centuries old and each one is unique to a particular village.

Journalist and author Ramzy Baroud writes: '...in the occupation's history, cultural resistance is more important now than ever.'

Samer Rashed | سامر راشد

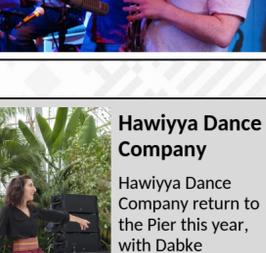
Viola player and composer Samer Rashed is flying in from occupied East Jerusalem to perform with his UK band his blend of gypsy jazz with an Arabic twist. Samer has performed throughout the world in concerts and festivals in Sweden, Greece, Bahrain, Finland, Belgium, Serbia, Lebanon, Spain, Norway, Jordan, Syria, Kuwait and the UAE.



Samer has worked with a number of well known musicians such as violinist Nigel Kennedy at the Proms Festival in London and with Lebanese composer, singer and oud player Marcel Khalifé at the Beiteddine Art Festival.

Heritage Thobe Collection

We are very pleased to be able to present two dress shows: heritage thobes from all over Palestine and a modern thobe show. These have been brought together by award-winning designer Intiyaz Hussein based in Ramallah and the Palestinian Embroideries House. The heritage collection of tatzreez embroidered dresses - some over 150 years old - have never been seen in the UK before. A real first for Palestine on the Pier!



Each thobe is embroidered with designs that link it to a specific village and its people, thus forming an important aspect of Palestinian cultural identity. Holding on to, and amplifying, aspects of Palestinian culture become ways of resisting attacks on Palestinian identity.

It will be possible today to purchase any of the modern thobes.

Dress Preview - Saturday 3 September

Come along to the White Rock Hotel the day before the event 10am-5pm where we will be displaying the dresses. The White Rock Hotel is opposite the pier.

Miranda Allan

Miranda spent the first 24 years of her life as a refugee in a Jordan refugee camp before coming to the UK. She is an educator, an artist, photographer and expert in the art of Tatzreez embroidery.

Miranda: "Palestinian embroidery is an art, not just a thread, a needle, a cross stitch, and a handcraft. It is the art of skills that shape life. When a Palestinian woman embroiders on her dress and decorates the furniture of her home it is with the story of her life and the history of her homeland - Palestine."

Frank Moon and the Owlers

The Owlers is a collaboration between four Hastings musicians. Their original compositions are woven with improvisations, and draw particular inspiration from Arabic and Balkan music, both traditional and modern.

The band members are Frank Moon - oud; Björn Dahlberg - clarinet, bass clarinet; Rob Leake - bass clarinet; Nick Smalley - percussion.

Frank: "The deep earthy sound of the oud can really stir the emotions in a different way to western instruments, and as a player it invites me to think more about rhythm and less about harmony, which is a new perspective for a western musician."



Hawiyya Dance Company return to the Pier this year, with Dabke performances throughout the day including a debut collaboration with DJ Saliah on an original track tailored for Hawiyya. This could be the beginning of a beautiful exploration and creation between female artists. "Last year was a truly inspiring event and we are honoured to return to Palestine on the Pier again." - Hawiyya Dance Company.

DJ Saliah

Saliah is a British-Lebanese electronic music producer who made her debut appearance at Glastonbury 2022. She is known for her unique blends of acapellas, UK Bass, popular Arabic classics and a range of ground shaking electronic genres. Saliah has supported MOBO Award-Winning Lady Leshurr and BBC Introducing's Miss Melody. We look forward to DJ Saliah's collaboration with Hawiyya for a unique, never-before seen dance performance, as well as DJ'ing at the end of the day with mix of dabke rhythms and classic Arabic dance music from the nineties and noughties.



Elias Mattar - Storyteller

Elias Mattar is a Palestinian play specialist, drama and movement therapist, workshop facilitator, performer and a storyteller.



Join Elias for exciting interactive storytelling sessions as he takes us on adventures crossing borders, walls and time. You will encounter mythical creatures and meet interesting characters from folk tales as you unlock the secrets and magic of classic storytelling.

"Last year, as spent the pier from the distance, and spotted the Palestinian flags flying high, I felt at home. The audience's eagerness to learn more about my heritage magically transported me in time and brought the tale I was sharing to life. I cannot wait to share more of Palestinian storytelling with everyone."

Jamal and Alaa

Renowned Brighton-based duo Jamal and Alaa play traditional Arabic folk songs on the oud and percussion since have been performing together since January 2017.

Jamal spent over 40 years of his life as a professional musician in Syria before coming to the UK, running a recording studio and lecturing in universities on Arabic music. Alaa is from a famous musical family and has played the Oud and Sitar for 25 years.

Jamal and Alaa have performed at the Royal Festival Hall as well as at numerous events around the South East. They played The Riwaq Stage at Brighton Festival this year and at the Jubilee Library for Refugee Week.

Areej Kaoud at the Big Yin

Areej Kaoud is a Palestinian visual artist raised in Sharjah, UAE and Gaza, Palestine. Her practice incorporates text, sound, performance and installation to comment on emergency provisions and their enactment.

Areej will be showing two works at the Big Yin gallery over the weekend - one is a light box piece 'Silent Sirens.' The other is a painting/Egyptian carpet piece called 'Mother Tongue.' Both works share a theme around a political play on words.

Areej Kaoud at the Big Yin on Saturday 3rd 11am - 5pm and Sunday 4th 12 noon - 3pm. The Big Yin Gallery is at 1 London Road, St Leonards-on-Sea TN37 6AE.



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Unite the Community Union works for human rights and justice at home and internationally.

Sussex Coast Branch of Unite the Community Union is proud to sponsor the Hastings and Rye Palestine Solidarity event.

Graze On Grand
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Seafront views on to St Leonards
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Branch is so proud to support the Palestine on the Pier event and Hastings and Rye Palestine Solidarity Campaign.

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Hastings & District Trades Union Council

UNITY IS STRENGTH

Hastings and District Trades Union Council is proud to support the Palestine on the Pier event.

We send a message of solidarity to the Palestinian people in their quest to achieve their inalienable rights and build a future of peace, justice and security.

Free Free Palestine!

To find out which trade union is for you

Contact:
 Hastingsstuc@outlook.com

Unite the UNION Hastings District Branch SE/6352

Hastings Unite and Hastings Unite Community are proud sponsors of

Palestine on the Pier

We are sure this will be an event illustrating the richness of Palestinian cultural life. Unite campaigns to end the siege and occupation, calls for the implementation of international law, and for Palestinian human rights to be respected.

Unite is the union for the 21st century, meeting the greatest challenges facing working people today. It is a democratic and campaigning union, which fights for employees in the workplace and workers generally.

Membership enquiries: Branch Secretary 07776397995
 Website www.unitetheunion.org

#palestineonthe pier2022

Talking Tent

A chance to find out about Palestinian lives, experiences and history from an array of Palestinian speakers. Find out what links the culture, heritage and history through talks on 'Life as a Palestinian exile,' being a Palestinian citizen of Israel and growing up in a

Kids' Corner

On the top deck there is a kite-making workshop with community-based organised Arts on Prescription who organised the banner making workshop that created the Palestine on the Pier banner at the front of the pier.

Kids' Corner will feature interactive storytelling sessions with Palestinian play

Food And Market Stalls

Our marketplace is crammed with handmade products including a range of tatzreez-embroidered bags, purses and necklaces from the Palestinian Women's Cooperative. We have Zaytoon olive oil, soap, dates, and za'atar, all produced by Palestinian farmers, hand-painted ceramics from Jerusalem and handmade jewellery, scarves and accessories by Rima; and keffiyehs from Hirbawi in Hebron. On the lower deck you can sample a range of authentic Palestinian dishes including mosakhan by Chef Momo, kofta from Khalid's Kitchen, falafel from Arwa as well as sweet Kanafeh from Nablus, and L2K's Palestinian Limonana.

Hastings and Rye Palestine Solidarity Campaign

We are a small but active group campaigning for justice, freedom and liberation for Palestinians. We hold weekly information stalls in Hastings town centre, public meetings, cultural events, film shows and fundraisers. During lockdown, we held Zoom meetings featuring speakers such as Dr Ghada Karmi, Professor Ilan Pappé, Jonathan Cook, Asa Winstanley and Dr Ramzy Baroud. More recently we have held meetings about Gaza with Dr. Shahd Abusalama and about Israeli apartheid with Amnesty International representative Garry Ettle and SOAS Palestine Society President Yara Derbas. We support the movement for BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions). Ours is just one of over 70 branches of the National PSC. Visit our Facebook, Twitter, Instagram pages and YouTube channel.

www.hastingspalestinecampaign.org

With thanks to -

Our amazing partners Hastings Pier Entertainment Ltd for providing the best venue in town, all the artists and performers for their creative energies, Euan McGrath for his incredible design work, our donors and sponsors who made all this happen, Brighton and Hove PSC and the National PSC for their backing, White Rock Hotel for hosting our dress display, Half Man Half Burger for feeding our artists, Arts on Prescription for running our creative workshops, PalArt Collective and The Big Yin for organising the art exhibition, Tim Kingsmill our sound engineer, Making it Happen at HVA, the Refugee Buddy Project, all our volunteers and models, Khaled Said Al Thaher for his work behind the scenes, our stallholders and chefs, designer Intiyaz Hussein, translator Hana Bothaina and Dr Shahanaz Najjar for bringing the dress collection to Hastings... and every single one of you for coming today!