

The background of the top section is a sunset over a body of water. The sun is a bright white circle on the right, with rays extending across the sky. The sky is a gradient of orange and yellow. Several birds are silhouetted against the sky, flying in various directions. In the foreground, a person is silhouetted in a small boat on the water, holding a long pole. The water reflects the colors of the sunset.

festival
sur le
Niger

9th edition

2013

12th to 17th February

SÉGOU - REPUBLIC OF MALI

www.festivalsegou.org

PRESS RELEASE

Guest City: Tombouctou
Guest Festival: Festival au Désert

THEME : « Culture & Governance »

Rich in history and open to the world, Ségou, fabled land of culture, will become over six days the celebratory scene of a multidisciplinary festival where arts and culture meet. The Festival sur le Niger opens up Ségou's gates once again and offers you an unparalleled series of performances on the Niger River, and its banks, from February 12 to 17, 2013.

SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM: « Culture & Governance »

- Sub-theme 1 : « **Culture & Citizenship** »
- Sub-theme 2 : « **Arts & Democracy** »
- Sub-theme 3 : « **What political, economic and social governance for Africa? Challenges, Perils and Prospects.** »
- Sub-theme 4 : « **The problem of artistic creation in Africa** ».

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TRADITIONAL EVENTS : «Ségou welcomes the cultural caravan from Timbuktu led by the Festival au Désert to celebrate peace and national unity»

Traditional troupes from Timbuktu will reveal the great cultural richness of our ancestral rites; a unique opportunity to discover these memorable ceremonies for which the festival provides a space for newer expressions, particularly in this period of crisis in the desert.

Music, theater, dances, masquerades and giant puppets, hunters' performances, canoe race...

For this edition, the region of Timbuktu is the guest region, with a strong delegation of artists coached by the staff of the Festival au Désert.

ART EXHIBITION : «Peace»

- An international meeting of visual artists from Mali and other parts the world in the Kôrè Gallery, Quai des Arts, on the theme « Peace ».
- Two sculpture workshop at the Centre "Anemy Sculpture" and the cultural space of the Foundation Festival sur le Niger.
- Exhibition of Instruments and Music Rhythms of Songhoï and Kel Tamasheq people (Bèla, Tuareg and Moore)
- Exhibition from the Meeting of Artists of the Kôrè Cultural Centre (Artists from Africa and other parts of the world)
- Master Class with Abdoulaye Konaté
- Photo exhibition on the Kôrèduga by Harandane Dicko

INTERNATIONAL CRAFTS FAIR OF SEGOU

Where imagination and creativity of craftsmen and farmers of the region and the sub-region mingle.

The MMAP in SEGOU : the Market of Music and Visual arts in Ségou

An African Art and Music Fair where the imagination and creativity of visual artists and musicians meet through big galleries and production houses worldwide. This will be one of the major innovations of this edition.

Festival sur le Niger

THEME PARTIES

- **Mandingo Party** with Habib Koité, Bassekou Kouyaté, Nampe Sadio...
- **Ragga, Reggae, Rap Party** with Tiken Jah Fakoly, Fouken J...
- **Timbuktu Night** : Khaira Arby, Vieux Farka, Thialé Arby, Tartit and other artists from the north invited by the Festival au Désert.
- **International Guest Artists:** Barbara Kanam (DRC), Alioune Mbaye Nder (Senegal), Tiken Jah Fakoly (RCI).

INTERNATIONAL STARS

TIKEN JAH FAKOLY REGGAE (RCI)



Doumbia Moussa Fakoly was born on June 23, 1968 in Odienné north-western part of Côte d'Ivoire. Although he came from a family of blacksmiths, Fakoly discovered early reggae music and created his first band, "Djelys", in 1987. He managed gradually to become famous at the national

and regional level with his concerts. Tiken Jah Fakoly plays music to "awaken conscience". The lyrics of his songs deal with the injustice suffered by the people of his country, but also and especially the African people in general. By "Music that awakens conscience", Tiken Jah Fakoly explains that people who live under oppression are humans as well as others; they have the same rights as all human beings and have their cultures and values.

BARBARA KANAM FUNK - REGGAE - ZOUK - RUMBA (DRC)



Coming from a family of twelve children, Barbara Kanam is one of the finest female voices in Africa. Hearing her singing is a true delight. Funk, reggae, zouk, rumba and even jazz have not secret for her. In 1991, while sojourning in South Africa, she has to audition for the benefit of big band

"Devotion" from Johannesburg, searching for a lead singer. The beautiful Barbara is selected among several candidates. Thus began a singing career that will bring her to several tours and festivals throughout Southern Africa. She collaborates with renowned artists such as Jacob Desvarieux in the compilation Africa Dance by Edgar Youkeu. Fally Ipupa invited her for featuring in his album "Droit Chemin" in the title 100% Love. Barbara Kanam is a talented artist. She will be in Ségou, on the banks of the Niger River during the 9th edition of the Festival sur le Niger.

ALIOUNE MBAYE NDER

MBALACK (SENEGAL)



Dancer and percussionist in his younger year, Alioune Mbaye Nder actually began his career in 1991 by integrating the Lemzo Diamono, where he becomes the lead singer two years later. He became independent in 1994 to set up his band – “Setsima” - with a debut album entitled “Live fidack” released in December, which immediately place him under the spotlight. The Nder Movement was launched; each new cassette reinforced the popular and modern time griot... True showman and African teen idol, the king of Mbalax, has given a new impetus to the very dancing Senegalese music known worldwide; mixing rhythms and traditional instruments with modern rhythms and instruments.

Festival
sur le
Niger

BASSEKOU KOUYATÉ

NGONI / ACOUSTIC - AFRO BEAT - BLUES (MALI)



From Toumani Diabaté to Carlos Santana, via Ali Farka Touré and Bonnie Raitt, Bassekou has multiplied experiences and artistic collaborations have enriched his music furthermore. And this is only just reward if Bassekou picks on April 10, 2008 a double distinction in BBC Music Awards (Best

African Artist of the Year and Best World Music Album for “Segu Blue”). A rare performance for this competition, hailed by critics... In 2003, he creates his own band, Samagéra, with which he toured in Holland and Belgium in 2005. With his current band, renamed “Ngoni Ba”, he finally recorded his debut album “Segu Blue”, which was released in March 2007... In addition to four Ngoni, the band also includes singer Amy Sacko, who is none other than his wife. Revered by the greatest names of blues and jazz, Taj Mahal leading, the artist combines with extraordinary grace and virtuosity the sounds born in the Niger River and those created on the banks of the Mississippi. Bassekou will be present during the 2013 edition of the Festival sur le Niger.

VIEUX FARKA TOURÉ

SAHARAN BLUES - ROCK- REGGAE - (MALI)

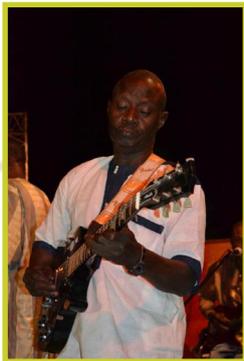


Brahima Ali Farka Touré aka Vieux Farka Touré was immersed in music since his childhood. Worthy heir of the late Ali Farka Touré, his father; in his music, he pays tribute to

his father who was a superstar of the World Music. Having spent his childhood the Mali's capital city, Bamako, music becomes part of his life. Today, multi-instrumentalist, he resumed the family tradition and released an eponymous album in February 2007. His father gave him a great legacy, his band... Worthy heir of the great Ali Farka Touré, Vieux is getting a spot on the World Music scene. He adds elements of rock and reggae to the Saharan Blues whose pioneer was his late father. Today, he multiplies tours throughout the world, to conquer new horizons. The Child of Niafunké will offer an unprecedented show during the 9th edition of the Festival sur le Niger.

SAHEL BLUES

SAHEL BLUES (MALI)



In Ségou, along the majestic Niger River... art is in motion... a musical story is being written! Four virtuosos, Mama Sissoko (Guitar), Boubacar Dembélé (N'goni), Broda Diabaté (Kora) et Issa Dembélé (multi-instrumentalist), are reviving the sounds and discovering the musical diversity of a whole people.

A mix of traditional and modern rhythms gave birth to the "Sahel Blues". This musical project is an initiative of the Centre Culturel Kòrè...

Various rhythms combine to give a unique sound, which transports us in the musical poetry of the Sahel... in time and space. Sahel will be one the major discoveries of the 2013 edition of the Festival sur le Niger.



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KHAIRA ARBY

BLUES - WORLD MUSIC (MALI)



Only singer in her family, Khaira began music in 1970, when she was only eleven years old. She began her public appearances with a cultural band of Abarajou, and

made such an impression that she was soon recruited by the Regional Band of Timbuktu. Later in the same year, she is promoted soloist with the Regional Band of Gao. In 1974, she will represent the region of Gao in Bamako, during the cultural and artistic biennial of Mali. After varying fortunes, Khaira is now one of the biggest names in Malian music. Around the world, her voice continues to soften the man-

HABIB KOITÉ

WORLD MUSIC (MALI)



Intended for an engineering career, Habib, on the advice of his uncle registers to the National Institute of Arts (INA). Very soon, he joins the musical band of the institute, "Star", where he is soon appointed

bandmaster. In 1988, Habib creates his own band: "Bamada". Imbedded in the legends of his country, without obscuring the realities of today's society, he developed his own style: a blend of Malian traditional music instruments (tamani, balafon, n'goni...) perfectly blended with the particular sound of his guitar, he plays like a "Kamalen n'goni". The songwriter has deftly mixed the past with the present in his texts marked by fable and allegory. His compositions reveal a style fueled by many traditions of Mali, where each region has its own cultural identity. Habib is an ambassador of the Festival sur le Niger. He will amaze you at the 9th edition in Ségou.

TARTIT



The group of women, Tartit, is part of the nomadic kel tamasheq people. Like the famous band Tinariwen, the women of the band come from the region of Timbuktu.

However, they haven't chosen to electrify their instruments, and accompanied by their griots in tehardent and imzad (a kind of guitar and violin), they sing their life, tradition and play the tindé (percussion). It's in the camps that they are offered to play at the festival Voice of Women in December 1995. On this occasion the band takes a final form. They tour more and more and in 1997, they recorded "Amazagh", their first album.

In 2000 « Ichichila » is released; and in 2003, they participate in the Festival au Désert. They appeared in the show "Desert Blues", which make them share stage with the Malian musicians Habib Koite and Afel Bocoum. Tartit will participate in the 2013 Festival sur le Niger.

THE NYAGA OF THE FESTIVAL

A great moment of fellowship during the festival. This year, it will be merged with the opening ceremony. Ségou artists will be hosting festival goers with an unparalleled local music and dance party. For this edition, we will celebrate peace and national unity in Mali.

THEATER & DANCE

As far as theater is concerned, this year we will receive the maestro GUIMBA NATIONAL in his play "A vous la Nuit", a kind of musico-poetic fresco in which words take all their value and importance accompanied by the sound of the legendary kora. This play is about friendship with a capital F, the one whose strong ties are reinforced by the problems of life.

And ADAMA TRAORE of ACTE SEPT in the play: "Kaklara ou jamais à genoux". This play focuses on the harmful effects of excessive Islamism. It also highlights the conflict between Islamism and the traditional values. Kaklara is relevant, if one refers to the situation in the north, where the jihadists reign unchallenged and impose their law.

As far as dance is concerned, you will see the famous Dance Company of the Kôré Cultural Centre with the creation on the dance techniques of the Djandjigui and the Koredugaw associated to the 'AGAMAFO' technique by choreographer ANANI Dodji Sanouvi.

FAIVA ARTISTIC CARAVAN & THE DESERT CULTURAL CARAVAN

The North meets the South...

Great moment of celebration of peace and national unity, in 2013, the festival will receive two artistic festivals, namely: the caravan of northern artists coached by the staff of the Festival au Désert, and the FAIVA caravan which is a meeting of visual artists from Mali and beyond, organized by the Centre Soleil d'Afrique in partnership with Kôré Cultural Centre.

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THE AFTERS (Open Air Nightclub)

This year, we innovate with the Afters that will be held all the festival's week long with theme parties: from Rumba to salsa via the Senegalese M'Balack... A unique moment at the festival, not to be missed... at the festival's village on the banks of the river, an open air nightclub...

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