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barbican

Barbican announces new concerts for Shubbak Festival - the UK's largest festival of contemporary Arab cultures

Sada (Echo): Music from Palestine

Friday 6 June 2025, 7.30pm

Barbican Hall

Tickets from £25 plus booking fee

Rola Azar, Dana Salah and **DAM** join for *Sada (Echo): Music from Palestine* - a new performance that marks the return of **Shubbak Festival** to the Barbican Hall. Where music is resistance, three striking Palestinian voices come together to forge a powerful collaboration, merging their collective backgrounds and memoirs for a special performance on Friday 6 June.

A distinguished singer and producer, Rola Azar is renowned for her captivating voice and dedication to preserving and revitalising traditional Palestinian music. Her performances are characterised by a unique blend of folklore and contemporary elements.

Dana Salah is a dynamic singer, songwriter, and producer who seamlessly blends her rich heritage with contemporary influences. Her signature Falahi Pop sound blends Arabic folklore with global influences such as reggaeton.

DAM is the pioneering voice of Palestinian hip-hop, blending powerful lyricism with Arabic rhythms and hard-hitting beats.

With a wealth of talent and dedicated performances, this night echoes the spirit of the Palestinian people, and the stories that unite the community. The evening will continue in the Barbican foyers with a DJ set and a closing soundscape of electronica and dance featuring a soon-to-be-announced special guest.

Produced by the Barbican in association with MARSM. Part of Shubbak.

[Find out more](#)

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Naseer Shamma

Sunday 15 June 2025, 7.30pm

Barbican Hall

Tickets from £30 plus booking fee

One of the world's leading oud players and composers, multi-instrumentalist **Naseer Shamma** returns for a solo performance in the Barbican Hall this summer. Shamma joins a host of celebrated artists from across the globe in honouring contemporary Arab culture for this year's biennial **Shubbak Festival** – the UK's largest festival of contemporary Arab culture.

Having shared the stage with symphony orchestras on many occasions, particularly in his program *El Cuidado de una esencia*, which combines classical and flamenco music, Naseer's latest performance at the Barbican will be an opportunity to see him perform in a more intimate format. Audiences can nevertheless still expect Shamma to embrace diverse musical styles and traditions from cultures and genres as distinct as Kurdish, Turkish, Arabic, Persian and Indian through to jazz and Latin music.

Born in Al-Kut, a southern city in Iraq, Naseer's lifelong dedication to the oud has seen both him, and the craft of his instrument, rise to international distinction. A graduate of the Baghdad Academy of Music, he was awarded the prize of artistic excellence by the Arab Thought Foundation and named as a UNESCO Artist for Peace. Naseer's acclaimed approach to playing the oud, which spans both ancient and contemporary techniques, has become the foundation of renowned ensembles and projects, including Cairo's House of Oud and Oyoum, the prominent Arabic chamber music ensemble.

Produced by the Barbican in association with MARSM. Part of Shubbak.

[Find out more](#)

LISTINGS – BARBICAN CONTEMPORARY MUSIC PROMOTIONS COMING UP IN 2025

- An Evening with Jason Isbell ([Mon 10 Feb 2025, Barbican Hall, 8.30pm](#))
- Theo Croker's DREAM MANIFEST ([Sat 15 Feb 2025, Barbican Hall, 8pm](#))
- Wu-Lu (DJ), Denzel Himself (Live), SHEIVA (Live) - ([Fri 21 Feb, Barbican Foyers Level -1, 11pm](#))
- Kim Deal ([Sat 1 Mar 2025, Barbican Hall, 8pm](#))
- Maria Schneider + Oslo Jazz Ensemble ([Sun 2 Mar 2025, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Jazz at Lincoln Centre x London Symphony Orchestra ([Sat 15 Mar 2025, Barbican Hall, 7pm](#))
- Jazz at Lincoln Centre & Wynton Marsalis: The Democracy! Suite ([Sun 16 Mar 2025, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- F*Choir ([Fri 21 Mar 2025, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Spiritualized: Pure Phase ([Wed 26 & Thu 27 Mar 2025, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Hania Rani & Ensemble present: Ghosts ([Sat 5 Apr 2025, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Yann Tiersen ([Sat 19 Apr 2025, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Liminal Chords: A Dreamscape in Verse & Sound: MA.MOYO (Belinda Zhawi) + Friends ([Wed 23 Apr 2025, Barbican Art Gallery](#))
- Daniel Brandt and Tristan Perich ([Fri 25 Apr 2025, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Charlie Cunningham ([Sat 26 Apr 2025, Barbican Hall, 8pm](#))
- Mustafa ([Fri 9 May 2025, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Jason Moran ([Fri 9 May 2025, Milton Court Concert Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Terry Riley 90th Birthday Tribute with Pete Townshend, Bang on a Can All-Stars, SHABAKA and special guests ([Thu 15 May 2025, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Fatoumata Diawara ([Sat 17 May 2025, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Actress x Suzanne Ciani present Concrète Waves ([Fri 30 May 2025, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Moin ([Sat 31 May 2025, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- Cat Power Sings Dylan '66 ([Sun 1 Jun 2025, Barbican Hall, 8pm](#))
- **NEW** - Sada (Echo): Music from Palestine ([Friday 6 June 2025, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- **NEW** - Naseer Shamma ([Sunday 15 June 2025, Barbican Hall, 7.30pm](#))
- RAMPAGE: Carnival Classics 2 ([Fri 20 Jun 2025, Barbican Hall, 8pm](#))
- Carlos Alomar presents: The D.A.M. Trilogy ([Fri 28 Nov 2025, Barbican Hall, 8pm](#))

ENDS

Notes to Editors

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Barbican press room

All Barbican Centre press releases, news announcements and the Communications team's contact details are listed on our website at www.barbican.org.uk/our-story/press-room

About the Barbican

The Barbican is a catalyst for creativity, sparking possibilities for artists, audiences, and communities. We showcase the most exciting art from around the world, pushing traditional artistic boundaries to entertain and inspire millions of people, create connections, provoke debate, and reflect the world we live in.

We are an international arts and events centre rooted firmly in our own neighbourhood, collaborating with local communities and putting the City of London on the map as a destination for everybody. Central to our purpose is supporting emerging talent and shaping opportunities that will accelerate the next generation of creatives.

As a not-for-profit, we rely on the generosity of individuals and organisations, including our principal funder the City of London Corporation. Every ticket purchased, donation made, and pound earned supports our arts and learning programme and enables the widest possible range of people to experience the joy of the arts.

Opened in 1982, the Barbican is a unique and audacious building, recognised globally as an architectural icon. As well as our theatres, galleries, concert halls and cinemas, we have a large conservatory with over 1,500 species of plants and trees, a library, conference facilities, public and community spaces, restaurants, bars, and a picturesque lakeside oasis.

We're proud to be the home of the [London Symphony Orchestra](#), and a London base of the [Royal Shakespeare Company](#). We regularly co-commission, produce and showcase the work of our other associates and partners including the [Academy of Ancient Music](#), [BBC Symphony Orchestra](#), [Boy Blue](#), [Darbar Festival](#), [Doc'n Roll Film Festival](#), [Drum Works](#), [EFG London Jazz Festival](#), [London Palestine Film Festival](#), [Serious](#), and [Trafalgar Theatre Productions](#).

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