



Press release
For immediate release

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The Rhythms of the World Festival announces the program for the 3rd Montreal Edition *Starring Elvis Crespo and N'Klabe, directly from Puerto Rico*

Montréal, July 12, 2006 – The **Rhythms of the World Festival**, a non-profit organization aiming to promote understanding and cultural harmony, announces a lively and colourful program for its 3rd Montreal edition, in collaboration with the **Gillett Entertainment Group** and **Loto-Québec**, which will take place from July 28 to 30, 2006, at the Jacques-Cartier Quay at the Quays of the Old Port of Montreal. This year, the Rhythms of the World Festival is proud to welcome the “King of Merengue” directly from Puerto Rico, **ELVIS CRESPO**, and the future of Salsa, **N’KLABE**, which will be brought to you by **105.7 Rythme FM**. This spectacular event will take place during the course of a one of a kind and vibrant weekend during which the many cultures of the world will be celebrated through a three-part program encompassing performing arts, visual arts and culinary arts.

Performing Arts

On July 28, the Festival will start out with the most foot-thumping Happy Hour in town, beginning at 5 p.m. at the Jacques-Cartier Quay. The party ambiance will go on at a multicultural soirée as part of the Rendez-vous Loto-Québec at 7:30 p.m. with **Nazih and the group Salaam** from Morocco, with their African Gnawa inspired music hinting a contemporary style of east meets west. At 9 p.m., the Women of the World show will follow with **Muna Mingole**, the “Blue Flame of Cameroon and queen of the two most popular Cameroonian music styles, Makossa and Bikutsi, as well as **Sandra Campanelli**, an Italian-Chilean rising star in the Quebec entertainment industry and winner of the “L’estrela Latina” prize awarded by the Casino of Montréal, followed by **Monica Freire** of Brazil, who will showcase a colourful mosaic of wonderful and original Brazilian songs that fuse pop and electronica.

On July 29, the Festival will present exclusive shows in Montreal during its Latin Day in collaboration with the Gillett Entertainment Group. Starting at 4 p.m., **Alex Bello** will please us with sensual sounds from the purest tradition of Bachata of the Dominican Republic. **Team Timba** will follow with Yoël Diaz and his band of 13 musicians who will showcase a performance of sultry Cuban salsa. As well, the group **Criollo** will display their musical talent in a Spanish-American fusion of traditional Latin music and modern Bahire beats in which Bachata, Hip Hop and Reggaeton are incorporated.

The long awaited moment of the Festival will begin at 7 p.m. on July 29 with two musical performances brought to you straight from Puerto Rico. The group **N’KLABE**, acclaimed the future of Salsa, will present its harmonic vocals in an energizing performance expressing youth, vitality and their passion for tropical. Finally, as its main act, the Rhythms of the World Festival welcomes the one and only **ELVIS CRESPO**, “King of Merengue” and a crowd favourite, who is, without a doubt, the most recognizable name in the world of Latin songs and beats. Please note that an intermission will allow for the spectators to enjoy the fire works from 10 to 10:30 p.m.. A fiery Latin night that promises to be high in energy and beats is not to be missed!

On July 30, the Festival will conclude its festivities with a cultural harmony day as part of the Rendez-vous Loto-Québec starting at 2 p.m. with a large outdoor percussion jam open to all and percussion workshops in the Loto-Québec tent. At 5:15 p.m., the show will begin with **Eliana Cuevas** from Venezuela, one of the greatest Latin voices in Canada, who will interpret songs in Spanish, Portuguese and English. At 7:30 p.m., the American-Japanese band **Burlington Taiko** will move the crowd with its powerful beats of taiko drums and fascinating choreographies inspired by the fundamental forces of nature. At 9:30 p.m., Brazilian singer **Paulo Ramos** will close the evening with the presentation of his latest album entitled "Fragil Felicidade" with his band and special guests in a vibrant and colourful array of songs, dance, percussions and capoeira.

Program schedule and tickets :

- *Multicultural evening – July 28: tickets on sale for \$5 (2 for 1 between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Doors open at: 5 p.m. (Happy Hour) / Show time : 7:30 p.m.*
- *Latin Day – July 29 : tickets on sale at Admission for \$25,00 (pre-sale) and \$35,00 (regular price), and at the door for \$40,00
Doors open at: 3 p.m. / Show time: 4 p.m.*
- *Cultural Harmony Day – July 30 : free entry
Doors open at: 1 p.m. / Percussion: 2 p.m. / Show time: 5:15 p.m.*

Visual Arts

On July 29 and 30, the art exhibition entitled "Reflections on Cultural Harmony" regrouping several renown contemporary artists will be held free of charge at the Bonsecours Market from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. A reception ("vernissage") will take place on Saturday, July 29, at 2 p.m. The exhibition will showcase artists: Nancy Bourassa, Pascal Caputo, Joan Dumouchel, Raymon Fong, Melissa Gervais, Edward E. Hershey, Heidi Hollinger, Mikhail Kudish, Justin Lalancette, Victor Diaz Lamich, Fabrice Landry, Mathieu Lévesque, Ralph "Tigus" Maingrette, Natalie Reis, Eva Ro, Jean-Sebastien Robert, Nadine Samuel, Marc Séguin, Suzanne Spahi and Poli Wilhelm.

Culinary Arts

Kiosks offering cultural dishes will be present on site at the Jacques-Cartier Quay and special menus catering to the flavours of the world will be offered in the following ethnic restaurants: Bombay Mahal (India), Casa Gaucho (Argentina), Kremlin (Russia), Mango Bay (Caribbean Islands), OM (Tibet) and Puca Puca (Peru).

The mission of the **Rhythms of the World Festival** is to foster understanding and harmony between cultures through sociocultural activities allowing for the development, promotion and diffusion of performing, visual and culinary arts.

For complete information, visit www.rhythms.tv

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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