

The Samy Elmaghribi Oud Competition

Ashdod



The Samy Elmaghribi Oud Competition – Ashdod - Israel

Monday, 25th September – Wednesday, 27th September 2017

Ashdod - Ha'Mishkan Le'Omanuyot Ha'Bama - Israel

Oud - an ancient plucked string instrument, considered as the king of instruments. It is the basis for the musical model of the maqam, the composition and the foundation of music teaching in the orient.

In Israel, and other countries around the world, the Oud is taught in music schools, conservatories and private tutoring. It won revival and status thanks to the Oud festivals, the flourishing of the Andalusian orchestras, the spread of Piyut (traditional music from ancient religious texts and sources) and the audience's love for classical Arab and world music.

The Oud is a multi-cultural and multi-generational instrument. The competition sets off at an extraordinary time, in which the cultural landscape in Israel and around the world, is being reorganized, a landscape that places the importance of the Oud in music in Israel and in the world.

The Oud competition takes place in Ashdod, the city that hosts many of the leading cultural events in Israel, such as the Golden Age Festival and the Méditerranée Festival.

The competition carries awards and is open to young and adult musicians of all genders. Alongside the financial rewards, the winners in each category will be invited to perform with the Andalusian Orchestra of Ashdod.

Founders of the competition: Eli Grunfeld and Moti Malka

Competition director: Eli Grunfeld

Sami Elmaghribi (1922-2008)

Poet, singer, composer and instrumentalist. The foremost performer and interpreter of popular, traditional, Andalusian music and Moroccan Jewish liturgy.

Born in Morocco, he joined, in his youth, the musicians in the Jewish quarters in Rabat. He taught himself to play the Oud and the Arabic and poetry styles of the Andalusian and Moroccan music.

He excelled in the Arabic language studies and studied at the Conservatory in Casablanca. Sami Elmaghribi recorded his first record in Paris and upon his return to Morocco, he performed extensively, created, recorded and established his own orchestra.



Later, he served in Canada as cantor and poet at the Spanish-Portuguese Synagogue in Montreal and performed around the world.

In Israel, he served for several years as the pedagogical director of the "Piyut Tikvatenu" center in Ashdod, and conducted the center's orchestra. He supported the establishment of the Israeli Andalusian Orchestra Ashdod.