



CELEBRATING SANCTUARY BIRMINGHAM FESTIVAL 2011



Celebrating Sanctuary Festival

Celebrating 10 years of Celebrating Sanctuary in Birmingham

Birmingham's Celebrating Sanctuary Festival is a world music festival with a difference. Focusing on the music of refugee-producing countries and showcasing and promoting artists-in-exile, the festival celebrates the contributions that refugees and forced migrants have made to Birmingham. At the core of our events is a shared awareness of the issues affecting refugees in the city, the UK, and across the world.

Our music is about cross-pollination, fusion, revolution and resistance. This is music that has crossed continents, faced unspeakable challenges, and embraced new cultures. This is the music of the survivor; the sound of cultural openness, personal courage, and resilience forged through struggle. Throughout June, at venues across the city, we share it with you.

Please take a browse through the following pages, even if you wouldn't normally define yourself as a world music fan. Most of our festival events are free, and many will surprise you. For those that do have paid entry, please see advance ticketing information on the back cover.

Events dedicated to the celebration of national Refugee Week can be found on pages 9 to 15.



Festival Events

1 JUNE	7.30PM	BIRMINGHAM CHINESE ENSEMBLE	KITCHEN GARDEN CAFE, KINGS HEATH	£6 (£4)	P.4
2 JUNE	6:15PM – 7PM	'FIDELE' NDOMBASI BISENGO AND GUESTS: BEN PATHY, MITSHOU KOKIAKAKA AND DAN WILKINS	SYMPHONY HALL FOYER, ICC	FREE	P.4
2 JUNE	7:30PM	LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBAZO WITH SPECIAL GUEST MUNTU VALDO	SYMPHONY HALL	£24, £26 £27.50*	P.5
4 JUNE	3PM – 6PM	ZIRAK HAMAD AND FOUAD IBRAHIM (PLUS JAM SESSION WITH GUESTS)	WE ARE BIRMINGHAM, DALE END	FREE	P.6
8 JUNE	2PM – 4PM	BLAND MAHDI AND DILAN AZAD WITH SIFA/FIRESIDE MUSIC GROUP	SIFA/FIRESIDE, DIGBETH	FREE	P.6
11 JUNE	9PM – 11:30PM	CROSSROAD COLLISION	LA DOLCEVITA, GAS ST. BI 2JT	£4 (£3)	P.7
16 JUNE	8PM – 12:00AM	KADIALY KOUYATE	HARE & HOUNDS, KINGS HEATH	£5 (£4)	P.8
18 JUNE	11AM – 4PM	SONGS OF SANCTUARY: GLOBAL CELEBRATION DAY	SYMPHONY HALL FOYERS, ICC	FREE	P.10-11
24 JUNE	5:30PM – 7PM	SON DE LA VIE PERFORM AT RUSH HOUR BLUES	LEVEL 3 BAR, SYMPHONY HALL FOYER, ICC	FREE	P.13
25 JUNE	ALL DAY	CSB@...MAC WORKSHOPS, ACTIVITIES, MUSIC AND DISCUSSION. FEATURING THE KRAR COLLECTIVE, DAHOLL KURDISH ENSEMBLE, CASCA... FULL LINE UP TBC	MAC, CANNON HILL PARK	FREE	P.14-15
LATER IN THE YEAR...					
9 SEPT	8PM TILL 2AM	DIABEL CISSOKHO AND RAMON GOOSE	HARE & HOUNDS, KINGS HEATH	£5 (£4)	P.7
11 NOV	8PM TILL 2AM	CROSSROAD COLLISION	HARE & HOUNDS, KINGS HEATH	£5 (£4)	P.7
9 DEC	8PM TILL 2AM	VILLAGE WELL & CSB ENSEMBLE	HARE & HOUNDS, KINGS HEATH	£5 (£4)	P.7

*£2 FEE PER TRANSACTION FOR PHONE AND ONLINE BOOKINGS (LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBAZO ONLY)

Birmingham Chinese Chamber Music Trio

WEDNESDAY 1 JUNE

KITCHEN GARDEN CAFÉ,
KINGS HEATH (AFFILIATED EVENT)
7:30PM

Using dizi (bamboo flute), guzheng (zither) and piano, this local group will give an evening of traditional and folk-inspired music from across China, introducing listeners to its rich background and melodious character. This intriguing trio is steadily building in reputation and strength, and look forward to a planned 'Silk Road Project' collaboration with CSB in 2012.

£6 (£4 CONC.)

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM THE KITCHEN GARDEN CAFÉ OR WWW.WEGOTTICKETS.COM

'Fidele' Bisengo Ndombasi trio

Featuring Ben Pathy and Mitshou Kokiakaka, with special guest Dan Wilkins

THURSDAY 2 JUNE

LEVEL 3 BAR
SYMPHONY HALL FOYER
6:15 - 7PM

Whether or not you are attending the Ladysmith Black Mambazo concert in the hall afterwards, come and relax in the bar while you experience the joy of vocals and sounds from across the African continent. This special collaboration has been put together by Celebrating Sanctuary Birmingham for our 10th anniversary festival. 'Fidele' Bisengo Ndombasi is joined in vocal partnership by Ben Pathy (see p.12), accompanied by Mitshou Kokiakaka on guitar. On kora, special guest Dan Wilkins (of The Destroyers) will weave his magical touch through what promises to be a very special performance.

FREE ENTRY



Ladysmith Black Mambazo

Plus special guest Muntu Valdo

THURSDAY 2 JUNE

SYMPHONY HALL (AFFILIATED EVENT)
7.30PM

Ladysmith Black Mambazo's musical and spiritual alchemy has touched a worldwide audience for over forty years. Tonight's concert runs in support of the group's new album, *Songs From A Zulu Farm*, which combines original and traditional songs which sing of life on the farm.

£24, £26, £27.50*

*£2 FEE PER TRANSACTION FOR PHONE AND ONLINE BOOKINGS.



Zirak Hamad & Fouad Ibrahim

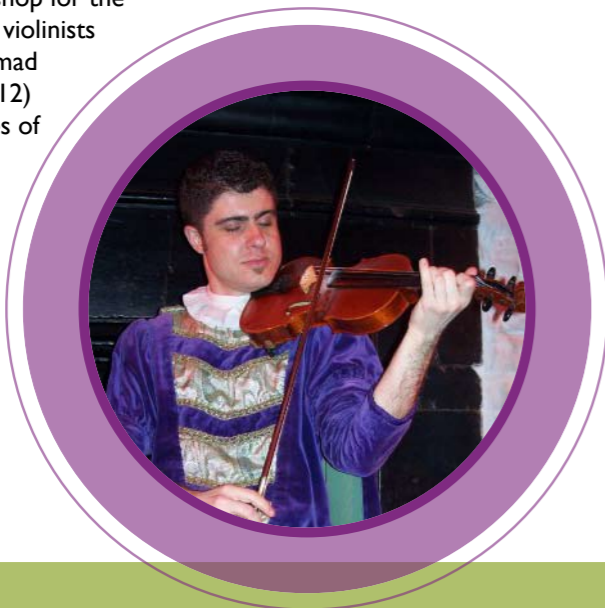
Plus special guests

SATURDAY 4 JUNE

WE ARE BIRMINGHAM SHOP,
KINGS PARADE, DALE END
3PM – 6PM

Experience an exhilarating collision of cultures at the Birmingham shop for the creative community. Kurdish violinists and percussionists Zirak Hamad (p.12) and Fouad Ibrahim (p.12) will dance across the cultures of the Middle East and Europe, dazzling listeners with a medley of Arabic, Kurdish, Turkish, Gypsy and klezmer tunes. They will be joined by friends and strangers for a musical and poetic contribution.

FREE ENTRY



Bland Mahdi, Dilan Azad & the Sifa/Fireside music group

WEDNESDAY 8 JUNE

THE FIRESIDE,
18-28 LOWER ESSEX ST. B5 6SN
2PM – 4PM

Kurdish virtuosos Bland Mahdi (p.11) and Dilan Azad team up with the Sifa/Fireside music group for this summer lunchtime concert. The group will come together with Celebrating Sanctuary's musicians in the previous week, exploring musical ideas and developing material which they will share with listeners in a warm and hospitable setting.

FREE ENTRY

Crossroad Collision

PROFILE

Steve Yimga

Composer, performer, band leader, teacher and workshop leader, Steve Yimga uses a multitude of talents in his work. Steve is a versatile African drummer who has performed at venues across Birmingham, including The Drum, Symphony Hall, Library Theatre, CBSO Centre and The Crescent Theatre. He has contributed to Arts Fest, Celebrating Sanctuary and many other community events. He performs with his own band, Crossroad Collision, with Sid Peacock's Surge, and has played alongside several leading artists, including Andy Hamilton and the Blue Notes.

SATURDAY 11 JUNE

LA DOLCEVITA,
GAS STREET, B1 2JT
9PM – 11:30PM

Steve Yimga's blistering African drumming is the focal point of this Afro fusion band, consistently popular at Celebrating Sanctuary's 2009 club nights. Combining elements of jazz, world rhythms and African beats, watching Crossroad Collision perform is exhilarating, the energy from the stage reflected in dancing feet and smiling faces throughout the room. Front man Steve Yimga is captivating, but every member of the band is a key player, and the audience never feels left out. Featuring Sid Peacock, Rob Anstey, Michael Olatunji, Dan Wilkins, Jason Huxtable and Pete Lewis.

£4 (£3)



Kadialy Kouyate



THURSDAY 16 JUNE

HARE & HOUNDS, KINGS HEATH

8PM – MIDNIGHT

"Senegalese kora virtuoso/singer kadialy kouyate showcases his fleet-fingered skills on this mesmerizing instrument, complementing it with his hauntingly, darkly beautiful voice, to create a toumani diabate-meets-youssou n'dour sound."

-Time Out

Born into the great line of Kouyate griots in Southern Senegal, Kadialy's spellbinding blend of kora and voice has been welcomed in many prestigious venues including Royal Festival Hall, O2 Arena, Union Chapel and WOMAD. Featuring Abbas Dodoo (percussion), Badou N'Diaye (drums), Kudaushe Matimba (of The Bhundu Boys)

(keyboard), Ole Andre Farstad (guitar) and Paolo Minervin (bass). Kadialy has produced two acclaimed albums: *Small Talk* with steel pan player Fimber Bravo, and *Londo* - selected for the fRoots November 2010 compilation CD. The group's exciting new album *Teriya* will be released soon.

£5 (£4)

CSB @... Hare & Hounds

Kadialy Kouyate's appearance kicks off a regular CSB@... series at the Hare & Hounds. The following events will see us through to the end of 2011.

FRIDAY 9 SEPTEMBER

DIABEL CISSOKHO AND RAMON GOOSE
8PM – 2AM

FRIDAY 11 NOVEMBER

CROSSROAD COLLISION
8PM – 2AM

FRIDAY 9 DECEMBER

8PM – 2AM
VILLAGE WELL & CSB ENSEMBLE

All the above nights will include a live music or DJ set to keep the party going to the early hours. Come for the duration. It'll be well worth it.

Refugee Week

Different pasts, shared future

20 - 26 JUNE 2011

Refugee Week is a unique opportunity to discover and celebrate the contributions refugees bring to the UK. Events take place across the UK, all of which explore refugee experiences.

Find out more at:
www.refugeeweek.org.uk

Celebrating Sanctuary Birmingham has a longstanding commitment to national Refugee Week. The following pages show the events within the Celebrating Sanctuary Festival that are dedicated to celebrating and highlighting Refugee Week.



Songs of Sanctuary



SATURDAY 18 JUNE

SYMPHONY HALL FOYERS
(LEVEL 3 BAR AND ABOVE)
11AM – 4PM

A joint project with Town Hall / Symphony Hall's Education and Community Department, Songs of Sanctuary is a mini-festival of global music in celebration of the Songs of Sanctuary Schools Project and national Refugee Week.

Our musicians have worked with four secondary schools across Birmingham to prepare a unique repertoire of world music which they will perform alongside quality world bands Crossroad Collision (p.7), Daholl Kurdish Ensemble (p.15), Son de la Vie (p.13) and the Bland Mahdi Ensemble. (p.11) Pyn Stockman from Dramask (p.11) has delivered a series of awareness-raising workshops with primary schools and they too will perform their work. Family entertainment, arts & crafts, stalls and displays are available on the upper foyer levels.

FREE ENTRY



PROFILE

Pyn Stockman Dramask

Dramask provides high quality arts experiences incorporating drama, theatre, storytelling, mask making and mask work in education and community settings. Projects, performances and workshops are available for adults and children with an emphasis on meaningful participation and creative learning. Pyn Stockman has over ten years' experience creating exciting, inspirational projects and performances with people of all ages and abilities. She specialises in mask making, mask work and drama.



PROFILE

Bland Mahdi Ensemble

The Bland Mahdi Ensemble plays classical and traditional Kurdish music. Playing oud, mandolin and violin amongst other instruments, Bland ably demonstrates his musical versatility with accomplished skill. The ensemble weaves from haunting melody to lively tune, subtly altering the pace and the mood to set your feet tapping one minute and to raise the hairs on the back of your neck the next.

PROFILE

Ben Pathy

Ben Pathy is a singer, author and composer from Angola, specialising in traditional African music, Rumba, Soukous, Kizomba and Salsa. He started his professional career in 1979 as a choir director. He has recorded two solo albums (Felicidade Igual, 1996 and Destino Incerto, 1999) and has performed internationally. In the UK Ben has performed at a range of events with Infusion Ensemble and his own band Afro Mio. He has appeared on Luambona TV's Real Talk Show and WCRFM's Out Of Africa radio programme.

PROFILE

Fouad Ibrahim

Fouad Ibrahim is a graduate of the Institute of Fine Arts in Iraq. A violinist and composer, Fouad is a versatile performer who has wide-ranging and eclectic experience, playing classical, Eastern European, klezmer, Middle Eastern, bluegrass and Irish music. He has worked in Ireland teaching music to children and adults, including students completing Masters Degrees in Ritual Chant and Song and Ethnomusicology at the University of Limerick. Back in England, he continues to broaden his experience and his musical tastes.



PROFILE

Zirik Hamad

Zirak Hamad is a violinist, drummer and teacher who came to the UK in 2002 from Iraqi Kurdistan. A graduate of the Institute of Fine Arts in Iraq, he has a wide range of artistic experience in his home country where he worked as a primary school teacher, festival organiser, broadcaster, television presenter and music critic. He works as a freelance artist delivering Middle Eastern dance and music workshops for schools, community groups and festivals in the UK and internationally, and has his own band Daholl Kurdish Ensemble (p.15).

Son de la Vie Rush Hour Blues



FRIDAY 24TH JUNE

LEVEL 3 BAR,
SYMPHONY HALL FOYER, ICC
5:30PM – 7PM

Son de la Vie, led by 'Fidele' Bisengo Ndombasi, bring their lively blend of Congolese soukous, synchronised dance moves and cheerful charm to Birmingham Jazz's flagship Friday night commuter session, Rush Hour Blues. However hard your week may have been at work, stop off on your way home or en route to a night out, and Son de la Vie are bound to start your weekend with a burst of sunshine and a touch of joie de vivre. TFI Friday!

(see www.birminghamjazz.co.uk for details of other Rush Hour Blues sessions)

FREE ENTRY

PROFILE

'Fidele' Bisengo Ndombasi

Fidele is a vocalist who had a successful professional career in his native DR Congo, performing with band Festival des Anges, and recording two solo albums. Since arriving in the UK Fidele has established his own band, Son de la Vie, which is popular across the West Midlands, he regularly performs solo and in collaboration with other artists. Fidele is known for his beautiful smile, which he has never been known to come to a performance without!



SATURDAY 25 JUNE

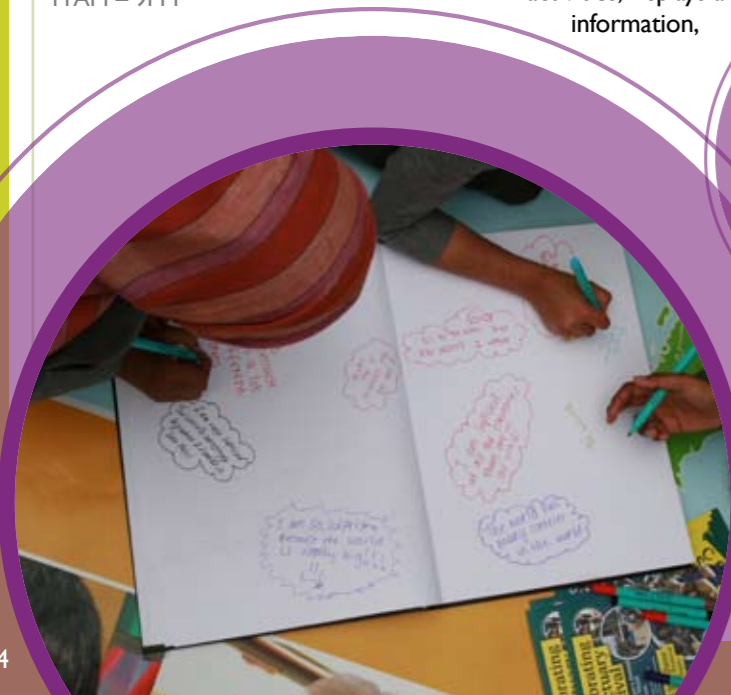
MIDLANDS ARTS CENTRE,
CANNON HILL PARK
11AM – 9PM

Our Refugee Week Celebration Day will see MAC erupt with sound, colour and life. We'll be providing free drum workshops, arts and craft activities, displays and information,

and of course a vibrant and enticing range of world music performers. Sit out on the terrace or get up and dance to sounds from Africa, the Middle East and Europe, or wander inside the MAC for discussion, activities, film and poetry. With contributions from a host of organisations, whether you are out in the park with friends, relaxing with a beer, or entertaining your family, there's something here for you!

Featuring The Krar Collective, CASCA-UK (Cameroonian drums and choir) and Daholl Kurdish Ensemble. Full line-up to be announced in the coming weeks.

FREE ENTRY (SOME EVENTS MAY BE TICKETED)



The Krar Collective

"I never expected to find this Ethiopian music gem hidden away in London. Krar Collective manage to achieve the right balance between the rawness of their roots and the subtleties of their innovative spirit. Precise without being too academic, funky without being too loose. I was really impressed."

Andy Morgan, former manager of Tinariwen.

PROFILE

Daholl Kurdish Ensemble

Daholl, led by violinist and percussionist Zirak Hamad, is a Kurdish band playing a lively blend of Middle Eastern popular and traditional music. Well loved by audiences at our city centre festival for Refugee Week, the band is known for inspiring spontaneous displays of traditional Kurdish dancing which people of all backgrounds love to join. The band's name originates from a traditional Kurdish percussion instrument.



Picture: CASCA-UK



www.celebrating-sanctuary.org.uk



Join our group on Facebook:
Celebrating Sanctuary Birmingham

www.twitter.com/celsanifest

Tel: 07989 847 818

Tickets for CSB events are available at
www.wegotickets.com all online tickets at
concessionary price. Tickets are available online
until 6pm for evening events.

Affiliated events are not run by Celebrating
Sanctuary Birmingham and have their own ticketing
arrangements as stated.

A HUGE thank you to everyone who has
supported us over the past 10 years. Too many
to mention here – please see our website for a
(probably incomplete) list!

Festival pictures courtesy of bbc.co.uk/birmingham



LOTTERY FUNDED