

Chamonix Mont-Blanc 10th May 2018

CHAMFEST - a new boutique festival for Chamonix, by Chamonix

This summer, the season is kicking off in great style with a new lifestyle event - CHAMFEST - a boutique festival for all the family celebrating the wonderful mix of music, culture, sport and nature that is enjoyed by the people of Chamonix. A three-day long weekend event, CHAMFEST will be held at Les Planards, the recreation park close to the centre of town, from 10AM to 10PM on Friday 15th, Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th June 2018.

CHAMFEST is conceived, created and organised by Jo Saw, co-director of Chamonix valley specialist tour operator Chamonix All Year, whose tagline is “we love Chamonix” - a mantra the company has used for 15 years. CHAMFEST echoes this love of Chamonix and celebrates the valley’s charms, culture and beauty. CHAMFEST is designed to illustrate to visitors these wonders of the valley, as well as celebrate with the local people the vibrant way of life enjoyed by those who live in and around Chamonix Mont-Blanc.

A full summer festival programme of entertainment - music, comedy and dance, as well as arts and crafts, literary talks, gastronomy, activities and well-being - all of which will be presented by local artists, businesses and heroes to celebrate why Chamonix is so special and what there is to love about this very individual mountain town.

The CHAMFEST main stage will host native soul singer **Jeanette Berger**, who recorded her latest album at Chamonix’s La Maison des Artistes, as well as local duo **Reel Relish** and many other performing artists from the region. Hot headline act visiting from Berlin, **Dirty Honkers**, are sure to light up the stage with their lively electro swing and rave jazz performance. Plus, many more performing artists still to be announced, including **Bear’s Towers** who played at the first Musilac Mont-Blanc in Chamonix this April.

Adventure and environmental literary talks will be given by Chamonix born and bred mountain guide and BASE jumper **Sam Beaughey**, talking about his book *Les Sales Gosses (Brats)* which is all about grommets growing up at the foot of the craggy steeps of Mont-Blanc. Renowned naturalist and guide **Gilbert Cochet** will be discussing his latest book *Ré-ensauvageons la France (Make France Wild Again)* with local naturalist and photographer **Daniel Rodrigues** who made the film *Origines - La faune venue du froid (Origins - The fauna coming from the*

cold). While Chamonix alpine geographer and geomorphologist **Sylvain Couterand** will be talking about glacial retreat and climate change, the subject of his book *Atlas des glaciers disparus (Atlas of vanished glaciers)*, along with talks given by many other engaging speakers.

CHAMFEST is an environmentally conscious and eco-friendly festival: all catering suppliers will use biodegradable packaging for all food consumed on site and all drinks partners will be supplying reusable cups, to minimise the waste the event produces. **AirBeeSeed** encourages consumption to provide environmental solutions and will be collecting cigarette butts for recycling throughout the festival, while local pressure group **Inspire** will be raising awareness for reducing air-pollution in everyday life. For a completely green party experience, **Solar Sound System** will be spinning the vinyl on decks powered by the sun and bicycle generators. Well-known Chamonix-based artist and climber **Andy Parkin** will be at CHAMFEST all weekend offering interactive art workshops in painting and sculpture using found objects.

CHAMFEST is a family affair, with entertainment and activities for children from **La Petite Folie** and **Oui-Care**, as well as the chance to meet the best-loved cartoon character **Peppa Pig**. The brilliant **Globule Radio**, a radio station produced and presented by children, will be on-air at **90.5FM** throughout the festival as **CHAMFEST Radio**. The Chamonix Mont-Blanc **Compagnie des Guides** will have a climbing wall for both children and adults to scale, while for those parents who want to stretch or chill, there will be daily yoga sessions and a massage tent. Excellent value family tickets (2 adults + 2 children 6-12yrs – under 6yrs go free) cost just 99€ for all three days of CHAMFEST.

But this is only a small selection of the artists, acts and activities on offer – there will also be food and drink to sample and enjoy from regional providers, as well as a market of festival stands all selling goods with Made in Chamonix tags.

Come to CHAMFEST to find out all there is to love about life in Chamonix.

For more information: www.chamfest.fr www.facebook.com/CHAMFEST

<https://chamfest.fr/en/book-tickets/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoALjL3WJvXwFtBa4k8ksmg>

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