

Chamonix Mont-Blanc 4th June 2018

Extra performing artists and exhibitors announced and regional bilingual media invited to the exclusive inauguration of the first ever CHAMFEST, in Chamonix Mont-Blanc from 15th to 17th June inclusive.

The enticing music line-up is being finalised and invitations to the exclusive opening of the inaugural CHAMFEST - a new boutique lifestyle family festival in Chamonix - are being sent out to local and national media, as well as the great and the good of the Chamonix valley. A glorious society launch is planned for this fun summer festival on **Friday 15th June 2018**, which will be followed by bouncing musical performances by local artists that afternoon.

The fantastic 10-piece funk, soul and groove orchestra **Les Edgars** open the CHAMFEST main stage - named after famous local alpinist and guide Lionel Terray - on Friday 15th June, around 3PM. **Les Edgars** is a collective of musicians from the Chamonix valley who have been playing music at major local events for nearly 3 decades. **Les Edgars** started out playing rhythm and blues with their music evolving over the years, as new band members joined, to the more funk and soul vibe of today.

Local blues singer **Eleanor** Clarkson will be up next, playing as **Eleanor & the Stars**. Then another local girl, **Jeanette Berger** will follow with her cool soulful songs that she recorded at Chamonix Mont-Blanc's La Maison des Artistes. There will also be a battle of the local Chamonix DJs to be overhead in the headsets of CHAMFEST's **Silent DJ** early on Friday evening.

Brilliant Chamonix looping duo **Reel Relish** will hot up the Lionel Terray stage for Friday night's headline act, **Bear's Towers**: a melodic pop-folk quartet from nearby Cluses, fresh from their impressive opening of the last day of the first Musilac Mont-Blanc in April, when they played alongside big acts Ben Harper, Beth Ditto and Shaka Ponk.

On **Saturday 16th June** CHAMFEST festival goers will have the chance to sing live on stage themselves with **Counterflow**, experienced 'rockaoke' hosts from London. Rockaoke, sometimes called bandaoke, is a form of karaoke, but with a live rock band rather than pre-recorded backing music. **Counterflow**'s inclusive rock-up-and-play-live show will lead on to further Chamonix après-ski style entertainment from Geneva covers band **What The Frog**.

These will be followed by multi-talented British rap and beatbox trio **Duke** performing their fearless fusion of punchy guitar riffs, cruisy melodies and catchy beats. **Duke** are no strangers to the stage, having joined some of music's biggest names - Beverley Knight, Jocelyn Brown, Ms Dynamite and the late Amy Winehouse - in performing their array of covers of all your favourite anthems.

On Saturday afternoon there will be two more **Silent DJ** sets: one earlier on which will be geared towards kids, with a later one for adults and youngsters who dig 80s music.

Audio-visual extraordinaire and festival aficionado **DJ Cheeba** hots up the main stage further, for headliners **Krafty Kuts + A.Skillz** to pump up the dancing with their back-to-back sets - you know you're in for a party of epic proportions when **Krafty Kuts + A.Skillz** hit the decks! **Krafty Kuts + A.Skillz** (AKA Martin Reeves and Adam Mills) have played festivals far and wide - individually and in duo - **Krafty Kuts** is currently touring with Jurassic 5 founder Chali 2na, while **A.Skillz** has been spinning across Canada and they both played in Dubai alongside Fatboy Slim at the end of April. At CHAMFEST, this legendary pair will play bouncing back-to-back sets to close the Saturday evening of the festival.

Sunday 17th June sees CHAMFEST in cabaret mode, with festival goers encouraged to come in 1920s cabaret-style fancy dress and hilarious stand-up comedy from well-respected British comedy headliners **Ian Moore** and **Nick Doody** presenting improvised stand-up in French and English, held together by French TV sketch comedian **Phil Darwin**. **The Franglais Show** will be delivered in Franglais and FrenGLISH several times during the day in the festival big-top tent, named after historic British alpinist Edward Whymper. It is sure to entertain the English and French speaking audience of CHAMFEST, in a language that Chamonix people will enjoy interpreting as making fun of the frantic semantics that can happen when English speakers live in France and vice versa. The stand-up performances are great entertainment for adults and suitable for children older than 14.

Kam Dez (the stage name of adopted Chamoniard, Columbian Camilo Alejandro Bermudez) is first on the Lionel Terray stage on Sunday, performing bluesy reggae Latin soul after lunch alongside Balthazar Varin. Following this, the CHAMFEST music will gradually take hip retro and electro swing steps throughout the afternoon, with an eco-disco experience on offer from **Solar Sound System** - a fabulous retro-futuristic DJ booth from Lausanne in neighbouring Switzerland, which has DJs spinning vinyl on decks that are totally powered by solar panels and bicycle generators.

Krafty Kuts will hit the festival's decks for a second time to play a set in homage to the late artist Prince. He will be followed on the main stage by popular London hip-hop act **Too Many T's**, who pull from vintage and classic raps with a fun twist and are sure to incite more dancing.

The party will get into full pumping electro swing when kings of the genre Parisian DJs **Typoboy** and **Kid Supreme** - AKA *les gangsters chic des platines* - take to the stage to warm up for the brilliantly bonkers Berlin band **Dirty Honkers**, the hippest of electro swing acts that have had their very particular musical fusion described as rave jazz and swing tech. Always dressed up and enthusiastic in their creative performance, **Dirty Honkers** are sure to bring the CHAMFEST house down in true Sunday cabaret fancy style.

Throughout CHAMFEST **Globule Radio**, a local radio station produced and presented by children, will be on-air at **90.5FM** throughout the festival as **CHAMFEST Radio**, playing music inspired by the festival, airing interviews with some of the performers and showcasing their radio workshops for youngsters. Also for children, best-loved children's cartoon character **Peppa Pig** will be at the festival on Friday afternoon and all day Saturday and Sunday for her young fans to meet and cuddle.

In the Edward Whymper tent on Saturday morning, there will be a screening of the film *Guides & Cie*, which is all about the Chamonix mountain guiding company, followed by a talk from the film's director and guide Gilles Chappaz. Also in the big-top on Saturday, adventure and environmental literary talks will be given by guide **Sam Beugey** and alpine geographer **Sylvain Couterand**. A mountaineering talk on Friday will be given by **Richard Gaitet**, with naturalist **Gilbert Cochet** speaking on Sunday. Throughout CHAMFEST British climber and artist **Andy Parkin**, who made Chamonix his home 25 years ago, is hosting interactive art workshops in painting for children in the festival village.

Black Crows, the directional ski brand born in Chamonix, is the brain-child of famed freeride skiers **Camille Jaccoux** and **Bruno Compagnet**. The brand renowned for its edgy marketing and hip graphics, particularly the recognisable chevrons in their logo, is inviting CHAMFEST goers the opportunity to come up with a new motto for either **Corvus** or **Corpus** and, if chosen, the mottos will be printed on the **Corvus skis** and in the **Corpus jacket** for their 2018/2019 season models, which will be then awarded as prizes to the tagline composers. The **Corvus ski** is a **Black Crows** classic: the first ski created by the Chamonix brand in 2006, designed for powerful riding of the big

mountain Mont-Blanc terrain and the motto is printed underfoot along the core rails. The **Corpus jacket** is a fully waterproof outerwear garment, developed in partnership with Gore-Tex®, as part of a 3-layer technical ski clothing system. **Corpus** is a mid-length jacket cut to a parka shape with a fishtail, designed to keep you dry while skiing, as well as looking cool at après - the motto is printed on its lining. **Black Crows** co-founder **Camille Jaccoux** talks about CHAMFEST wearing **Corpus** and holding a pair of **Corvus skis**:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=2&v=4HMWMBzwLpc

There are a number of special offers for all the family available from the CHAMFEST village:

- CHAMFEST is located in the **Les Planards** recreation park near the centre of Chamonix Mont-Blanc, where you can ride the **summer luge on rails** and festival goers get a second luge descent free with every luge ticket bought, upon showing their CHAMFEST ticket or wristband. Children can ride the luge from 3 years old, with 3 to 7 year olds accompanied by an adult.
- The Chamonix adventure tree **AccroPark** is across town in Les Gaillands and CHAMFEST ticket holders get a half-priced second entry when they buy one entry ticket showing their CHAMFEST ticket or wristband. This offer is valid until 1st July 2018.
- Get some altitude and fly like a bird on a **tandem parapente flight** with **ChamSnow**: CHAMFEST discount, available on a flight taken from Brévent-Planpraz between 15th June to 1st July 2018: 1hr for 100€ instead of 110€, by showing your CHAMFEST ticket or wristband on booking.

CHAMFEST is an environmentally conscious and eco-friendly festival: all catering suppliers will use biodegradable or recyclable packaging for all food consumed on site and all drinks partners will be supplying reusable cups, to minimise the waste the event produces. CHAMFEST is also a family friendly festival that is considerate of its neighbours, thus the festival will close at 10PM every evening to ensure there is no disturbance.

Local tour operator Chamonix All Year, celebrating their 15th anniversary and the main sponsor of CHAMFEST, is offering a 15% discount on all of their accommodation booked in Chamonix for the festival and there are other hotel groups in the Chamonix valley offering 10% off bookings for the festival, too: <https://chamfest.fr/en/festival-info/accommodation/>, as well as further accommodation information available on the local tourist office website: www.chamonix.com. For festival travel packages and airport transfers, CHAMFEST partner Chamonix Valley

Transfers (CVT) are giving 10% off all bookings for festival goers: <https://chamfest.fr/en/festival-info/travel/>.

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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