



## NEWS FROM THE GETTY

news.getty.edu | gettycommunications@getty.edu

**DATE: February 15, 2017  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **MEDIA CONTACT**

Valerie Tate  
Getty Communications  
(310) 440-6861  
vtate@getty.edu

**Sounds of L.A. 2017 lineup includes performances by Rahim AlHaj, Rising Star Fife and Drum featuring Shardé Thomas, and Entre Mujeres: Women Making Music Across Borders featuring Martha Gonzales from the GRAMMY® Award-winning band Quetzal**



Rahim AlHaj. Photo: © Michael G. Stewart

Los Angeles –Sounds of L.A., the Getty's annual concert series exploring the city's varied musical landscape, kicks off the 2017 season on February 18. This year features performances by musicians whose work speaks to the power of music to build and connect communities across histories and geographies.

"For over nineteen years, Sounds of L.A. has provided a unique opportunity to explore connections between the local and global, old and new. This year, we are pleased to collaborate with the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage, which produces the venerable Smithsonian Folklife Festival and Smithsonian Folkways Recordings," says Laurel Kishi performing arts manager for the J. Paul Getty Museum. "The resulting sonic diversity featured this year reflects a shared commitment to cultural exchange and engagement as well as to artistic excellence.

Sounds of L.A. 2017 launches on February 18 and 19 with a concert by Iraqi-American oud

virtuoso **Rahim AlHaj**. His forthcoming album, *Letters from Iraq*, features eight original compositions inspired by a collection of letters by Iraqi women and children. Joining him for the project's California debut are David Felberg, James Holland, Jean-Luc Matton, Shanti Randall, Ruxandra Marquardt, and Issa Malluf.

March 18 and 19 brings **Rising Star Fife and Drum featuring Shardé Thomas**. As early as the 17<sup>th</sup> century, fife and drum music arrived in America's deep south with military marching bands and was quickly woven into music traditions of the African slaves. Today, this extraordinary music lives on in the work of Shardé Thomas, who began playing fife alongside her grandfather, the great Otha Turner. Rising Star is one of the last links to a sound that everyone from Alan Lomax to Robert Plant to Martin Scorsese has praised for its unpretentious vitality.

Sounds of L.A. closes April 8 and 9 with **Entre Mujeres: Women Making Music Across Borders**. Founded by musicians Martha Gonzales (GRAMMY® Award winning band Quetzal) and Laura Marina Reboloso (Son De Madera), this collaborative project features original compositions by musicians from Los Angeles and Veracruz. Its goal is to create community and make visible through song the voices, ideas, and translocal dialogue between women from both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border. Featuring some of this city's finest singers, Entre Mujeres cleverly blends traditional sounds of fandango with influences from rock, jazz, blues, hip-hop, and African and Odissi rhythms.

### **Sounds of L.A. Schedule**

The series is free; a separate reservation is required for each concert. This season of Sounds of L.A. is presented in collaboration with the Smithsonian Folklife Festival. All performances take place in the Harold M. Williams Auditorium at the Getty Center. For tickets and information visit [www.getty.edu/360](http://www.getty.edu/360).

#### **Sounds of L.A.: Rahim AlHaj**

Saturday, February 18, 2017, at 7 pm

Sunday, February 19, 2017, at 4 pm

#### **Sounds of L.A.: Rising Star Fife and Drum featuring Shardé Thomas**

Saturday, March 18, 2017, at 7 pm

Sunday, March 19, 2017, at 4 pm

#### **Sounds of L.A.: Entre Mujeres: Women Making Music Across Borders**

Saturday, April 8, 2017, at 7 pm

Sunday, April 9, 2017 at 4 pm

# # #

**The J. Paul Getty Trust** is an international cultural and philanthropic institution devoted to the visual arts that includes the J. Paul Getty Museum, the Getty Research Institute, the Getty Conservation Institute, and the Getty Foundation. The J. Paul Getty Trust and Getty programs serve a varied audience from two locations: the Getty Center in Los Angeles and the Getty Villa in Pacific Palisades.

**The J. Paul Getty Museum** collects Greek and Roman antiquities, European paintings, drawings, manuscripts, sculpture and decorative arts to 1900, as well as photographs from around the world to the present day. The Museum's mission is to display and interpret its collections, and present important loan exhibitions and publications for the enjoyment and education of visitors locally and internationally. This is supported by an active program of research, conservation, and public programs that seek to deepen our knowledge of and connection of works of art.

### **Visiting the Getty Center**

The Getty Center is open Tuesday through Friday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. It is closed Mondays, January 1, Thanksgiving Day, and December 25. Admission to the Getty Center is always free. Parking is \$15 per car, but reduced to \$10 after 3 p.m. No reservation is required for parking or general admission. Reservations are required for event seating and groups of 15 or more. Please call (310) 440-7300 (English or Spanish) for reservations and information. The TTY line for callers who are deaf or hearing impaired is (310) 440-7305. The Getty Center is at 1200 Getty Center Drive, Los Angeles, California.

**Same-day parking** at both Museum locations (Getty Center and Getty Villa) is available for one fee through the Getty's Pay Once, Park Twice program. Visit the Museum Information Desk at the Center or the Villa to obtain a coupon good for same-day complimentary parking at the other site.

### **Additional information is available at [www.getty.edu](http://www.getty.edu).**

Sign up for e-Getty at [www.getty.edu/subscribe](http://www.getty.edu/subscribe) to receive free monthly highlights of events at the Getty Center and the Getty Villa via e-mail, or visit [www.getty.edu](http://www.getty.edu) for a complete calendar of public programs.