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Montreux, 20 July 2024

PRESS RELEASE

THE 58TH EDITION OF THE MONTREUX JAZZ FESTIVAL DRAWS TO A CLOSE

A historic challenge, enormous gratitude

The 58th Montreux Jazz Festival drew to a close on Saturday 20 July after sixteen days of musical celebration in the heart of Montreux. Organised outside the Convention Centre which usually hosts the festival's main stages, this edition rose to the occasion with its breathtaking Lake Stage constructed on the surface of Lake Geneva, and the intimate Casino Stage. The 250,000 festival-goers enjoyed a redesigned layout along the quayside, while the paying stages recorded an average of 90% tickets sold. The next edition of the Montreux Jazz Festival will be held from 4 to 19 July 2025.

Over the last two weeks, the stages of the Montreux Jazz Festival have been filled with countless historic moments. But as we take stock of this incredible edition, the Festival would like to express its sincere gratitude to all those who have worked behind the scenes and contributed to its successful transformation.

Keeping the event in Montreux, without a Congress Centre, was one of the greatest challenges in the Festival's history. This tour de force was made possible thanks to the trust, benevolence and passion of hundreds of thousands of people: the public, who responded with enthusiasm and curiosity; the staff, who worked with dedication on an enlarged and often more demanding site; the people of Montreux, who lived alongside the Festival for almost two months; the authorities, who supported it from the very start of the project; the service providers, whose expertise and loyalty were essential; and the partners, whose unfailing support was more important than ever. Together, we have all made it possible to bring a historic edition to life and continue Montreux's long tradition of innovation.

A MAJESTIC LAKE STAGE

Having lost the Auditorium Stravinski, the Montreux Jazz Festival team had a crucial mission for this year: to invent a new stage which would inspire artists, agents and audiences alike. From the very first notes of **Trombone Shorty**, it was clear that the Lake Stage would be a universal success, benefiting from idyllic sunsets, ideal visibility and impeccable acoustics. Sound quality is always a top priority for the Montreux Jazz Festival, and this was guaranteed in an unusual environment thanks to the know-how and long-term work of the production teams and our partner Meyer Sound.

Enthusiasm for this stage even extended beyond its crowd, particularly for the sold-out headliners such as **Sting** and **Lenny Kravitz**. Hundreds of people enjoyed a view from the street, neighbouring balconies and the many boats on the lake.

Several moments of magic marked this year on the Lake Stage. **Jon Batiste** ended his concert by walking with his marching band down Montreux's Grand-Rue. For their Swiss debut, **Vulfpeck** created huge excitement by coming on-stage with **Marc Rebillet** and having a member of the band perform from an apartment's balcony in the building opposite the stage. **Justice** delivered a visual show the likes of which have rarely been seen in Montreux. Playing for the first time in the presence of her Swiss grandfather, **Raye** gave a vocal performance worthy of the greatest divas who have preceded her in Montreux. **Deep Purple** paid tribute to their history in Montreux with a smoke show on the water during "Smoke on the Water", which was originally written about a famous casino fire during a Frank Zappa concert in the seventies at Montreux. **The Smashing Pumpkins** and **Matthieu Chedid** also paid tribute to the song in their shows.

AN INTIMATE CASINO

With a mixed set-up of seated and standing and a small capacity, the Casino Stage became the perfect intimate spot. An ideal setting for intimate concerts, including **Dionne Warwick**, who gave her Montreux debut at the age 83 and still at the height of elegance; **Asaf Avidan** gave a breathtaking solo performance lasting over two hours; **André 3000** enlisted Jowee Omicil as a surprise guest; and **Nick Mason** celebrated his return to the Casino more than 50 years after playing there with Pink Floyd. The Casino also played host to some electric nights reminiscent of the atmosphere at the Montreux Jazz Lab: **Tems**, **Disiz**, **TIF**, **Yamê**, **Oxlade** and **Loreen** got the audience sweating, with no one left in their seats.

FREE STAGES REDEFINED

Relocated and reimagined, each of the Festival's free stages has retained its own spirit and musical positioning. The Lisztomania had more of an indie club atmosphere than ever, with its small capacity and very low ceiling. The Super Bock Stage found a superb replacement for the Vernex in the Parc Suisse. The terraces between the Mona and the 2m2c welcomed festival-goers in an electrifying atmosphere, whether at El Mundo, Ipanema, the Terrasse ibis MUSIC x ALL.com, Li Lo or the Terrasse Nestlé. The long-awaited Audemars Piguet Parallel experience was held at altitude, in the idyllic atmosphere of Les Pléiades.

For the third year running, the Lake House maintained its three-floor format, with a mix of festive, musical and educational atmospheres. There had been some concern that the distance between the Memphis, supported by the Julius Baer bank and the paying stages might mean there would be a lack of major artists at the jam sessions, but any doubts were quickly gone. **Trombone Shorty** and **Jon Batiste**, **Matthieu Chedid**, **Yussef Dayes**, **Vulfpeck**, **Paolo Nutini**, **Rag'n'Bone Man**, **Paloma Faith** and **Jalen Ngonda** all took part in the jam sessions, offering the audience those spontaneous moments that are becoming increasingly rare on tour and at major festivals.

BOX OFFICE AND F&B RESULTS

With 12 concerts sold out and an average occupancy rate of 92%, the Lake Stage met and even exceeded its objectives. An exceptional result given the number of tickets on sale - 1,000 more than at the Auditorium Stravinski. The Casino also recorded very good figures, with 10 sell-outs and an 88% occupancy rate.

The F&B (food and beverage) figures were also positive, despite three days of difficult weather conditions. The Festival's expanded site, which has been completely redesigned, enabled it to meet its objectives while taking into account the city's restaurant and bar operators. The new Festival setup also enabled it to welcome a record number of festival-goers on Saturday 15 July, with an impressive crowd on the quays.

LIVESTREAMING

The Montreux Jazz Festival broadcast the performances of 35 artists live and free of charge, more than half of the paying concerts this year. The concert broadcasts generated a total of over 5 million views. The most popular broadcasts were, in order, Vulfpeck, Jamie Cullum and Larkin Poe.

"Above all, this Festival is a trove of talent for anybody who loves music. Forget Glastonbury, Montreux is the very definition of a real bucket-list festival."

- The Telegraph

"I cannot believe we are headlining Montreux Jazz Festival today. Those of you who know me know just how crazyyyyyy this is to me as a musician and as a girl with a Swiss Grandad who is going to see me play for the first time."

- Raye

"It's pretty easily the most beautiful stage I've played on. I've been watching and listening to Live at Montreux records my whole life. It's got this kind of aura about it, there's something magical about it. The crowds here are really connoisseurs, real music lovers. It's like a secret music hideout."

- Joe Dart, Vulfpeck

"It's a festival that was started by people who really know what musicians stand for, who understand their life, their stories and values. I've been invited here for the first time in 2013 and ever since then, I never saw a festival quite like."

- Jon Batiste

"My first concert here was 20 years ago. It felt like a dream and every time I come back, it's the highlight of my year."

- Jamie Cullum

"This was a bucket list gig. Special for me because the first record I ever purchased with my own money was a Deep Purple record. Thanks to everyone that came out tonight. Incredible place, incredible vibe, incredible people."

**- Jimmy Chamberlin,
The Smashing Pumpkins**

UPCOMING DATES

2024

- 24-26 October 3th edition of the **Montreux Jazz Festival China**
- 16-19 October 5th edition of the **Montreux Jazz Festival Residency**
- 6-8 December 5th edition of the **Montreux Jazz Festival Japan**

2025

- February-March 3th edition of the **MJF Spotlight Sessions** à Villars
- 27 February-1 March 2th edition of the **MJF Miami**
- 4-19 July **59th edition of the Montreux Jazz Festival**

PRESS AREA

www.montreuxjazzfestival.com/en/press

PRESS CONTACT

Kevin Donnet
CCO
k.donnet@mjf.ch
+41 79 545 04 02

Eduardo Mendez
Press officer
e.mendez@mjf.ch
+41 21 966 45 16