



VALLETTA  
CULTURAL  
AGENCY

Press Release

11 October 2019

### **Free music activities for all in Valletta throughout October**

Throughout the month of October, the Valletta Cultural Agency will be holding several music events and concerts in Valletta as part of its Cultural Programme for 2019. These include four double bass performances as part of the Malta International Double Bass Days, taking place between the 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> October, and three Tektika Kapitali pop-up performances on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October.

The Malta International Double Bass Days will be providing a platform for both professional and beginner double bass players in Malta. The weekend-long festival, taking place in Valletta between the 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> October, will consist of lessons, masterclasses and workshops with prestigious local and international double bass tutors. These may be attended by anyone who is interested in playing or learning how to play the double bass, irrespective of experience, level or age. Those interested may register on <https://maltabass.com/index.php/apply-now/>.

The festival will also include free concerts open to the general public. These concerts feature the students and tutors themselves, as well as guest musicians. The first free evening concert will be held at St James Cavalier (Studio B) on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October, at 8pm. The concert will feature Kristin Korb on double bass and voice and Dominic Galea on piano.

Malta International Double Bass Days tutors Gjorgji Cincievski, Simon Garcia, Michelle Scicluna and Marco Agnetti will be playing music by the likes of The Beatles, Queen and others, specially arranged for the occasion, on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October, in front of St John's Co-Cathedral. The free concert kicks off at 8pm.

Two free concerts are prepared for Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October. At 11am, an outdoor mid-morning performance in St George's Square, featuring the festival's junior participants. All participants and ensembles from this year's edition of the festival will then join forces for one final, collaborative concert at 7pm, at the Valletta Campus (Old University Building).

For more information about the Malta International Double Bass Festival, visit [maltabass.com](http://maltabass.com).

The second music project happening in October is Tektika Kapitali - a Valletta Cultural Agency project culminating in three one-hour pop-up performances in the capital on

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Saturday 26th of October. The repertoire for these performances is made up of songs by Valletta-born composers, written from 1900 onwards. The day kicks off at 10am, with the first performance taking place at Tritons Square. The second performance will be held at 12pm at Great Siege Square (in front of the Law Courts) while the final performance will be held at the Upper Barrakka Gardens at 2pm.

Tikka Banda's newly formed musical ensemble, Tekték Nota, will be taking centre stage during these performances. The ensemble is made up of young and emerging musicians who are between 11 and 30 years old, each playing different instruments including the trumpet, clarinet, flute and drums. Weekly educational workshops are currently underway, where musicians are receiving tuition and guidance from professionals in the music industry in preparation for the final performances.

Valletta Cultural Agency Chairman Jason Micallef said that, "it is important that we continue to organise high quality projects and events in Valletta – projects which help our young artists, in particular, to develop their talents and become professionals within their respective fields. This is clearly visible in The Malta International Double Bass Days and Tektika Kapitali". He continued to say that, "these two projects have the development of young and emerging musicians at their core. Such activities provide both a platform and valuable experience for these artists, who are experiencing what it means to perform at a public event and all the preparation that comes with it, as well as the experience of being tutored by some big local and international names in the musical field. We are encouraging these youngsters to express themselves through music and at the same time, we are expanding the local cultural sector by introducing new, fresh artists." He concluded by saying that, "thanks to such experiences, these participants can become expert musicians and artists in the future, giving their input to our growing local cultural industry. This is the legacy we wish to leave behind in the cultural sector."

For more information on these two events and to stay updated with upcoming projects, like and follow the Valletta Cultural Agency on Facebook.

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