

# dlr Festival of World Cultures celebrates 10th Anniversary this July with strongest line-up yet

dlr Festival of World Cultures | July 23-25, 2010 | [www.festivalofworldcultures.com](http://www.festivalofworldcultures.com)

**“an exhilarating mix of music, dance, performance art and magic...a family-friendly Glastonbury”** *The Irish Times*

**“One of the world’s top 25 International Music Festivals”** *Songlines Magazine*

Featuring over 800 artists from 33 countries in 180 events, the dlr Festival of World Cultures celebrates its 10th anniversary with its strongest line-up yet. With new dates at the end of July, the Festival provides audiences with the best multi-arts, multi-cultural holiday feast of the summer without ever needing to leave Ireland.

This year’s three-day festival – a Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council event – incorporates Irish premieres of some of the world’s most outstanding musicians, including: legendary Algerian King of Raï, **Khaled**; former Sigur Rós string section and Icelandic Cultural Award winners **Amiina**; Beninese voodoo funk sensations **Orchestre Poly Rythmo de Cotonou**; Malian superstar **Rokia Traoré**; and creative revolutionary **Jah Wobble** with his new project **The Nippon Dub Ensemble**.

Marking a decade of presenting extraordinary world music and art from around the globe, the Festival has assembled an exhilarating programme of very special 10th Anniversary events, including **Homeland**, a commissioned collaborative performance featuring four of the world’s most fascinating voices – Iarla Ó Lionáird, Tanya Tagaq and duo Adjágas; **Faith Space**, a universal faith-based exploration in response to the International Charter for Compassion; a spectacular **Birthday Bloco Carnival** which will take over the streets of Dún Laoghaire for a lavish party; and the Festival’s first internet radio station **Radio Hemisphere**.

Artistic Director Jody Ackland said: *We have come so far since our first festival in 2001 and each year we continue to attract some of the biggest and best International artists while creating incredible experiences for our diverse audiences. Ten years on, and it feels like a good time to reflect on how we have grown and changed as a society. This Festival, the only one of its kind in Ireland, is our national positive response to that change - it’s a joyous, forward-looking celebration of integration, social inclusion, multicultural exchange and the arts.*

With more than 387 hours of activities over the Festival weekend, the **dlr Festival of World Cultures**, named one of the Top 25 International Music Festivals by Songlines Magazine, is a diverse and fun-filled exploration of performance, world crafts, dance, art, faith, cuisine and music that attracts family, ethnic community and music audiences from Ireland and abroad. Its unique combination of free and great-value ticketed events is unrivalled in Ireland.

**Highlights of the 2010 festival include:**

## **THE BEST MUSIC FROM AROUND THE WORLD**

Moving the Festival to July has enabled the Festival to programme some of the finest world musicians touring today. This year audiences can welcome the Irish debuts of international icon, world music superstar, UN Goodwill Ambassador and charismatic Algerian King of Raï, **Khaled** in a free concert on Newtownsmith Main Stage; the sweaty, jungle-inspired retro voodoo funk from legendary Benin sensations **Orchestre Poly Rythmo de Cotonou**; rising Malian star **Rokia**

**Traoré** who *Time Out* credited as “arguably the most exciting, most thrilling live African music show around”; Trinidadian Queen of Calypso, **Calypso Rose**; former Sigur Rós string section, Icelandic sensation **Amiina**; Mexican cabaret icon **Astrid Hadad**; the extraordinary musicianship, jazz roots and thriving hip hop sensibility of **Hypnotic Brass Ensemble**; and a collaboration of some of the greatest composers and performers in the world as **Pól Brennan** presents **Guo Yue, Ayub Ogada and Tara Byrne**.

#### **10th ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL EVENT: HOMELAND**

A specially commissioned collaborative performance featuring four of the world’s most fascinating voices. Irish sean-nós singer **Iarla Ó’Lionáird**, Canadian Inuit throat singer and recent Björk collaborator **Tanya Tagaq** and Norwegian ‘yoikers’ **Adjágas** combine their vocal talents for an exceptional once-off concert exploring the theme of homeland and the stark and stunning landscapes of their birth: West Cork, Nunavut and Sámpí – all in the stunning surroundings of Monkstown Church.

#### **RADIO HEMISPHERE**

For the first time the Festival will broadcast non-stop throughout the weekend with Radio Hemisphere. Tune in via the website for a definitive behind the scenes guide to the Festival. With live and recorded music, interviews, magazine programmes and Festival news direct from the team that make it happen, Radio Hemisphere will ensure the whole world can be a part of Ireland’s world music festival.

#### **KINGSTON STATION**

Three explosive venues. Two jam-packed days. Over 20 outstanding acts celebrate the best in traditional music, song and dance from Ireland and around the world on The Kingston Hotel’s Outdoor Garden Stage and in The Kingston Ballroom and Bar. Highlights include The Máirtín O’Connor Band, Lúnasa, Alan Kelly Quartet, Guidewires, TRASNA and the ‘Departures Lounge’ International Ensemble in Residence, Ttukunak.

#### **FAITH SPACE**

A thought-provoking, life-affirming multi-faith programme of events in response to the theme of ‘compassion’. Meet Buddhist Monks from India’s Drepung Loseling Monastery and take part in a Q&A session with Tibetan Lama Nyendak Tulku. Relax, sip green tea, talk and exchange with others, and if you are inspired by the International Charter for Compassion, participants are invited to join in affirming and signing it.

#### **A FAMILY FESTIVAL**

The Festival hosts an impressive variety of activities for all the family, from the **Mela**, a colourful blast of South East Asian arts, flavours and creativity supported by Incredible India, incorporating performances by leading Indian cultural troupe **Yakshagana Kendra**, funded by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, to the dedicated kids activity area within the **Cool Earth** environmental exhibition and the Festival’s superb programme of fun and educational workshops.

**The Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council’s Festival of World Cultures runs July 23-25, 2010 and is supported by the Arts Council, Dublin Bus, Failte Ireland, RTÉ lyric fm and The Irish Times.**

**Full Programme and ticket sales will be on the website from 12 noon on June 18, 2010 at [www.festivalofworldcultures.com](http://www.festivalofworldcultures.com)**

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**FOR MEDIA INFORMATION OR IMAGES, PLEASE CONTACT**

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