



أوركسترا قطر الفلهارمونية  
Qatar Philharmonic Orchestra

مؤسسة قطر | من إنشاء  
Qatar Foundation



MANDARIN ORIENTAL  
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CELLO  
MUSICAL INSTRUMENT RENTAL



# AN EVENING OF GOLDEN AGE CLASSICS

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# Programme

## An Evening of Golden Age Classics

U Venue Theater  
Saturday, October 4, 2025  
7:30 pm

Nayer Nagui, conductor  
Hamza Fadhlaoui, vocals  
Ahmed Effat, vocals  
Marwa Nagy, vocals  
Rania Chehab, emcee  
Islam El Hefnawy, violin  
Mohamed Oweda, violin  
Islam Abdel Aziz, viola

Hassan Al Mulla, cello  
Tawfiq Mir Khan, qanun  
Ibrahim Kadr, nay  
George Oro, percussion  
Yasua Jgham, percussion  
Sultan Al Said, percussion  
Nasser Shmais, percussion

### Programme

#### Umm Kulthum:

**"Alf Leila We Leila" - Musical Overture**  
Orchestral Arrangement: Mohamed Oweda

#### Abdel Halim Hafez:

**"Ahwak"**  
Orchestral Arrangement: Mohamed Oweda

#### Mohamed Abdel-Wahab:

**"Men Gheer Leih"**  
Orchestral Arrangement: Ahmed Oweda

#### Nagat El-Sagheera:

**"Oyoun El Alb"**  
Orchestral Arrangement: Islam El Hefnawy

#### Wadih El Safi:

**"El Leil Ya Leila"**  
Orchestral Arrangement: Mohamed Oweda

#### Farid al-Atrash:

**"Albi We Meftahoh"**  
Orchestral Arrangement: Islam El Hefnawy

Out of respect for the musicians and fellow audience members please silence your mobile phones. Applause between movements is not customary. Please also refrain from flash photography. Seating begins 30 minutes before performances. Latecomers cannot be seated during the concert. Children 6 and over are welcome at Philharmonic concerts. The Philharmonic retains the right to expel anyone disturbing other. Food and beverages can be consumed in the lobby only.

#### Abdel Halim Hafez:

**"Gabar"**  
Orchestral Arrangement: Mohamed Oweda

#### Intermission

#### Leila Mourad:

**"Malish Amaal" - Musical Medley**  
Orchestral Arrangement: Mohamed Oweda

#### Mohamed Abdel-Wahab:

**"Balash Tebousni Fi Enaya"**  
Orchestral Arrangement: Islam El Hefnawy

#### Abdel Halim Hafez:

**"Bahlam Beek"**  
Orchestral Arrangement: Islam El Hefnawy

#### Umm Kulthum:

**"Enta Omri"**  
Orchestral Arrangement: Mohamed Oweda

#### Warda Al-Jazairia :

**"Fi Youm We Leila"**  
Orchestral Arrangement: Mohamed Oweda

#### Umm Kulthum:

**"Enta El Hob"**  
Orchestral Arrangement: Dr. Nasser Sahim

#### Umm Kulthum:

**"Alf Leila We Leila"**  
Orchestral Arrangement: Mohamed Oweda

## Qatar Philharmonic Orchestra Narrative

The Qatar Philharmonic Orchestra (QPO) is a pioneering cultural institution that proudly represents Qatar on the world stage. Founded in 2007 by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, the orchestra brings together 78 world class musicians from 28 countries, many of whom have performed with the world's leading ensembles such as the New York Philharmonic, Frankfurt Opera, BBC Symphony Orchestra, Tonhalle Zürich, Teatro Colón, and NDR Radiophilharmonie.

Known for its innovative programming and unique sound, QPO blends Western symphonic traditions with the rich musical heritage of the Arab world, creating performances that are globally resonant and deeply rooted in the region's cultural legacy.

With more than 500 performances to date, QPO has graced prestigious stages around the world, including La Scala (Milan), Konzerthaus Wien (Vienna), Théâtre des Champs-Élysées (Paris), Santa Cecilia (Rome), the Kennedy Center (Washington D.C.), and the Royal Albert Hall (London).

QPO is a source of national pride and a symbol of Qatar's commitment to cultural excellence. Driven by a mission to make music accessible to all, QPO continues to break barriers, inspire new generations, and lead the way in shaping a vibrant musical future for Qatar and the region.

# Composers and Programme Notes



## Abdel Halim Hafez

Born in the Eastern Governorate, he was the youngest son of four brothers, Ismail, Muhammad and Alia. His mother died days after his birth, and his father died before Abdel Halim turned one, leaving him to live with his uncle Hajji Metwally Amasha. During his youth he became infected with schistosomiasis (a chronic disease caused by parasitic worms) that he contracted by playing in the village canal. He famously said that the disease 'destroyed his life' and that he'd had 61 surgeries over his lifetime because of it.

In 1943, Abdel Halim joined the Arab Music Institute as a student of voice in the composition department. During his time at the Institute he met fellow artist, Kamal El-Tawil whom he collaborated with until they graduated in 1948.

He also worked with famous composers; Muhammad Al-Muji, Kamal Al-Tawil and Baligh Hamdi. In addition, he has collaborated on a myriad of famous songs by well-known musicians including Mohamed Abdel Wahab on songs like- '*Ahwak*', '*Nabtedy Meneen Alhakaya*', and '*Fatet Jenbina*'. He also worked on the duo 'Halim - Baligh' with the well-known Egyptian poet Mohamed Hamza. He is also responsible for creating popular songs such as, '*Zai El Hawa*', '*Sawah*', '*Hawel Taftakurny*', '*Ay Damaa Hazn La*', '*Mo Oud*' and many others.

During his illustrious career Abdel Halim sang vocals for the incredible poet Nizar Qabbani's song '*Garia Alfinjan Wa Risalah Min Taht Al Mad*', composed by Mohammed Al Muji.

Despite the great popularity enjoyed by Abdel Halim Hafez, there are a large number of songs from his discography that many people do not know, and the reason for this is that they were not broadcast as the airwaves were owned by Egyptian Radio.

If the number of Abdel Halim's songs were counted from films, TV or music, the total would probably reach around 112 songs, however this number does not even represent half of the songs he'd written over his lifetime (this is also without considering the number of his songs that are in the possession of friends that are not eligible for commercial use).

## ***“Ahwak”***

*“Ahwak”* a timeless masterpiece by the legendary Egyptian singer Abdel Halim Hafez, exemplifies the pinnacle of Arabic romantic music.

*“Ahwak”* was composed by Mohamed Abdel Wahab, with lyrics written by Hussein El Sayed. It was released in 1957 for the movie Banat Alyoum, featuring Magda Al Sabah and Amal Farid.

Below is an excerpt from the lyrics: I love you, and I wish I could forget you, I forget my soul and you, and if it is lost, then you will be left if you forget me

## ***“Gabar”***

*“Gabar”* was created by Hussein al-Sayyid, the Egyptian lyric poet who rose to prominence as the composer of most of Abdel Wahab’s melodies, which helped establish his fame and success. He wrote hundreds of songs that were sung by the most famous artists. Hussein Al-Sayed composed for nearly every vocalist in Egypt, crafting songs focused on love and patriotism for the top artists, and he was also a pioneer in children’s music. Furthermore, Hussein Al-Sayed devised a method where the musical dialogue was seamlessly woven into the film’s script instead of being merely presented as dialogue.

*“Gabar”* was composed by Mohamed El Mogi, a key figure in the evolution of Arabic music and singing after the July 1952 revolution, having created over 1,800 songs during his career. Al-Mogi met Abdel Halim Hafez at the radio station, where they worked together on around 54 emotional, patriotic, and religious songs, resulting in a total of 88 melodies.

## ***“Bahlam Beek ”***

*“Bahlam Beek ”* was written by the renowned Egyptian songwriter, Mursi Jamil Aziz, who is celebrated as the poet of a thousand songs.

He crafted songs across a range of emotional, nationalistic, popular, and religious themes, amassing over a thousand songs and poems, which earned him the esteemed title of “poet of a thousand songs.”

He stands out as the sole contemporary Egyptian poet whose works have been performed by Fairuz, with numerous stars such as Umm Kulthum, Abdel Wahab, interpreting his lyrics. Notably, Abdel Halim Hafez sang the highest number of his songs, totalling 35.

The poet also played a significant role in the success of various singers, including Fayza Ahmed and Mahram Fouad.

*“Bahlam Beek”* was composed by Mounir Murad.

He was a trailblazer in the realm of dance and revue music in Egypt, having composed some of the most iconic dance and revue pieces performed by artists like Tahia Carioca, Samia Gamal, and Naima Akef.

The collaboration between Shadia’s voice and Munir Murad’s melodies marked a significant milestone in the annals of Egyptian music, as he composed numerous songs for her over the years that have become timeless classics of romantic music in Egypt, in addition to the songs he created for Abdel Halim Hafez, which formed a unique aspect of his artistic journey, alongside the duets he wrote for both Abdel Halim and Shadia. Mounir Murad also crafted other melodies for a variety of emerging talents in Egypt and other Arab nations, establishing his own unique style characterized by lively, rapid rhythms.

*“Bahlam Beek”* was performed by Abdel Halim Hafez in the film “A Love Story” in 1967.



## Mohamed Abdel-Wahab

Mohamed Abdel-Wahab (March 13, 1902 - May 4, 1991 ), was an Egyptian musician and one of the pioneers of Arab music, nicknamed the Music of Generations, his name is synonymous with national anthems. Born in the Berjouane area of the Bab El-Shaareya neighborhood in Cairo, he started working as a composer and film actor.

He began his musical career performing vocals Fawzi Al-Jazairly band in 1917. He started studying oud at the Institute of Arab Music in 1920, and began working in radio in 1934 and in cinema in 1933. Abdel-Wahab associated with the nicknamed Prince of Poets, Ahmed Shawki, creating melodies and singing vocals using the words from the poems as lyrics. Abedl-Wahab also collaborated in this way with other famous poets, such as Ali Mahmoud Taha.

He also created music for a number of famous singers in Egypt and the Arab world including Fayrouz, Umm Kulthum, Laila Murad, Abdel Halim Hafez, Najat Al - Saghira, Faiza Ahmed, Warda Al- Jazairia, Sabah , Talal Maddah and Asmahan.

## “ Men Gheer Leih ”

“ Men Gheer Leih ” is a traditional Egyptian folk song penned by the poet Morsi Jamil Aziz, arranged by Ahmed Fouad Hassan, and performed and composed by the renowned Egyptian musician Mohamed Abdel Wahab, with its production taking place in 1989.

In 1975, the celebrated nightingale Abdel Halim Hafez and musician Mohamed Abdel Wahab collaborated with poet Morsi Jamil Aziz to create the song “Min Ghayri Leh” for the Nightingale to perform at spring concerts. The poet completed the lyrics and forwarded them to the legendary musician to start the composition process. This endeavor took quite a while, extending over two years, due to some disagreements between Abdel Wahab and Abdel Halim with Morsi Jamil Aziz regarding certain lyrics. Tragically, the Nightingale passed away in 1977 before he could perform “ Men Gheer Leih ” and Morsi Jamil Aziz also left us in 1980 without ever hearing the song. Abdel Wahab was adamant about not giving the song to any singers from the 1970s and 1980s, including Hani Shaker. However, in late 1989, he astonished the audience by performing it after a lengthy hiatus, achieving tremendous success and competing with the popular songs of Hamid Al-Shaari, Amr Diab, and Mohamed Mounir, who were leading the music and cassette scene in Egypt at that time.

## “Balash Tebousni Fi Enaya”

Mohamed Abdel-Wahab sang “Balash Tebousni Fi Enaya” in the Forbidden Love film of 1942. This film was Abdel-Wahab’s fifth, and was a comic film that revolved around a conflict between two families for ambiguous reasons.

The song was written by the great poet Hussein Al Sayed, whose writings and poems about love and patriotism were created for the greatest singers and singers. Al Sayed was also a pioneer of children’s songs.



## Najat El-Sagheera

Najat Muhammad Kamal Hosni Al-Baba, popularly known as Najat Al-Saghira (born 1938 ), is a celebrated Egyptian singer and actress. She is regarded as one of the most prominent figures in Arabic music during the golden era of the 1950s and 1960s. Although she retired from singing in 2002, she made a return to the stage in early 2017. Her comeback took place after a significant hiatus at the Joy Awards ceremony, which occurred in Riyadh on the evening of Saturday, January 20, 2024. At 86 years old, she performed a segment of the song "Eyes of the Heart," featuring lyrics by Abdel Rahman El Abnudi and music composed by Mohamed El Mogi.

Currently, she is the last remaining singer who took part in the national anthem, as well as the last surviving artist who performed the melodies of Sheikh Zakaria Ahmed.

Najat shifted her focus to poets such as Nizar Qabbani. Qabbani's traditional poetic forms blended simplicity with elegance while delving into themes of love and feminism. Najat showcased at least four of his poems, which were musically arranged by Abdel Wahab. These lengthy songs achieved great success and significantly boosted her popularity, almost matching that of Umm Kulthum. Her triumph with these extended pieces was remarkable. Her thorough training, which included extensive rehearsals in recording studios, made her energetic performances on stage stand out. Overall, Najat Al Saghira recorded more than 200 songs.

This achievement would later provide Najat with a lift during times when she faced challenges in discovering new poems and suitable musical arrangements. To tackle this lack of poems and melodies, Najat had to depend on her own performance skills. For instance, in 1976, at the age of 37, she sang several tracks in her final film, "Did the Tears Dry Up?" One of these tracks was "When?" (Mata?), inspired by a poem from Nizar Qabbani and composed by Mohammed Abdel Wahab. The song lasted less than ten minutes in the film. However, following its success, Najat performed this song multiple times on stage in the subsequent years. The last performance occurred in 2002, just before her retirement. During one of her concerts in the 1980s, when she was in her forties, she performed "When?" on stage for almost an hour! In this rendition, she extended the song (the same one featured in the film) from 10 minutes to nearly a full hour on stage.

## "Oyoun El Alb"

"*Oyoun El Alb*" is a song by the renowned colloquial poet, "The Uncle," Abdel Rahman El-Abnoudi. In 2001, El-Abnoudi was honored with the State Appreciation Award, becoming the first Egyptian colloquial poet to achieve this esteemed recognition. He has penned many songs and worked alongside a variety of artists, such as Abdel Halim Hafez, Sabah, Warda, Majida El-Roumi, and Mohamed Mounir.

"*Oyoun El Alb*" was composed by Mohamed El Mogi, a key figure in the evolution of Arabic music and singing after the July 1952 revolution, having created over 1,800 songs during his career.



## Wadiah El Safi

Wadiah El Safi was a renowned Lebanese singer and composer. He was born in Niha, Lebanon, and began his artistic journey at the young age of sixteen by participating in a singing contest organized by Lebanese Radio, where he emerged as the winner among 40 competitors.

He was trained as a classical tenor and gained national fame when, at the age of seventeen, he won a vocal competition sponsored by Radio Lebanon. El Safi started composing and performing songs that reflected his rural roots and passion for traditional melodies, merging them with an urban sound to create a fresh style of modern Lebanese folk music.

In 1947, El Safi made his way to Brazil, where he stayed until 1950. He traveled the globe, performing in various languages such as Arabic, Syriac, French, Portuguese, and Italian, often accompanied by his son George.

Wadiah El Safi has an impressive repertoire of over 5000 songs. He is particularly famous for his mawawil, an improvised singing style, featuring 'Ataba, Mijana, and Abu el Zuluf. Throughout his career, he collaborated with many prominent Lebanese musicians, including Fairouz and Sabah.

## "El Leil Ya Leila"

"*El Leil Ya Leila*" is a well-known Arabic song performed by the Lebanese artist Wadiah El Safi in 1957. The lyrics were penned by Palestinian poet Mahmoud Darwish, while the music was composed by Lebanese musician Zaki Nassif. This song gained immense popularity throughout the Arab world and continues to be sung today.

The lyrics are structured into six stanzas, each containing four lines. The song narrates the experience of a long, difficult night that the poet endures, yearning for its end so that the dawn can bring sunlight.

The melody is based on the Saba scale, which conveys a sense of sadness and gloom. This musical tone aligns perfectly with the lyrics, which reflect feelings of sorrow and mourning.

Composer Zaki Nassif arranged the piece in a straightforward and tranquil style. The arrangement features string and percussion instruments, imparting a classical ambiance to the song.

"*El Leil Ya Leila*" enjoyed significant success in the Arab world, becoming a beloved song that many people cherished and sang. Numerous Arab artists, including Umm Kulthum, Najat Al Saghira, and Fairuz, have also performed this song.



## Farid al-Atrash

Was born in 1910 in the village of Al-Qaria in Jabal Al-Druze, Syria. He studied at the Institute of Music learning oud and piano. In order to make ends meet, Al-Atrash sold cloth and distributed advertisements to support his family. After a year of this, he began searching for musical opportunities until he met Farid Ghosn and the singer Ibrahim Hammouda, who would later ask him to join their band as an oud player.

Nicknamed the “King of Oud” and “Musician of times”, Farid al-Atrash featured in 31 films, in all of which he was the protagonist. These films were produced starting from 1941 until 1975. His most commercially successful film was *Habib Al-Omar*, because it was based on the real love story between Alexander Thomas and Ghada Al-Kamilia.

Al Atrash died in Hayek Hospital, Beirut following a heart attack in 1974 at the age of 64.

## *Qalbi w Moftaho*

In 1962, Farid al-Atrash released *Qalbi w Moftaho* inspired by the poet Fathi Qora. The song featured in the film *Risalah Min Amrah Majhoolah*, which starred Lubna Abdel Aziz and was directed by Salah Abu Seif.

Here are a few key lyrics from the song:

*My heart and key are the states of your hands ... and his evening and morning will ask me*

*Your love was waxy on the day of Eid ... and the tears floated and sighed me*

*From one day your hands touched my hands ... as if I said O fire my chains  
And as long as you are busy, darling ... You weren't saying, darling*

*This heart is a wound from your eyelash ... and touched it and the morning ask me*

*My heart and key are the countries of your hands ....*

The combination of the two phrases (my heart and its key) is fascinating, as it implies that the poet (Fathi Qora) believes that giving his heart to his beloved won't be effective, and that if the beloved has it without the key, he won't find true satisfaction.



## Leila Mourad

Leila Mourad was infamous in the 40's, known for having a rocky emotional life that she used to turn her pain into passion by singing about love. She was dubbed the 'Princess of Cinema' before the middle of the last century, and was also known recognised for her beautiful voice that could encompass all emotions, making her an artist that will not disappear from memory.

She was born in Alexandria to a Jewish family and was originally named Lilian. Her father was the singer and composer Ibrahim Zaki Mordechai (a.k.a. Zaki Mourad) who performed the ten best operas composed by the musician Syed Darwish. Leila Mourad began her career singing at the age of fifteen, when she was educated by her father Zaki Mourad and well-known composer David Hosni. She started her musical career singing at private parties and public concerts, then she went on to be a radio singer in 1934 rerecording song with her voice. In 1937, she worked with musician Mohamed Abdel Wahab and film director, Mohamed Karim in the movie Yahya Al Hob, and it was then that she decided to change her name to Laila Mourad. Despite critics slamming her acting performance in the film, she attracted the attention of the popular artist Youssef Wehbe who featured her in his film *Laila Mumtara* at the end of 1939.

Laila Mourad sang roughly 1,200 songs, composed by leading composers such as: Mohamed Fawzi, Mohamed Abdel Wahab, Munir Morad, Riyad Al-Sanbati, Zakaria Ahmed and Al-Qasbaji.

She featured in 27 films. Her name became associated with Anwar Wajdi after she acted in a movie directed by him (*Laila Bint El Fuqara*). She would later go on to marry Wajdi in 1945. Her final cinematic work was *Al Habib Al Majhool* in 1955 with Hussein Sedky, after which she retired.

She had declared her conversion to Islam in 1946 during the early month of Ramadan of that year, and she became famous during the Sheikdom of Al-Azhar in front of Sheikh Mahmoud Abu El-Ayoun. She continued on with her the Islamic faith until she died in 1995.

### *"Malish Amal"*

The music and lyrics of *Malish Amal* were composed by Hussein al-Sayyid and Mohamed Abdel-Wahab. The rhythm of the song is a quiet and sad waltz to accompany Leila while she sings "There is no hope in this world. And if I miss a day or a year ... I would be better off like I am.



## Umm Kulthum

Umm Kulthum, whose real name is Fatima Ibrahim Al Sayyid el-Beltagi, was born on the 4th of May of 1908 and died on the 3rd of February 1975. She was a prolific Egyptian singer, songwriter, and film actress with an impressive career spanning from the 1920s to the 1970s. To recognise her contributions to Arabic music, she was given the honorary title of Kawkab al-Sharq (“Star of the East”).

Umm Kulthum was known for her vocal ability and unique singing style. She sold over 80 million records worldwide, making her one of the best-selling Middle Eastern singers of all time. Umm Kulthum is considered a national icon in her native Egypt and has been dubbed *“The voice of Egypt”* and *“Egypt’s fourth pyramid”*.

## “Enta Omri”

“Enta Omri” is a well-loved Egyptian song performed by Umm Kulthum. It was released in March 1965 under Sono Cairo Records.

The song (literally translating to “You Are My Life”) was composed by the renowned Egyptian musician Mohamed Abd Elwahab, featuring lyrics penned by the Egyptian poet Ahmad Shafik Kamel. Numerous artists have performed it, including the Egyptian singer Amal Maher, whose vocal style is often regarded as one of the closest to that of Umm Kulthum. The song is set in maqam Sikah Balady, which is typically used to express themes of freedom, romance, and tenderness.

## *“Enta El Hob”*

“Inta El Hob” is a song written by Ahmed Rami, composed by Mohamed Abdel Wahab, and sung by Umm Kulthum in 1965.

After meeting Umm Kulthum and starting their collaboration on the song “Inta Omri” in 1964, Umm Kulthum chose to have Mohamed Abdel Wahab compose the new lyrics crafted by Ahmed Rami. Rami’s poetry was familiar to Abdel Wahab, who had set many of Rami’s poems to music in his early years. They had also crossed paths in 1960 while working on the song “Han El Wed”. Additionally, Rami had been a close friend of Abdel Wahab during their youth.

Abdel Wahab utilized the guitar sparingly, as he did in “Inta Omri”, only featuring it in the musical introduction. However, this was a departure from the norm, as Umm Kulthum’s audience was not used to hearing this instrument in her performances.

Interestingly, the song’s title was not the first word spoken in it, nor was it the most repeated phrase, which is typically the case in song titles. Instead, it appeared in the final verse of the piece.

One of the most memorable lines from the song is:

I miss you when you’re right in front of my eyes...and I’m preoccupied when you’re far away from me.

Despite the song’s charm and its appearance on television, it hasn’t gained as much popularity as Umm Kulthum’s other works. This could be attributed to the fact that she did not perform it alongside her more famous songs in Arab nations following the 1967 war.

This marked the last composition by Abdel Wahab, with lyrics by Ahmed Rami.

## *Alf Leila We Leila*

One Thousand and One Nights is a song sung by Umm Kulthum in 1969. The lyrics were written by Morsi Jamil Aziz, and the music composed by Baligh Hamdi. The piece uses the maqam (system of melodic modes used in Arabic music) called Farah Faza, which is one of the derivatives of Al- Nahawand maqamat. This mode is most Arab composers for romantic songs. The late Omar Khurshid played guitar on the recording.



## Warda Al-Jazairia

Warda Al-Jazairia was a renowned singer from Algeria, celebrated for her songs and music in Egyptian Arabic. Warda commenced her singing career in the 1950s, making her debut at the Tam-Tam, a cabaret owned by her father situated on rue Saint-Séverin in the Latin Quarter. This venue has been a launching pad for many prominent stars of Arabic music, including Safia Chamia and Farid El Atrach.

At the tender age of 11, Warda performed in a show hosted by Ahmed Hachlaf, which aired on Paris Inter. In 1950, she recorded her inaugural record for Pathé-Marconi.

Warda continued to perform in the cabarets of Beirut. In 1959, while at a casino in Aley, she encountered the composer Mohammed Abdel Wahab, who imparted the nuances of classical singing to her and adapted the poet Ahmed Shawqi's qasida "Bi-Omri Kullo Habbitak" for her. This encounter facilitated her introduction to the Egyptian president, Gamal Abdel Nasser, who recommended her for a role in a pan-Arab opera and to perform the song "Al Watan Al Akbar" by Mohammed Abdel Wahab.[citation needed] Warda recorded this song, alongside other artists such as Abdel Halim Hafez and Fayza Ahmed. The Egyptian musical director, Helmy Rafla, signed her to a contract, allowing her to embark on a career in music and film in Egypt. She featured in two of Rafla's films, "Almaz We Abdo El-Hamouly" and "Amirat al-Arab."

In 1972, at the behest of Algerian president Houari Boumédiène, Warda participated in the celebration of the 10th anniversary of Algeria's independence by performing in Algiers with an Egyptian orchestra.

After this performance, Warda and her husband amicably divorced, prompting her to recommence her career. She made a permanent return to Egypt, where she wed the composer Baligh Hamdi. Warda experienced immense popularity and had the chance to collaborate with some of the most renowned Arab composers, including Helmi Bakr, Riad Al Sunbati, Sadok Thraya, Mohammed Abdel Wahab, Mohammed Al-Mougi, and Sayed Mekawy.

### *"Fi Youm We Leila"*

"Fi Youm We Leila" was performed by the artist Warda Al-Jazairia during a concert in 1978, and it has since remained one of the most renowned songs in the history of Egyptian cinema, as well as in the hearts of Arabic music enthusiasts. The lyrics were penned by the poet Hussein Al-Sayed, while the melody was crafted by the illustrious musician Mohamed Abdel Wahab, known as the musician of generations. It appears that fate alone bestowed this song upon Warda Al-Jazairia, as it was initially intended for the Syrian artist Mayada Al-Hanawi, for whom the musician of generations was preparing a discovery event featuring that very song. Thus, it remains the song that fate allocated to Warda, for had Mayada El Hennawy not traveled, Warda Al-Jazairia would not have had the opportunity to perform it.



*Nayer Nagui*  
conductor

Born in Alexandria, 1970. Joined the Alexandria Conservatoire, where he studied Piano under the Italian Prof. Herta Pappo. Furthered his Musical studies in Cairo, where he obtained the advanced certificate of the Royal Schools of Music, London, in Piano performing and Theory of Music, 1996.

Studied conducting with Prof. Maestro Dominique Rouits at L'Ecole Normale de Musique de Paris where he obtained his diploma of conducting in 2001.

His vast repertoire ranges from Symphonic, Opera, Oratorios and Ballet conducting to Musicals, and Light Music. Among it, Rossini's 3 comic Operas, Verdi's "Aida", "Rigoletto", "Ballo in Maschera", La "Traviata" Puccini's "Tosca", "La Boheme", Donizetti's "L'elixir d'amore" and Mozart's "Die Zauber flote and Cosi fan tutte", Maroun Rahi's "Antar wa Abla".

His Ballet repertoire includes, Prokofiev's "Romeo & Juliet", Ravel's "Bolero", Khatchaturian's "Spartacus", Theodorakis's "Zorba", Tchaikovsky's "Nut cracker", "Swan Lake", Adam's "Le Corsaire", "Giselle", Minkus's "Don Quixotte", "La Bayadère" and Stravinski's "Fire bird".

As for Oratorios and Choral works, it includes Mozart, Brahms, Fauré and Verdi Requiems as well as Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle, Schubert Stabat Mater, Vivaldi's and Poulenc's Glorias, Saygun's Yunus Emre, Prokofiev's "Alexander Nevski" Cantata, Mozart C minor Mass, Beethoven C Major Mass as well as Orff's Carmina Burana.

He wrote many compositions and arrangements for Choir, Orchestra and Soloists, performed in Egypt and in several International Festivals around the world, amongst them the music for the celebration convened by the Ministry of Culture marking the Golden Jubilee of the nationalization of Suez Canal, the music for the celebration convened by the Algerian Ministry of Culture marking Algiers as the Capital of Arabic Culture in 2006. His Arrangements of Sayyed Darwish songs for Choir won the Silver award for Stylish interpretation of Arabic Music in "Prague Voices" Choir Competition 2012, and a Silver diploma in the "World Choir Games" coemption in Sochi 2016.

The Founder and the Musical Director of the "Cairo Celebration Choir", a Choir of 120 members performing famous Chorus works and Oratorios. He is also a Musical Director of Disney's dubbing animation in Arabic language. Former Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of Cairo Opera Orchestra, as well as sharing the baton with famous French Conductor Michel Piquemal in the yearly International Festival of "Coro de Tres Culturas" in Morocco and Spain. Recently appointed as Principal Conductor for the Bibliotheca Alexandrina Orchestra.

In addition to his yearly program with Orchestras and Choirs in Egypt, he also conducted Lecce Symphony Orchestra and Calabria Chamber Orchestra from Italy, European Camerata from the U.K, Ensemble Georges Solti from Hungary, the Bonner Vokalisten from Germany, Moroccan Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, the Algerian Symphony Orchestra, Orquesta Joven di Andalucia from Spain, the Royal Oman Symphony Orchestra, Minsk Festival Orchestra from Belarus, Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra from China and Kappabachi Opera ensemble from Japan.



*Hamza Fadlhoui*  
vocals

Hamza Fadlhoui's artistic journey commenced at an early age, where he consistently expressed himself through music and singing. His professional career gained momentum after he participated in the Arabic version of "The Voice" in 2015, where he was a member of Saber Al-Rubaei's team, advanced to the finals, and was acknowledged as the best voice in his team.

Throughout the years, Hamza has taken part in numerous musical events and festivals, and had the privilege of performing at the Carthage Festival on August 13, 2016, by invitation from Saber Rebai during his concert celebrating Women's Day in Tunisia. He also participated in the official Arab Cup 2021 operetta in Qatar, representing Tunisia alongside various Arab artists.

Hamza has participated multiple times in the "Sout Al-Khaleej" radio sessions in Qatar, helping to showcase Tunisian music by blending it with Qatari Gulf rhythms, thus allowing the Gulf audience to experience Tunisian musical heritage in a novel manner.

As a Tunisian artist residing in Qatar, he has collaborated with numerous Qatari singers, composers, and poets, contributing to the production of Qatari musical works that bear his artistic signature and merge Tunisian and Gulf styles.

In December 2024, he took part in the closing of the Al-Ghura Festival for Literature and Arts in Qatar with a concert titled "Alhan Fasihah" alongside the Qatar Philharmonic Orchestra. He also had the honor of performing at the opening ceremony of the Carthage International Festival in July 2025 in the show "Min Qa' Al-Khabiya" by Dr. and composer Mohamed Al-Garfi, where he performed various songs with Tunisian artists. The performance featured the Tunisian Philharmonic Orchestra and was enhanced by international musicians.

Currently, he is engaged in a new musical project in the Egyptian dialect, with the aim of creating art that reflects his experiences and resonates with audiences.



*Ahmed Effat*  
vocals

Ahmed Afat has received multiple accolades at the Alexandria Festival for Mediterranean Countries (1999-2000) over three consecutive sessions (1998).

Additionally, he was awarded the Special Jury Prize named after the renowned musician of generations, Mohamed Abdel Wahab, for his excellence in performance.

He has also collaborated with prominent stars at the Arab Music Festival, including Ali Al-Hajjar, Medhat Saleh, Mohamed Al-Helou, Wael Jassar, Khaled Selim, and Jannat.

Furthermore, he took part in the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO) ceremony in Lebanon, honoring the legendary Abdel Halim Hafez, representing Egypt in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture and the Egyptian Opera House.

He has participated in all concerts of the "Al-Andalib Al-Asmar" series at the Egyptian Opera House and is distinguished as the only singer from the Egyptian Opera House to have held a complete solo concert in memory of Al-Andalib Al-Asmar, Abdel Halim Hafez.

His concert performances extend to various Arab countries, including the United Arab Emirates, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, and Tunisia.

He has appeared on numerous television programs that celebrate the legacy of great artists, where he shared his artistic experiences and participated in singing, including special episodes dedicated to:

The esteemed poet Abdel Rahman El Abnudi .

Artist Mohamed Fawzi .

The beloved nightingale Abdel Halim Hafez.

The late composer Mohamed El Mogi.

He is part of the family of the illustrious composer Mohamed El Mogi and studied under the esteemed maestro Salim Sahab.

Moreover, he has represented the Egyptian Ministry of Culture at various international events.



*Marwa Nagy*  
vocals

Marwa Nagy was born in Cairo, where her remarkable voice was recognized during her childhood.

She pursued her studies at the Institute of Arabic Music, focusing on traditional Arabic singing.

Her rise to fame occurred after she took part in the second season of *The Voice* in 2012.

She has released numerous successful songs, such as:

"Lama La'ytak," "Halena," "Ayez Ta'raf," "Mesh Kad Ghayebak," and "You and Your Bakhtak."

Marwa has performed at significant concerts at the Cairo Opera House and has represented Egypt at international music festivals in Canada, Tunisia, Morocco, France, Jordan, and Lebanon.

She was honored with the Arab Music Festival Award and has received various accolades both domestically and internationally.

Marwa participated in the "Umm Kulthum Centennial" celebration held at the Grand Egyptian Museum.

She has lent her voice to soundtracks for popular television series and has acted in productions such as "Adam's Apple" and "Aho Dah Elli Sar."

She is married and is the mother of two sons, Asr and Adam.



*Rania, Chehab*

emcee

#### Media Personality - Voice Over Artist - Emcee

Rania Chehab is a seasoned Lebanese media professional, with over two decades of experience across radio, television, print journalism, and digital production. Her career began at a young age and evolved through collaborations with leading media organizations in Lebanon and the Arab world. In 2016, she joined Qatar Television, where she continues to serve as a content producer, segment writer, and voice-over artist for various programs, documentaries, and special features.

Rania is the recipient of several distinguished media awards, including:

- Best Radio Talk Show
- Best Advertising Script & Performance
- Best Radio Presenter
- Best Ramadan Radio Show

She has also received multiple honors and certificates of appreciation from cultural, humanitarian, and media institutions.

Known for her distinctive voice and refined delivery, she has established herself as a professional voice-over artist and a trusted emcee for major cultural and artistic occasions across the region.

Since 2022, Rania has been hosting the Arabic-language concerts of the Qatar Philharmonic Orchestra, bringing clarity, warmth, and elegance to every performance she leads on stage.



# *Upcoming Concerts*

## **Animated Vol. 2**

UVenue, Al Muraikh Area,  
Friday, 10 October 2025  
8:00 pm

Alastair Willis, conductor

The Biggest Anime & Cartoon Music Concert in Qatar Returns – Animated Vol. 2!

The Qatar Philharmonic Orchestra is back with a legendary new setlist, conducted by Grammy-nominated maestro Alastair Willis with an army of anime fans, singers, artists, cosplayers, and GEEKS united for an unforgettable night that will feature iconic themes in Arabic, English, and Japanese.

Get ready for a musical journey that takes you from the nostalgia of childhood memories to the present day, in a family-friendly evening that brings generations together.

If you're an anime fan, this is the concert you don't want to miss.

# Musicians



LIONEL SCHMIT



JOO YOUNG OH



VITALII PERVUSHYN



LORENA MANESCU



DMITRI TORCHINSKY



TOBIAS GETTE



MICHAELA LINSBAUER



TAEHYUN KIM



ANNEMARI AINOMAE



DINA LEINI



PAVLO DOVHAN



RALUCA GETTE



ANA MARIA RUSU



FULVIO FURLANÙT



ROLANDA GINKUTE



MAIAS ALYAMANI



REEM KHOURY



GEORGES YAMINE



ISLAM EL HEFNAWY



SHAZA OWEDA



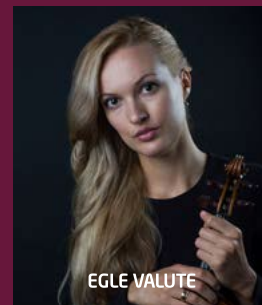
JULIA KORODI



ANNE-CATHRIN EHRLICH



MOHAMED OWEDA



EGLÉ VALUTE



GIOVANNI PASINI

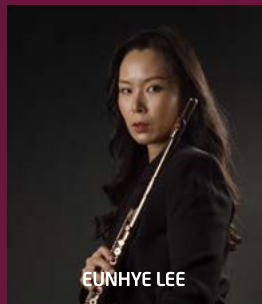


ANCA BOLD



ANDREA MEREUTA

# Musicians



# Musicians



MIROSLAV STOYANOV



PETER DAVIDA



GIDEON SEIDENBERG



ATILLA SZÜCS



ZSOLT PÉTER



LASZLO FROSCHL



JORIS LAENEN



DANIEL EDELHOFF



PHILIPP REBMANN



TOMOKI KIRITA



DIMO PICTHALOV



SEBASTIAN ZULUAGA



RICHARD ALBERTO DIAZ



ALEXANDER KAMENAROV



KEE GUAN NG



JULIE SGARRO

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