

Le FESTIVAL
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Press release

For immediate release

**Complete line-up for the 11th edition of the Montreal International reggae Festival,
held at the Old Port, on August 15, 16 and 17 !**

Montreal, July 14, 2014 - In the wake of its 10th and most successful edition to date, **The Montreal International Reggae Festival** is proud to announce their line-up of artists from Jamaica, Barbados and the United States performing at this summer's 11th edition:

Friday, August 15

Etana

Hailing from August Town, Jamaica, this young singer drew instant attention with her song **Roots**, inspired by her African travels and release of her first album **The Strong One** that won her Best Reggae Production at the **2008 MOBO Awards**. "**The Strong One**" has since built a strong fan base around the world with her warm voice and truly authentic and heartfelt repertoire.

Maxi Priest

Maxi Priest is looking forward to a busy 2014 summer with the release of his new studio album **Easy To Love**. With over 15 million albums sold worldwide, a Number One **Billboard** hit and **Grammy** nomination, the most successful solo act in British reggae history will be bringing his special brand of reggae, lovers rock and pop to tug on the ladies' heartstrings at this year's festival.

Saturday, August 16

QQ

Kareem "QQ" Dawkins had his first hit song at the age of 10. The song was titled **Poverty**, climbed the local charts and dominated airwaves in Jamaica and even received airplay in England. In 2006, he released a slightly more adult dance song, **Stukie**, which received heavy rotation on airwaves throughout the Caribbean, eventually landing him a gig performing at

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Reggae Sumfest. QQ has outgrown the "star child" label and since 2008 has been considered an established reggae performer.

Kiprich

In the public eye for the past 15 years, **Marion Plunkett** (a.k.a. **Kiprich**) was recruited around 2000 by **Bounty Killer** for **The Alliance**, his dancehall collective. **Kiprich** has become known for two types of lyrics: the humorous kind (**Telephone Ting**) and the clash kind; **Elephant Man**, **Beenie Man** and **Vybz Kartel** have songs written about them. **Kiprich** has also developed a live clash reputation, mostly by winning a **Sting 2012** clash against the Grand Master himself, **Ninja Man**! This is Kippo's first appearance at the **MIRF**.

Alison Hinds

Crowned the undisputed **Queen of Soca** by fans worldwide, **Alison Hinds'** powerful, emotional vocals and high-energy live shows are legendary in Caribbean music. She is a driving force of this urban West Indian genre, along with **Rihanna**, **Sean Paul** and **Shaggy**, who have all changed the face of pop music in recent years. She has inspired a couple of generations of female soca performers. If you've ever seen this lady on stage or on a flatbed in a carnival, then you already know about her legendary energy and sex appeal!

Demarco

Colin "Demarco" Edwards embodies a new age of cutting-edge artists whose ability to intertwine songwriting, music production, engineering and performing keeps him in constant demand in one role or another. In the public eye for the past five years, Demarco has quite a few memorable hits such as **Duppy Know Ah Who Fe Frighten**, **Fallen Soldiers**, **True Friend** and **Show It (So Sexy)**.

Sean Paul

Last February, **Sean Paul** released his sixth studio album **Full Frequency**, which featured the hit singles **Other Side of Love**, **Entertainment**, **Turn It Up** and **Want Dem All**, all of which received heavy rotation on reggae as well as on pop radio. **Sean Paul**, the Godfather of modern Dancehall, is back and more in demand than ever. The festival is very pleased to have him as the Saturday night headliner.

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Frankie Paul

Frankie Paul is often referred to as Jamaica's **Stevie Wonder**, and not just because of his visual impairment. Like Wonder, he is a talented multi-instrumentalist with a tremendous vocal range. From his beginnings in 1980 to this day, the prolific singer has released no less than 60 albums! **FP** has always had a soft spot for covering songs, may they be reggae, pop or R&B, and has a knack of re-recording them with a wicked reggae twist!

Sunday, August 17

Percy Sledge

If Percy Sledge had only recorded **When a Man Loves a Woman**, he would still have earned his place in the **Rock and Roll Hall of Fame**. But through his career he has also penned and performed a dozen more classics, such as **Warm And Tender Love**, **It Tears Me Up**, **Out Of Left Field** and **Take Time To Know Her**, keeping him in constant demand for concerts on Caribbean and international stages.

Sanchez

Back after an outstanding performance at **MIRF 2009**, **Sanchez**, will be back with his rich repertoire of songs taken from his 30 albums, including pop, soul, R&B, reggae, gospel and of course, genuine dancehall gems, a reminder that, as a young and upcoming performer, **Sanchez** learned his trade on the sound-system circuit of the 1980s.

I-Octane

Discovered by producer extraordinaire **Donovan Germain (Penthouse Records)**, **I-Octane** finds himself constantly touring since the release of his first album **Crying To The Nation**, an amazing project fusing roots reggae and dancehall riddims, including his first two major hits, **L.O.V.E.** **Y.O.U.** and **Missing You**. This will be **I-Octane's** first **MIRF** appearance – don't miss it!

Marcia Griffiths

The First Lady of Reggae, **Marcia Griffiths** was a member of the legendary vocal trio **The I-Three**, backing up **Bob Marley & The Wailers** in the 1970s. Griffiths is celebrating 50 years in the music business this year! In a genre traditionally dominated by male artists, **Marcia Griffiths** is the best-known and most influential woman in the history of reggae, recording and performing classic tunes from the Rocksteady, Roots and Dancehall eras. Nuff respect!

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Luciano

With the release of his landmark album **Where There Is Life** in 1995, **Luciano** emerged as one of the most important reggae singers of his generation and greatest hope for roots-reggae's survival in the digital dancehall era. Since that much-acclaimed release, **Luciano's** music has been consistently praised for its themes of spiritual salvation, Rastafarian edification and African repatriation. At the end of 2013, **Luciano** released his album **Qalabah Man (VP Records)** and this year released **Deliverance**, a **Mad Professor** British production, on his imprint **Ariwa Records**.

Tickets and packages

- * Friday: \$21 (\$1 from each ticket will go to a charity of our choice)
- * Saturday: \$55 in advance/ \$70 at the door
- * Sunday: \$55 in advance/ \$70 at the door
- * Weekend pass: \$100 in advance/ \$140 at the door
- * VIP Weekend pass: \$275 (advance purchase only)

For more information and the complete 2014 line-up: montrealreggaefest.com

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