Sahar

with

Karen Vourc'h & Dima Bawab, sopranos
David Venitucci, accordion
Mohannad Nasser, oud

including an original musical creation by Iranian composer ***Sina Fallahzadeh***



Teaser



***Sahar,* meaning 'dawn' in Arabic and Hebrew**, was born out of the friendship between the sopranos Karen Vourc'h, of Jewish origin, and Dima Bawab, a Palestinian. In a fragmented world, rejecting polarised discourse, they have chosen to make music an invitation to come together, where **melodies become bridges** and **languages whisper of a shared humanity**: Hebrew, Arabic, Yiddish, Armenian, Persian, French, German and Italian.



Drawing on works by **Ravel, Mendelssohn, Monteverdi, Poulenc, Duparc, Weill and Eisler** – which evoke war, exile, peace and hope – they interweave these with **traditional Yiddish and Palestinian songs**, rooted in the stories of these peoples. A brand-new composition by Iranian composer **Sina Fallahzadeh** further enriches this musical journey.



David Venitucci on the accordion and Mohannad Nasser on the oud create a soundscape of great richness and originality. They improvise, reinventing each melody, arranging and transforming it, weaving intricate and sensitive musical textures.



We take to heart this quote from Pina Bausch:

'For a long time, I thought the artist's role was to shake up the audience. Today, I want to offer them on stage what the world – which has become too harsh – no longer gives them: moments of pure love.'

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Places of creation 2026-27:

Artists-in-residence at Noirlac Abbey
Artists-in-residence at Cité de la Voix, Vézelay
Génération France Musique, le live dated May 9th, 2026 (from 27'47'')

Concerts:

- Cité de la Voix, Vézelay
- Limoges Opera House
- Les Traversées de Noirlac
- Les Nuits Classiques de Menet

Next performances:

- Théâtre Edwige Feuillère, Vesoul
- Paris Philharmonie
- Rennes Opera House
- Collège des Bernardins, Paris
- Les Echappées de Marquemont, Monneville

Musical programme:

- Ravel : *Kaddisch* (from *Two Hebrew Melodies* after traditional Hebrew songs – 1st mvt : in Aramaic language)
- Duparc : *Au pays où se fait la guerre* (on a poem by Théophile Gautier)
- Poulenc : *Priez pour paix* (on a poem by Charles d'Orléans)
- *Moulaya* – traditional arabic song
- Mendelssohn : *Abschiedslied der Zugvögel* (on a poem by August Heinrich Hoffmann von Fallersleben)
- K. Weill : *Youkali* (on a text by Roger Fernay)
- Eisler : *Lied einer deutschen Mutter* (on a poem by Bertolt Brecht)
- Ravel : *Enigme éternelle* (from *Two Hebrew Melodies* after traditional Hebrew songs – 2nd mvt : in Yiddish language)
- Fallahzadeh : *Dar in Khak* (on poems by Lea Goldberg and Sina Fallahzadeh)
- Ravel : *Là-bas, vers l'église* (from *Five popular Greek melodies*)
- Duparc : *L'Invitation au voyage* (on a poem by Charles Baudelaire)
- Mendelssohn : *Herbstlied* (on a poem by Ernst August Friedrich Klingemann)
- Poulenc : *Bleuet* (on a poem by Guillaume Apollinaire)
- Nasser : *Farewell Month*
- Komitas : *Krung* (after a traditional Armenian song)
- Monteverdi : *Pur ti miro* (from *Coronation of Poppea*)
- *Vi iz du Gesele* - Yiddish song (on a text by Israel Rosenberg)

Texts by Mahmoud Darwich, Rachid Benzine, Yvette Baumann Bernard-Farnoux, Pina Bausch

Concept & dramaturgy:	Karen Vourc'h
Musical arrangements:	David Venitucci
Vocal harmonisations:	Dima Bawab
Improvisations:	Mohannad Nasser

Duration : approx. 1h10

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www.abbayedenoirlac.fr / www.lacitedelavoix.net