

Ireland – Palestine Celebrating cultures

Celebrating Palestine is a day on which we bring to Irish people the vibrant culture of Palestine, through its music, photography, food, film, literature, dress and dance. Palestinian culture in all its depth and richness continues to thrive, despite four decades of military occupation and the continued colonization of their land by Israel. It is a reminder of the right of the Palestinian people to live as a free people in their native land.

The Palestinian leadership has sought peace through the creation of a State of Palestine in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967, although this is less than a quarter of the land of historic Palestine.

On 20 September 2011 President Mahmoud Abbas will make a formal application for UN membership for a Palestinian state in the 1967 borders.

The Irish government must support that resolution at the UN.

This day of events celebrating Palestinian culture has been organized with the assistance of the Mission of Palestine in Ireland, SIPTU and Sadaka – The Ireland Palestine Alliance.

**Admission is free, contributions are welcome
and will support the work of Sadaka**

For more information visit: www.sadaka.ie
Facebook Page| Palestine: A Celebration



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Palestine A Celebration

Palestinian Cultural Day

Music | Photography | Food | Film | Dress | Dance

Liberty Hall Theatre

17 September 2011

SIPTU Building, Dublin

For the evening event seats are limited,
please come early to avoid disappointment



Mission of Palestine





13:00 Opening of Palestinian Cultural Day

13:00 – 17:30 Handcraft exhibitions.

Works on display will include traditional Palestinian handicrafts like embroidery and wood crafts. Known in Arabic as *Tatreez*.

13:30 – 17:30 Film screening and photographic exhibition

Film Screenings and Photographs of Palestinian culture, history, every day life and popular resistance.

13:00 – 17:00 Food demonstrations and tastings.

Palestinians love to eat and their legendary hospitality is boundless. At our demos, you'll learn how to prepare a variety of dishes including *musakhan*, the Palestinian speciality of chicken wrapped in fragrant onions and flatbread, *fattoush*, the fresh salad made with pitta bread and green veg as well as the creamiest *hummus*.

18.00 onwards Traditional Palestinian dance display followed by Irish music concert.

The folkloric dance troupe, *Zajel*, will perform the traditional Middle Eastern line dance of agile



steps, stomps and jumps. Over the dark decades of occupation, *Dakbe* has been a way to preserve Palestinian culture, keeping tradition alive in the worst of circumstances. You'll notice many similarities to Irish dance. The display will be perfectly complemented by the renowned Tommy Sands' inimitable style of traditional Irish and folk music.

Biographies

Zajel Folklore Art

The group was founded in 2009 by Mr. Rajab Shamallakh, founder and patron of the Palestinian school in London. It was his personal initiative and one of the main goals of the Palestinian school to nurture Palestinian culture and tradition in the diaspora. The name *Zajel* reflects the spirit of the group, the message that the group seek to carry and the civilized image of the true roots of the Palestinian people that they wish to portray to others around the world, particularly in Europe. *Zajel* presents emotionally moving shows which are based on the artistic inheritance of music and songs from Arab and Palestinian roots.

Tommy Sands Singer, Songwriter and Social activist

From the pioneering tours with the highly influential Sands Family, Tommy Sands has become one of Ireland's most powerful songwriters and enchanting performers. Walking the road between two cultures, he dreams of an Ireland without conflict. And his work around the globe speaks to our common heritage, using music to bridge cultural differences. In this way he shares a vision with songwriters instigating social change such as Phil Ochs, Joan Baez, and close friend Pete Seeger. The music moves from traditional Irish to contemporary folk, and Tommy's lyrics evoke images of Ireland and make edgier commentaries on social consciousness.

