Our country, Mali, just experienced one of the darkest chapters in its history. But Mali, with its ancient civilization, Mali, the land of the great Empires, as the phoenix, strives to be reborn from its own ashes. The tenth edition of the Festival sur le Niger takes place in a post crisis atmosphere with a new Mali looming on the horizon. The opportunity will be seized to celebrate the return of peace, cultural diversity and national unity. Some of the greatest Malian and International artists will join us, such as:

- (TBC) SALIF KEITA • TIKEN JAH FAKOLY (Côte d’Ivoire)
- CHEICK TIDIANE SECK • OUMOU SANGARÉ • VIEUX FARKA TOURÉ
- OUM (Maroc) • DIDIER AWADI (Sénégal)
- AWA SISSAO (Burkina Faso) • KHAIRA ARBY
- TAKAMBA SUPER ONZE DE GAO
- ABDOULAYE DIABATÉ • SAHEL BLUES • MARIAM KONÉ
- KASSÉ MADY • BEN ZABO

Discover in the following pages, the various component of the Festival sur le Niger:

- THE SYMPOSIUM OF SÉGOU
- DANCE & THEATRE
- THE CULTURAL CARAVAN FOR PEACE
- THE INTERNATIONAL FAIR OF SÉGOU
- ART EXHIBITIONS
- OPERA BALLET “MAWULA”
- ARTISTIC ENCOUNTERS
- THE NYAGA OF PEACE
The Forum of Ségou is this year celebrating its 10th years anniversary. The theme is:

« The African Renaissance : Challenges and perspectives »,

in a post crise atmosphere, between doubt and hope and with a strong will for reconciliation and recons- truction in Mali. After the various black crises that our loved continent has experienced in the Ivory Coast, Guinea, Lybia and recently Mali, it is necessary to be challenged and to engage in a profound reflection about our future. So to start again on a new solid and healthy base.

For more info see the dossier: Cultural Caravane for Peace

The artistic program is being elaborated. It’s expecting famous world music artists such as: Salif Keita, Tiken Jah Fakoly (Côte d’Ivoire), Cheick Tidiane Seck, Oumou Sangaré, Vieux Farka Touré, Oum (Maroc), Didi Awadi (Sénégal), Awa Sissao (Burkina Faso), Kahira Arby, Super Takamba Super Onze de Gao, Abdoulaye Diabaté, Sahel Blues, Mariam Koné, Kasse Mady, Ben Zabo, etc.
**THE CULTURAL CARAVANE FOR PEACE**

The Cultural Caravan for Peace is a Trans-Saharan-Sahel project for peace, solidarity and tolerance. It is organized in partnership with the Festival Taragalte in Morocco and the Festival au Désert in Essakane, Mali;

*For more info see the dossier: Cultural Caravane for Peace*

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**OPERA BALLET «MAWULA»**

This Opera ballet is devoted to the Cultural Renaissance of Mali. It artistically traces highlights of the crisis Malians have experienced, until the election of a new democratically elected president. Mawula celebrates restored hope, restored peace, the reconciliation of peoples, unity, social cohesion, cultural diversity... It will be premiered during the opening ceremony of the Festival on the Niger in Ségou in February 2014.

*For more info see the dossier: Opera Ballet Mawula.*

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**ART EXHIBITIONS**

Seven international and national exhibitions on the themes:

- « Love»;
- « Dialogue and Cultural Diversity »;
- « Cultural Diversity and National Unity »;
- « African Renaissance »;
- «Democracy and Peace »;
- « Impulses »;

In conjunction with a workshop and a Master Class.

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**DANCE FOR PEACE**

A project of Dance for Peace in the street of Ségou, during the opening of the Festival sur le Niger with the Kôrê Dance Company and the choreographers Kettly Noel and Kardjigué Laico Traoré.

*For more info see the dossier: Dance for Peace*
ARTISTIC ENCOUNTERS

RAP, meaning Professional Artistic Encounter, will bring together leading African personalities in the field of arts, on the theme ‘Creation, a factor of development’.

THE NYAGA FOR PEACE

A great moment of unity for peace. The artistes of the region will welcome the festival guests with an evening of music and dance from the region.

THEATRE

We are this year presenting the theater play “A vous la Nuit” (of the master Habib Dembélé dit GUI-MBA NATIONAL, a kind of musico-poetic fresco in which words take on their value and importance, together with the legendary sound of the kora. This piece revolves around the theme of friendship with a capital A, the one whose life’s problems reinforce and affirm the strongness of ties.

The second play is by Adama Traore and ACTE SEPT with the piece: “Kaklara ou jamais à genoux.” This piece focuses on the adverse effects of excessive Islamism. It also highlights the conflict between Islamism and your traditional values. Kaklara is a play of actuality, if we refer to the situation in the north, where the jihadists reign supreme and impose their law.

INTERNATIONAL FAIR OF SÉGOU

Which combines the imagination and creativity of artisans and farmers in the West African sub-region.

A Segou, there are many companies, associations and local organizations that have extensive experience and knowledge in various fields of handicrafts and art crafts, furniture and food, especially in areas bogolan and woven loincloth.

The purpose is to give the opportunity to these local organizations and local producers (Gardeners, artisans, farmers, fishermen, traders, etc...), to enjoy the great national and international public drained by the Festival on the Niger to sell their products and create partnership relations. The International Fair of Segou was created in this way, to support and promote these organizations from different sectors and to network and collaborate with other partners.
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

Through its component of “Development of the professions of culture” and its partnership with the Kôrè Cultural Centre, the Festival sur le Niger will work for a sustainable development of culture, focusing on training and development of the professions of the arts throughout the year.

- Organisation in the month of Mars of the competition ‘Talents of the city 2014’ (Contemporary Arts and Music);
- Coaching and training of young talents (Visual artists and musicians) through:
  - Selection and training of a dozen of Young talents at the Kôrè Cultural Centre and at the Kôrè Gallery for art exhibitions (The Festival sur le Niger, in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture and other cultural actors, manages an information centre and a gallery for art exhibitions downtown on the bank of the River Niger);
  - Organisation of four (4) local exhibitions of visual arts, in collaboration with the Kôrè Cultural Centre at the Kôrè Gallery;
  - Two (2) sculpture and painting workshops at the Anemy Centre and at the cultural space of the Foundation Festival sur le Niger;
  - Exhibition of masks and puppets at the Museum of the Kôrè Cultural Centre;
  - Painting Two (2) Master Classes;

- Development of the culture entrepreneurship through the IKAM, Kôrè Institute of Arts and Professions (part of the Kôrè Cultural Centre) for the training, supervision and monitoring of artists and cultural actors throughout the year;
- Anthropological Research on traditional and contemporary art throughout the year, in collaboration with the Kôrè Cultural Centre;
DOEN FOUNDATION

DOEN Foundation strives to create a sustainable world where everyone can participate. It is the main partner of the Festival sur le Niger and it accompanies the Festival since the third edition.

DOEN Foundation supports projects and organizations tending to consolidate the sector of culture and media in a professional and sustainable manner. DOEN believes that cultural sector booming and the presence of independent media are essential for an open and flourishing society. Cultural expression offers indeed the opportunity to grow and develop its own identity. The independent medias are essential for the creation of an informed citizen, the formation of an opinion and the ability to critically understand the generally prevailing view. DOEN mainly focus on innovative initiatives, which are distinguished by their quality and commitment.

OUR PARTNERS

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Looking forward to welcoming you at the 10th edition of the Festival sur le Niger

Mamou Daffé
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