

## Full programme: VeszprémFest to welcome visitors with six superstars in 2022

Six days, six superstars - jazz, world music and pop at VeszprémFest 2022 between 11 and 16 July. Diana Krall, Jamie Cullum, Ana Moura, The Gipsy Kings led by Nicolas Reyes, ZAZ and James Blunt will get on stage at the amazing venues of the premium music festival.

On 16 November at the *Budapest Music Center*, the organisers announced the programme for **VESZPRÉMFEST 2022**. The press event was held in the presence of *Gyula Porga*, Mayor of Veszprém, *Péter Ovádi* and *Zoltán Mészáros*, managing director of VeszprémFest.

In 2022, the 18<sup>th</sup> VeszprémFest will welcome visitors between **11 and 16 July**. With an unusual timing and programme due to the pandemic last season, the festival will return to its almost two-decade tradition in 2022: It will feature six world-class performances by six superstars on the main-stage concert days.

The **ROZÉ, RIZLING AND JAZZ DAYS** event accompanying VeszprémFest will welcome visitors between **8 and 17 July 2022** at its traditional venue in Óváros Square. Launched in 2011, the gastro-cultural event celebrating its 12<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year will again welcome visitors under the slogan "10 days, 30 wine-makers, 30 concerts".

### *VESZPRÉMFEST 2022 programme*

#### **11 July 2022 (História Kert, 9:00 pm)**

On the opening day, two-time Grammy Award winning jazz singer, pianist and composer **DIANA KRALL** will take to the stage. The Canadian-born artist is currently the most prestigious female jazz performer in the world. She has visited Hungary five times so far, enjoying resounding success at VeszprémFest in 2013.

During her career, she has sold more than 15 million albums worldwide. Her first album, *Stepping Out*, was released in 1993, and her fifth one, *When I Look in Your Eyes*, earned her worldwide success in 1999. The record topped the Billboard's jazz charts for 52 weeks, achieved platinum status in the US and Canada and was recognised with two Grammy Awards.

With her next album, *The Look of Love*, she continued her international success and reached the top ten of Billboard's Top 200 Albums. In 2009, Billboard magazine described her as the second greatest jazz artist of the 2000-2009 decade. She has recorded 15 studio albums, with her last one, *This Dream of You*, released in 2020. Having worked with Paul McCartney, Barbra Streisand and Tony Bennett, and constantly touring, she is a celebrated star at major jazz festivals and concert halls around the world.

#### **12 July 2022 (História Kert, 9:00 pm)**

Offering a unique combination of jazz, pop and rock, **JAMIE CULLUM**, the UK's most successful jazz artist ever, will perform at VeszprémFest on 12 July. The British artist defines himself primarily as a pianist/singer, but he is also an excellent drummer and guitarist. Throughout his career, he has performed at prestigious locations such as the Hollywood Bowl and the Carnegie Hall, at Fuji Rock and Glastonbury, and he also joined several renowned jazz artists at the 2016 International Jazz Day at the White House. He shared the stage with exceptional performers such as Amy Winehouse and Billy Joel.

He is not only successful as a performer, but as a composer too: he has composed for films of John Cusack and Clint Eastwood. He has released 9 studio albums, selling over 10 million copies. His last album was released in 2020, which was his first ever Christmas album entitled *The Pianoman at Christmas*.

Besides his stage career, he works as a radio host: he currently has a prime-time, award-winning weekly show on BBC Radio 2, Europe's most popular radio station, where as the DJ he introduced jazz stars such as Gregory Porter or Laura Mvula to his audience.

Jamie Cullum visited Veszprém back in 2016 when he performed an unforgettable concert at the Veszprém Aréna, the musician's first ever show in Hungary.

#### **13 July 2022 (História Kert, 9:00 pm)**

On the third day of the festival, the world's most successful fado singer, **ANA MOURA**, will take to the stage. Representing perhaps the most beautiful musical tradition in Portugal, a melancholic, bittersweet style, she was

the youngest fadista to be nominated for a Dutch Edison Award. Her musical talent and exceptional performance have been recognised with two Golden Globe and two Amalia Awards.

She has released six albums throughout her career and has the biggest-selling Portuguese album of all time. Her fifth album, *Desfado*, was at the top of the sales charts in Portugal for 6 weeks, in the top 10 for 117 weeks, in the overall charts for 200 weeks, and was certified six times platinum. In 2015, she released her last, 6<sup>th</sup> studio album, *Moura*, which took her to the top of the Portuguese albums chart and stayed at number one for a month.

Moura has toured the world, performing in the UK, Canada, Austria, Germany and the USA. In 2007, she shared the stage with the Rolling Stones in Lisbon, where she sang *No Expectations* with Mick Jagger. She also worked and performed with Prince, who became a fanatical fan. In 2011, he even went incognito to see her singing at the Sziget Festival in Budapest.

#### **14 July 2022 (História Kert, 9:00 pm)**

On 14 July, **THE GIPSY KINGS** will get on stage led by flamenco-salsa-pop legend **NICOLAS REYES**. The iconic Catalan band was formed in 1979 by the descendants of two gypsy families who had settled in France, the Reyes and the Baliardo, and their original name in Spanish was Los Reyes Gitanos. Their songs are performed in a mixture of Spanish, French, Italian and Gypsy languages.

The members of The Gipsy Kings have been superstars of the genre since 1988 and have dominated the World Music charts for the past three decades. They have released 13 studio albums selling more than 14 million copies worldwide. Their platinum album compilation, *The Best of the Gipsy Kings*, was in the charts for more than a year after its release, and their ninth studio album, *Savor Flamenco*, won the Grammy Award for Best World Music Album for the second time in 2013.

They have played in every major concert hall in the world, from the Hollywood Bowl to the Royal Albert Hall. They have recorded with Ziggy Marley, the Doobie Brothers and Bananarama. Their hits have featured in several films, including *The Big Lebowski* and *Toy Story 3*.

The Gipsy Kings are returning performers of VeszprémFest. Their highly successful concert in 2009 was also a milestone in the history of the festival, which expanded its programme with this performance, the first time it included performers of high-quality popular music styles.

#### **15 July 2022 (História Kert, 9:00 pm)**

On the fifth day, our audience can enjoy a concert with the French star **ZAZ**, mixing a blend of jazz, soul and French chanson. Born on 1 May 1980, the vivacious singer with a charming character was originally called Isabelle Geffroy. She studied music theory, violin, piano, guitar and singing from the age of five, and her musical inspirations include Vivaldi and Ella Fitzgerald.

First she played as a street musician in Montmartre, and later performed in small clubs. Her first band was a blues band, *Fifty Fingers*, with which she played festivals and small tours, and later joined the Basque variety group *Izar-Adatz*.

In 2009, she won the Tremplin Génération France Bleu/Réservoir, which made her a household name. In 2010 she released her first album, *Zaz*, from which the song *Je veux* became a smash. It topped the charts in France, Belgium and Poland, and she was the most popular French singer in 2010. In 2011 she won an EBBA and then the European Border Breakers Awards, and in 2015 she received an Echo Award for Best International Female Rock/Pop Artist. She has toured all over Europe, but has also performed in Canada and Japan.

Her fifth and latest studio album *ISA* was recorded during the pandemic and released in October. ZAZ will visit Veszprém as part of her *Organique Tour*.

#### **16 July 2022 (VeszprémAréna 9:00 pm)**

The closing day of the festival will feature a concert by British superstar **JAMES BLUNT**. The singer will perform in Veszprém as part of his European tour *The Stars Beneath My Feet*, which starts in February 2022.

Although he learned to play several instruments as a child, Blunt was pressured by his parents to join the military. He served in the British Army, where he rose to the rank of captain before his discharge in 2002.

His first album, *Back To Bedlam*, was released in 2004, and its song *You're Beautiful* immediately made him a superstar. The song won, among other things, two British Music Awards, two Ivor Novello Awards and five Grammy nominations, and the album topped the charts in 16 countries at the same time.

His second album, *All The Lost Souls*, was released in autumn 2007, which received Gold record status as early as the first week of release. The first single from the album, *1973*, entered the Billboard global charts at number one in the month of its release.

His musical influences included Fleetwood Mac, David Bowie and Elton John, the latter of whom personally invited him to perform on his 2004 tour. Throughout his career, he has performed hundreds of concerts in Europe and North America, and has appeared on numerous television programmes from The Oprah Winfrey Show to Saturday Night Live.

He is hugely popular on social media, with 5.5 million followers on Facebook and 2.4 million subscribers on YouTube. On 17 February 2016, he received his "Doctor of Music" honorary degree from the University of Bristol

His albums have sold 23 million copies, and his new greatest hits album, *The Stars Beneath My Feet* (2004-2021), will be released in November.

In the event of rain, the venue for VeszprémFest concerts in História Kert will be the VeszprémAréna.

More information and tickets available at: [www.veszpremfest.hu](http://www.veszpremfest.hu)