

Fawzy and his sons: The Al-Aiedy Connection

With his latest musical project, "Ishtar Connection," Strasbourg native Fawzy Al-Aiedy builds bridges within family, connecting cultures and generations. More than just an album, this electro-trad disc blends the ingredients of the East and the West to the roots of an artist who truly embodies the spirit of living together.

In the Al-Aiedy family, we introduce the father: Fawzy. Born in the 1950s in Basra, like "Sinbad the Sailor" and the son of a sorceress who restored the virginity of women promised in marriage, he made a stop in Baghdad and crossed paths with Saddam Hussein before going into exile to play in the Renault factories in Boulogne-Billancourt and other Parisian cafes.

Electro Turn

His style? "Difficult to categorize," acknowledges our virtuoso globe-trotter. Let's say he has explored the oud as well as the oboe, built bridges between the East and the West, all while savoring the joys of jazz and trying his hand at children's songs. The result: unwavering commitment, around fifteen albums, and as many tours and concerts that have notably introduced him to Alsace, where he has definitively settled with his instruments.



"Music, a shared passion from father to son. Photo by David Geiss

However, in the Al-Aiedy lineage, there are also two sons, Amin and Adrien, who, through strings and percussion, have come to acknowledge the electro turn taken by their father—with additional reinforcements on Ishtar Connection. "With my traditional music, they saw me from a distance." This album is then conceived as an outreach, a new bridge between the East and the West, where our sound architect guides his offspring back to their origins. "Ishtar, the Mesopotamian goddess of war and love, symbolizes Iraq. And our album aims to be a tribute to this country with its riches and catastrophes," comments Fawzy.

A tribute that unfolds in 12 tracks, primarily consisting of sampled covers energized by the bagpipes of traditional Arabic songs. This is a way of saying that this Iraqi complexity easily overflows from the courses of the Tigris or the Euphrates.

Our Franco-Iraqi troubadour and his ensemble have already made the Ishtar Connection resonate in Quebec, with a likely upcoming tour in Morocco. A borderless groove that not only binds the Al-Aiedy family but also aims to be "a call for living together in these troubled times."

David Geiss

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<https://www.fawzy-music.com>