



AUGUST 25-27
HYDRA WORLD MUSIC
 HYDRA, GREECE

THIS MONTH'S INAUGURAL WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL HAS GREAT LOCAL ACTS, GLOBAL DJS AND THE BEST SCENERY YOU COULD EVER WISH TO SEE

There's a laidback, nonchalant charm to Hydra, the small Saronic island separated from the Greek mainland by a narrow strip of water. For starters there are no cars, only donkeys and a perfect horseshoe-shaped harbour that looks as if it has been lifted from the pages of an Aegean dream.

It doesn't take a huge leap of the imagination to see why Leonard Cohen bought and restored a property here and why the island's cafes, restaurants and hotels are increasing in popularity, even if it does sway gently to its own rhythm.

It is within this rhythmic and picturesque setting that the first edition of Hydra World Music is to take place from August

25 to 27, with live acts and DJs promising intimate performances in inspiring corners of the island.

Among them will be the Madagascan musician Kilema, Egyptian singer-songwriter and accordion player Youssra el Hawary, British folk singer Brooke Sharkey and Greek-Brazilian singer, composer and artist Katerina Polemi.

There will also be sets from the likes of DJ Palov and Germany's Michael Ruetten as well as performances by local acts Patatatiti and the Momo Trio.

"We want to create a legacy that Hydra can be proud of," says the festival's founder Adriano Konialidis, who is both a musician

and the founder of Desmo Records. "We want to live up to the existing, impeccable standards of the island by bringing fantastic artists to Hydra over a special weekend."

The opening event will take place at Hydra Museum in the port while Saturday afternoon performances will be held at Spilia and Sunday afternoon concerts at Enalion, Vlichos beach.

With a Uruguayan upbringing, Greek parentage and Swiss schooling, Konialidis' perspective is a global one, which is why he believes Hydra, with its natural heritage and culturally savvy regulars, will provide the perfect venue for what is hoped will become an annual event.

IMAGE: BETTY



Emirates operates twice daily non-stop service from Dubai to Athens. Emirates also operates a daily flight to Athens from Newark's Liberty International Airport.