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BARRIÈRE

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## *A coming together of three great talents...*



**On Sunday 5 August, La Plage Barrière Le Majestic Cannes will be making the headlines when it hosts a prestigious evening event combining art and gourmet cuisine, with three major artists, Wael Kfoury, Alexandra Cardinale and Julien Lestel, topping the bill.**

With no fewer than sixteen albums behind him, and boasting a spellbinding voice and, for many, a no less impressive physique, the Lebanese singer Wael Kfoury is one of the leading names in Middle Eastern pop. Since the age of 18 and his very first success, entitled *Bi Njoom al ley*, the man who his fans affectionally refer to as "the king of romance" has a huge popularity that extends far beyond the borders of the Arab world. He performs regularly in Europe, Oceania and even in America where each of his concerts has met with great acclaim. His popularity shows no sign of waning as demonstrated by his role as a member of the panel of judges on Arab Idol, the Middle Eastern version of Pop Idol, for the past two seasons, and the millions of views of each of his videos online.

He will open events on the evening of 5 August with a show of over an hour during which he will perform some of his greatest hits, including *Ya dalli ya rou7i*, *Omri Kellou*, *Bahebak Ana* and *Sar El Haki*. As they enjoy his sublime performance, the audience can savour a gala dinner orchestrated by Pierrick Cizeron, executive chef at the Resort Barrière de Cannes. The menu will feature a fusion of French and Middle Eastern gastronomy which will treat guests to the very best Mediterranean flavours.

Following on from this festival of song, dance will take centre stage with two artists overflowing with talent: Alexandra Cardinale, the evening's artistic director, and choreographic director Julien Lestel. They will close the evening with "The Jewels of

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the Majestic”, five unique choreographic pieces performed by dancers from the Julien Lestel Company. Ranging from Puccini to Ravel’s famous and spellbinding Boléro, the performance promises to be hugely moving.

Having been born in Cannes, Alexandra Cardinale is very familiar with the Croisette. At an early age she successfully passed the entrance exam to the ballet school at the Paris Opéra. Aged just 17, she then reached ballet’s Holy Grail: first place in the competition for entry to the Corps de Ballet at the Opéra National de Paris. For the past 25 years she has starred on the stage of the Palais Garnier and theatres around the world. In parallel to her career as a dancer, in 2010 she created the AC Opéra Ballet Production company which produces and performs prestigious ballet evenings such as “Gala d’Etoiles”, captivating tens of thousands of ballet enthusiasts across France. Her ultimate goal is to bring beauty, emotion, and a sharing of her passion to the general public, including those unfamiliar with the world of dance.

Julien Lestel is considered one of the best choreographers of our time. Trained at the Opéra de Paris ballet school, he subsequently became a member of leading dance companies, from the Opéra National de Paris to companies in Monte-Carlo and Zurich, as well as the Ballet National de Marseille where he partnered Marie-Claude Pietragalla. Principal dancer at the Ballet National de Marseille for 12 years, he has also worked with the world’s leading choreographers, ranging from Rudolf Nureyev and Jerome Robbins to William Forsythe and Roland Petit. In 2006, he founded the Compagnie Julien Lestel, enabling him to express fully his talent as a choreographer. His dancers will be on stage on 5 August as part of a performance which will undoubtedly pay homage to their mentor.

Information & reservations :  
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