



## Founder's Letter



Micheline Abi Samra  
Beirut Chants Founder

It gives me great pleasure to invite you to join us in the Fourth Festival of Sacred Music, an annual event that continues to grow and prosper thanks to your encouragement and support. Our firm belief in the unifying power of music, as a universal language that speaks directly to the soul, gives us the drive to bring you a magnificent repertoire of twenty three recitals by renowned international and local talent in nine beautiful churches, sure to please and delight you.

Beirut Chants brings people together in festive downtown Beirut to celebrate the holiday season through a program that features spiritual and ethnic music traditions, which are played out in a variety of Syriac, Byzantine, Armenian and Western classical compositions. As the spirit of our capital rises in harmony to the uplifting rhythms of sacred music, and church choirs gloriously resound in joyous melody, the gift of giving finds expression through a message of tolerance, hope and love that marks our city center's purpose and mission. Church gates are open wide, full of music and chants during this holy month to rejuvenate your soul and spread good cheer.

Downtown is festive,  
Downtown is yours,  
Downtown is eternal!

We extend our heartfelt wishes that you share the Sacred Music Festival with us during this special time of the year, in the heart of our country and free to all.

Come be together,  
Come enjoy!

# The Venue

The festival's concerts are held in seven churches located in Beirut city center, a place that combines history and aesthetic.

All performers will be addressing the Nativity in their own styles and according to their backgrounds.

## St Louis Capuchin Church

Capuchin Street



## St Elie Kantari

Fakhreddine Street



## St George Maronite Cathedral

Emir Bechir Street



## St George Orthodox Cathedral

Nejmeh Square



## National Evangelical Church

National Evangelical Street



## St Elie Catholic Cathedral

Nejmeh Square



## St Maron Church

George Haddad Street



# About the Festival

This holiday season experience the unifying power of sacred music and be immersed in the holiday spirit.

The 4th annual Beirut Chants Festival from December 3rd until December 25th brings you a fusion of spiritual, cultural, and historic melodies to be performed by a selection of outstanding local, and international artists and choirs.

Twenty-four recitals will be performed in a variety of Syriac, Byzantine, Armenian and Western classical compositions.

The concerts will take place in 7 majestic churches around Down Town; possessing historical as well as sentimental value to Lebanon.

They stand as a testimony to the spirituality of Beirut's families and are in and of themselves an experience not to be missed.

Take this opportunity to gather your friends and families'. We extend our heartfelt wishes that you share the sacred music festival with us during this special time of the year, in the heart of our country and free to all.





## The Program

Saturday 3	St Maron Gemmayzeh	Concerto Soave (Vocal - Soave)	20:00
Sunday 4	St Elie Kantari	The Festival's Quartet (Vocal, Instrumental - Classical)	20:00
Monday 5	St Louis Capuchin	Kamila and Zakar Keshishian (Vocal, Instrumental - Traditional)	20:00
Tuesday 6	National Evangelical Church	Imane Homsí (Qanoun - Syriac, Byzantine & Oriental)	20:00
Wednesday 7	St George Maronite Chatedral	Joumana Medawar & Joseph Khalife (Vocal - Modern)	20:00
Thursday 8	St Maron Gemmayzeh	Antonine University Choir (Vocal - Classical)	20:00
Friday 9	St George Maronite Chatedral	London Community Gospel Choir (Vocal - Gospel)	20:00
Saturday 10	St Elie Kantari	Ghada Shbeir (Vocal - Syriac)	20:00
Sunday 11	St George Orthodox Cathedral	St Romanos Choir Beirut (Vocal - Byzantine)	20:00
Monday 12	St Maron Gemmayzeh	Rania Younes (Vocal - Syriac, Byzantine)	20:00
Tuesday 13	St Elie Kantari	Raymond Ghattas (Vocal, Instrumental - Opera)	
Wednesday 14	St Louis Capuchin	Walid Nahas, Piano (Piano - Modern)	20:00
Thursday 15	St Elie Catholic Cathedral	St Stephanos - Melode Choir (Vocal - Byzantine)	20:00
Friday 16	St Elie Kantari	La Voix D'antan (Vocal - Syriac)	
Saturday 17	St Elie Catholic Cathedral	Notre Dame University Choir (Vocal - Classical, Syriac)	20:00
Sunday 18	St Louis Capuchin	Tony Hanna and Grace Medawar (Vocal - Modern)	20:00
Monday 19	St Elie Catholic Cathedral	Abeer Nehme, Vasilis Saleas & Michel Fadel (Vocal, Instrumental - Panorama)	20:00
Tuesday 20	St George Orthodox Cathedral	School of Ecclesiastic Music (SEM) (Vocal - Byzantine)	20:00
Wednesday 21	National Evangelical Church	La Chanterie de Beyrouth Children's Choir (Vocal - Modern)	18:00*
Wednesday 21	St Elie Kantari	Samar Saleme (Vocal - Opera)	20:00
Thursday 22	National Evangelical Church	Four Knights - Al Fursan al Arbaa (Vocal - Modern)	20:00
Friday 23	St Louis Capuchin	Tania Kassis (Vocal - Classical, Jazz)	20:00
Sunday 25	National Evangelical Church	Garagatch Children's Choir (Vocal - Classical, Traditional)	18:00*
Sunday 25	St Louis Capuchin	Matteo El Khodr (Vocal - Opera)	20:00

*\*All concerts are at 20:00 except for La Chanterie de Beyrouth and Garagatch, both Children's Choirs.*

# The Participants

Saturday 03 - 20:00

Concerto Soave  
Vocal - Soave  
St Maron  
Gemmayzeh

1



Wednesday 07 - 20:00

Joumana Medawar  
& Joseph Khalife  
Vocal - Modern  
St George Maronite  
Cathedral

5



Sunday 11 - 20:00

St Romanos Choir  
Vocal - Byzantine  
St George  
Orthodox  
Cathedral

9



Wednesday 15 - 20:00

St Stephanos the  
Melode Choir  
Vocal - Byzantine  
St Elie Catholic  
Cathedral

13



Sunday 04 - 20:00

The Festival's  
Quartet  
Vocal, Instrumental -  
Classical  
St Elie Kantari

2



Thursday 08 - 20:00

Antonine  
University Choir  
Vocal - Classical  
St Maron  
Gemmayzeh

6



Monday 12 - 20:00

Rania Younes  
Vocal - Syriac, Byzantine  
St Maron  
Gemmayzeh

10



Friday 16 - 20:00

Assawt Al Atik  
Vocal - Syriac  
St Elie Kantari

14

Monday 05 - 20:00

Kamila & Zakar  
Keshishian  
Vocal, Instrumental -  
Traditional  
St Louis Capuchin

3



Friday 09 - 20:00

London Commu-  
nity Gospel Choir  
Vocal - Gospel  
St Elie Kantari

7



Tuesday 13 - 20:00

Raymond Ghattas  
Vocal, Instrumental -  
Medley  
St Elie Kantari

11



Saturday 17 - 20:00

Notre Dame  
University Choir  
Vocal - Classical, Syriac  
St Elie Catholic  
Cathedral

15



Tuesday 06 - 20:00

Imane Homs  
Qanoun - Syriac,  
Byzantine, Oriental  
National  
Evangelical Church

4



Saturday 10 - 20:00

Ghada Shbeir  
Vocal - Syriac  
St Elie Kantari

8



Wednesday 14 - 20:00

Walid Nahas  
Piano - Modern  
St Louis Capuchin

12



Sunday 18 - 20:00

Tony Hanna &  
Grace Medawar  
Vocal, Instrumental -  
Modern  
St Louis Capuchin

16

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St Maron  
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The Festival's  
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Classical  
St Elie Kantari

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Qanoun - Syriac,  
Byzantine, Oriental  
National  
Evangelical Church

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Vocal - Syriac,  
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Vocal, Instrumental -  
Modern  
St Louis Capuchin

16

Vocal - Opera  
St Elie Kantari

Vocal - Modern  
National  
Evangelical Church

Vocal - Classical, Jazz  
St Louis Capuchin



**Monday 19 - 20:00**  
Abeer Nehme,  
Vassilis Saleas &  
Michel Fadel  
Vocal, Instrumental  
St Elie Catholic  
Cathedral



**Wednesday 21 - 18:00**  
La Chanterie  
de Beyrouth -  
Children's Choir  
Vocal - Modern  
National  
Evangelical Church



**Tuesday 20 - 20:00**  
School of Ecclesias-  
tic Music (SEM)  
Vocal - Byzantine  
St George  
Orthodox Cathedral



**Wednesday 14 - 20:00**  
Walid Nahas  
Piano - Modern  
St Louis Capuchin

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Vocal, Instrumental -  
Modern  
St Louis Capuchin



