

Mel M'rabet – Musician • Composer • Producer

Ottawa, Canada / Granada, Spain ■ mrabetmoh10@gmail.com | ■ +1 613 286 9776

Profile

Mel M'rabet (Mohamad El M'rabet) is a Canadian-Moroccan musician, composer, and producer renowned for bridging the musical legacies of Al-Andalus, the Arab world, and contemporary jazz. Based between Ottawa and Granada, he has spent over three decades crafting a unique intercultural language that merges Arabic, Andalusian, Mediterranean, and jazz traditions into a modern global sound. Recipient of multiple Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council, and City of Ottawa grants, and a Genie Award winner (2002) for best original soundtrack (Khaled film), M'rabet has performed at major festivals across Europe, North America, Africa, and the Middle East. His current project, "Echoes of Andalusia," continues his mission to revive and reinterpret the spirit of coexistence and musical dialogue that defined medieval Spain — a theme central to his 2025 participation in WOMEX 25 (Tampere, Finland) as an invited delegate.

Discography / Albums

Andalusian Legacy • Zyriab's Return • New Horizons • Solo Soul • Muse d'Amuse • The Long Journey • Echoes of Andalusia (2025 release)

Collaborations & Shared Stages

Salif Keita • Cesaria Evora • Anouar Brahem • Omar Sosa • Marcel Khalife • Paco de Lucía • Simon Shaheen • Al Di Meola • Buika • Dhafer Youssef • Charbel Rouhana • Zakir Hussain • François Théberge • Steve Potts • Necati Celik • Mariza

Notable Performances

2002–2025 International tours and festival performances supported by OAC and CCA, including: WOMEX (2002–2008, 2025) • Fez Festival of Sacred Music (Morocco) • Chicago World Music Festival (USA) Ottawa Chamber & World Music Festivals (Canada) • European Early & Mediterranean Circuits (Finland, France, Turkey, Greece, Lebanon, Spain) Essaouira Gnaoua & Sufi Music Festival (Morocco) • Flamenco & Classical Festivals (Granada, Seville, Córdoba)

Academic Background

University of Granada (Spain) – Master's in Music, B.A. in Ethnomusicology University of Salamanca (Spain) – Advanced Studies in Ethnomusicology, Political Science, and History Specializations: Systematic Musicology, Composition, Psychology of Musical Performance, Translation and Interpretation (Spanish–English–French–Arabic)

Teaching Experience

Assistant Professor – University of Granada (1995–1997) Courses taught: Music Theory, Ethnomusicology, Sound Color and Acoustics, Psychology of Musical Performance, Film Music

Cognition. Private Instruction (2000–present) – Near Eastern Oud, Andalusian Modal Systems, Improvisation. Workshops presented in Canada, Spain, USA, Morocco, and the Middle East.

Event Organizer / Community Outreach

Founder of Al-Tarab Ensemble (Canada–Spain–US), promoting cross-cultural collaboration. Curator of multicultural concert series in Ottawa supporting interfaith dialogue and cultural inclusion. Consultant for community-based arts programs fostering social integration through music.

Awards & Recognitions

Genie Award (2002) – Best Original Soundtrack (Khaled) Canada Council for the Arts – Multiple grants for international touring and creation Ontario Arts Council & City of Ottawa – Ongoing support for community music projects F.A.C.T.O.R. Loan Recipient – Independent recording support

Languages

English • French • Spanish • Arabic

2025 Artistic Focus

Presenting Echoes of Andalusia internationally, expanding partnerships from WOMEX 25, launching the Mel M'rabet Quartet touring cycle for 2026, and strengthening Canada's world-music presence through intercultural artistic diplomacy.