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PRESS RELEASE

## **EUROPAfest - jam session at Hard Rock Cafe No rehearsals, no scores. Pure inspiration**

If jazz means versatility, strength and freedom par excellence, EUROPAfest is to Bucharest a real explosion of colors and energy. The air of cosmopolitan and electrifying concerts, the free spirit of musicians from Europe and USA brought to the capital the atmosphere of the big cities where jazz is a state of mind. Since May 7<sup>th</sup>, the Art Center Tinerimea Romana, Art Jazz Club and Hard Rock Cafe have become too small for the audience that came to hear the EUROPAfest jazz bands. Even if for a few hours, the atmosphere in the concerts creates friendships on and off the stage, and leaves behind the feeling of a revelation.

On May 12<sup>th</sup>, at 20.30, the jazz bands in the festival meet on the same stage in one of the most exciting moments of EUROPAfest – the jam session. Not incidentally, the event takes place at the Hard Rock Cafe, a place where music is celebrated as a life philosophy. One night before the Gala, the artists who compete in Bucharest International Jazz Competition will play together, combining spectacular personal styles and traditional influences. Given their jazz background and experience, the musicians will dare and challenge one another and, most of all, will enjoy together - to the delight of the public - rhythms of fado, blues, African, American or Japanese music. Everything is spontaneous, without rehearsals, just relying on the inspiration and improvisation of the moment.

The night of the jam session is followed by the last day of the festival, May 13<sup>th</sup>, when the EUROPAfest Gala will take place, the most eagerly awaited event of the week: finalists of the Bucharest International Jazz Competition dispute the Grand Prize, the Jeunesses Musicales International Competition celebrates its prize-winners and the Royal House will award the Excellence Diploma.

EUROPAfest is the only festival in Europe which brings together in a single event jazz, blues, pop and classical music. Under the slogan "The festival offers! The choice is YOURS!" it offers a rich agenda:

- Opening Concert - Europe's Day
- Jazz, blues and pop concerts with well established bands from Europe and USA
- Bucharest International Jazz Competition
- Caffè Festival
- Jeunesses International Music Competition - piano
- Gala EUROPAfest

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