

# COMPTON HERALD

## **WATTS TOWERS ART CENTER MUSIC FESTIVAL, SET**

*Musical rhythms converge in Watts at 'Day of the Drum' festival, and 'Watts Towers Jazz' venue for two days, Sept 24-25*

<http://comptonherald.com/watts-towers-art-center-music-festival-set/>



*An all-star line-up of world class musicians, singers, and dancers will come together for two days at the Simon Rodia Watts Towers Art Center, Sept. 24-26. Guided tours of the famed Watts Towers also will be offered, along with children's activities, arts and crafts, and a variety of tantalizing food. Photo: City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs/Watts Towers Art Center*

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LOS ANGELES (MNS) — Two venerable cultural festivals in the city — the 35th annual Watts Towers Day of the Drum Festival, and the 40th Annual Simon Rodia Watts Towers Jazz Festival — will again emerge as a wellspring of celebration, Sept. 24-25, in celebration of the 55th anniversary of the Watts Towers Art Center,

An all-star line-up of world class musicians, singers, and dancers will come together for two days at the venue, which will also feature guided tours of the famed Watts Towers, children's activities, arts and crafts, and a variety of tantalizing food.

The Day of the Drum Festival on Saturday, Sept 24, features an all-star line-up of world class musicians, singers, and dancers for the free event. The festival is presented by the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs and the Friends of Watts Towers Arts Center and occurs from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., at 1727 E. 107th St., L.A.

Led by co-masters of ceremonies, Ndugu Chancler and James Janisse, the event begins with a Yoruba ground blessing ceremony by Alaadun. Korean Classical Music and Dance Company will follow. Afterward, guests will experience the rhythms of North African Moroccan music with Amazigh 6/8.

The Simon Rodia Watts Towers Jazz Festival, Sunday, Sept 25, features an all-star line-up of world class musicians, singers. Showtime is from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and is hosted by M.C.'s Kamau Daáood and James Janisse, The festival opens with the Yoruba ground blessing by Alaadun, Sherwood Sledge follows with his jazz trio offering a touch of gospel, blues, and jazz.

Another highlight is a Tai Chi Chuan demonstration by The School of Healing Martial Arts, followed by legendary jazz, blues, and R&B singer Eloise Laws, who will take the stage to enthrall the audience with her uniquely special musical interpretation.

Concluding the jazz fest and two-day celebration will be The Jazz Mentorship Program All Stars with "straight ahead jazz" classics and originals.

The celebration will be complimented by two solo exhibitions, Carlos Spivey's "The Power of Love," and Sammy Davis' "It's All About the Bass" both on view through March 5, 2017.

For more information visit [wattstowers.org](http://wattstowers.org)