



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: JUNE 14 TO JULY 7, 2019

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FRANCO-FÊTE DE TORONTO ANNOUNCES THE COMPLETE PROGRAM FOR ITS 37TH EDITION WITH JUNO NOMINATED HEADLINING GROUP AYRAD

**Francophone culture at its best!
#francofetetoronto**



Franco-Fête 2019 – Headlining group: Ayrad

Toronto, Ontario – Toronto’s biggest Francophone music and culture festival is proud to announce the complete program for its 37th edition. From July 5th to 7th, **Franco-Fête de Toronto** will offer three days of events celebrating the abundance of Francophone heritage and showcasing the very essence of Francophonie.

A one-of-a-kind event, *Franco-Fête de Toronto 2019* will present a range of activities for all ages, including music, culinary creations, activities for young people, and much more.

This festival provides a rare opportunity to experience a universe consisting of myriad cultures, languages and people from every part of the Greater Toronto Area, all converging to celebrate the wealth and diversity of Canadian Francophonie.

For its official opening on **Friday, July 5th**, *Franco-Fête* presents **Rayannah**, the one-woman electro-soul band. Using loop pedals, the Franco-Manitoban artist creates music with her voice, breath, percussion and synthesizers. Her evocative lyrics rise above soundscapes that range from sparse to dense and complex. An event you won’t want to miss!

NEW THIS YEAR: A NOD TO FRANCOPHONE AFRICA – In honour of the great diversity of cultures that make up Toronto’s Francophone community, this year *Franco-Fête* will pay tribute to one community in particular. This premiere will be celebrated with the music of Francophone Africa on **July 6th** at Yonge-Dundas Square, showcasing six exceptional groups and artists: the rap and R&B group **Uni-T**; **Kimya**, the winner of the *Découverte* award at the 2019 *Gala des prix Trille Or*; the award-winning singer-songwriter **Le R Premier**; the incomparable **Mehdi Cayenne**; **Nomad’Stone**, Radio-Canada’s 2018-2019 world music *Révélation*; **De.Ville**, a duo whose music has its roots in rai music of North and West Africa, and **Ayrad**, the headlining group. Nominated for the ADISQ awards, the Canadian Folk Music Awards for world music group of the year and the 2015 **JUNO Awards** in the world music of the year category, **Ayrad** creates original music featuring a profusion of musical styles and songs played energetically and confidently.

The **July 7th** lineup at Yonge-Dundas Square features the award-winning folk-world group **Mélisande [électrotrad]**, the powerful traditional group **De Temps Antan** from Quebec, the Paris-based electro-pop group **Radio Elvis**, and **DJ UNPIER**.

The festival will also host booths sponsored by ethnocultural associations, tastings of African dishes, as well as demonstrations of traditional dance and attire. Meet-and-greets will also be organized between the artists and the public after the performances to foster discussion. *Franco-Fête* will also present a special show for kids, **Kattam et ses Tam-Tams**. The young percussionist Kattam, who plays the n'goni, balafon, djembé, derbouka, naffar and dhol, will take you on a musical journey through Africa, the Middle East and India through rhythm, song and dance!

Don't miss the 37th annual *Franco-Fête de Toronto*, a major Toronto event that celebrates the cultural wealth and diversity of its Francophone community!

For the full program schedule, please see below or visit: WWW.FRANCO-FETE.CA

La Franco-Fête de Toronto 2019

JULY 5 TO 7, 2019

FREE EVENT

WWW.FRANCO-FETE.CA

Facebook: [@francofetetoronto](https://www.facebook.com/francofetetoronto)

Instagram: [@franco.fete.toronto](https://www.instagram.com/franco.fete.toronto)

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**FRANCO-FÊTE DE TORONTO 2019
PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

FRIDAY, JULY 5 AT 6:30 PM

Canadian electro-soul artist RAYANNAH

Wenona Lodge

1069, Bloor Street West, Toronto

SATURDAY, JULY 6

SPOTLIGHT ON FRANCOPHONE AFRICA

YONGE-DUNDAS SQUARE

1, Dundas St. W.

12 h – 13 h	Uni-T
13h – 13h30	Kimya
13h30 – 14h	Le R Premier
17h30 – 18h30	Medhi Cayenne
18h30 – 19 h	De.Ville
19h – 20h30	Nomad Stone
20h30 – 21h	De.Ville
21h – 22h30	Ayrad (JUNO NOMINATED WORLD MUSIC GROUP)

SUNDAY, JULY 7

YONGE-DUNDAS SQUARE

1, Dundas St. W.

12h – 13h	Kattam and his Tam-Tams (family programming)
13h – 14h	Mélisande [électrotrad]
14h – 15h	De Temps Antan
16h – 17h	Radio Elvis

Schedule subject to change

For interviews or photos, please contact Josée Duranleau of Duranleau Communications at 416 652-7672 or josee@duranleau.com