

Samba Touré plays the Ali Farka Touré songbook

Event - Samba Touré plays the Ali Farka Touré songbook ໓

When	Sat, 17. October 2026, 21:00 h
Category	Live Music in Rotterdam



Description

Malian guitarist Samba Touré returns to Grounds for a special concert celebrating the musical legacy of his mentor, desert blues pioneer Ali Farka Touré.

Touré began his career as lead singer of Farafina Lolo, where his talent caught Ali Farka Touré's attention. Under his guidance, Samba moved towards more traditional Malian music and developed into one of West Africa's leading guitarists. Twenty years after Ali Farka Touré's death, he now revisits that connection through music.

Joined by Djimé Sissoko on ngoni and tamani and Souleymane Kane on calabash, Samba Touré performs both well-known pieces and lesser-heard material from Ali Farka Touré's songbook. Rather than reproducing the originals note for note, the trio brings its own character to the music while preserving the hypnotic rhythms and guitar language associated with desert blues.

After the concert, DJ Caliente keeps the evening going with a mix ranging from samba and reggae to music from the Sahara.

Details

Event: Samba Touré: Ali Farka Touré Songbook

Date: Saturday 17 October 2026

Doors open: 20:00

Start: 21:00

Location: Grounds, Rotterdam

Address: Pieter de Hoochweg 125, 3024 BG Rotterdam

Early bird: €17.50

Advance: €20 + €1 service fee

Door: €22.50

Rotterdampas: €11.25

Genre: Desert blues, Malian music, African blues

Afterparty: DJ Caliente

Line-up: Samba Touré, guitar and vocals; Djimé Sissoko, ngoni and tamani; Souleymane Kane, calabash.

Venue - Podium Grounds

Location	Podium Grounds
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Street	Pieter de Hoochweg 125
Postcode	3024 BG
City	Rotterdam
Country	NL
Website	https://www.grounds.nu/

Description

Grounds is a vibrant platform where audiences can experience groundbreaking music from emerging and renowned international artists across diverse genres. The venue hosts weekly concerts featuring styles ranging from Turkish folk to Afro beats, Latin to Sahara blues, providing a rich tapestry of global sounds.

Beyond live performances, Grounds actively contributes to the cultural climate of Rotterdam West by offering a stage for local talents and organising community events. They are also developing a second stage, Lab Grounds, in the historic HBS building in the city centre's Oude Westen district, aiming to transform it into a significant creative hub for musicians and dancers.