

Music and Sound Seminar Series

Histories of Palestinian Music and Resistance

January 9, 2025 at 11am (Cairo time)

At CEDEJ (23 Gamal Eldin Abou El Mahassen St., Garden City - Cairo)

A black poster for the seminar series. On the left, white text reads: "Music and Sound Seminar Series", "Histories of Palestinian Music and Resistance", "By Louis Brehony", "January 9, 2025 - 11am (Cairo time)", and "In person at CEDEJ and Online event". A QR code is positioned below the text. On the right, a photograph shows a man with a beard and a patterned scarf playing a stringed instrument (possibly a qanun or oud) in a room with bookshelves. A CEDEJ logo is in the top right corner of the photo.

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Histories of Palestinian Music and Resistance
By Louis Brehony

January 9, 2025 - 11am (Cairo time)
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Never has the connection between the living struggles of the Palestinian people and the adoption of cultural forms of resistance been as starkly clear, relevant and urgent as today.

Facing unrelenting genocidal warfare, destroying lives and livelihoods, those in Gaza once again bear the sharpest brunt of Zionist colonialism. Yet, enduring through the horrors of this aggression, Gaza remains the frontline of political culture, where music and song form one vital component of steadfast continuation, and lifelines on which the hopes of the displaced and oppressed rest. The latter is illustrated musically in multifarious and sometimes surprising ways through experiences of historic and enduring displacement in broad regions of Palestinian exile, from Cairo to Kuwait, Gothenburg to Manchester - and within Palestine itself. Presenting the key themes of over 20 years of musical, ethnographic and activist-centred research, along with a broad historical view of Palestinian music-making, this lecture will argue that resistance is the cornerstone to questions of aesthetic, political and material aspects of a culture bound up in both preservation and revolution.

Louis Brehony is an award-winning researcher on political culture, musician, writer and activist.

He is the author of *Palestinian Music in Exile*, director of the documentary film *Kofia: A Revolution Through Music*, and editor of *Ghassan Kanafani: Selected Political Writings*.

Registration link to participate online:

https://cnrs.zoom.us/meeting/register/_kik2YxAQpC9zUH_O8m4SQ#/registration