

WOMAD 2018

This year's WOMAD brought blazing sun, wild winds, rainstorms and culminated with a glorious rainbow. If the weather wasn't enough of an assault on the senses, the programme boasted an array of musical spectacles to enjoy.

Highlights included South African band BCUC who had an impressive queue of newfound fans eagerly waiting to meet them at their CD signing. London rapper Kojey Radical rocked the Siam Tent and Moroccan *maalem* Hamid El Kasri hypnotised the

drizzly Open Air Stage crowd with his *gimbri*-laden Gnawa grooves.

Sadly visa issues were once again the talk of the festival with Mozambican Wazimbo, Tunisian Sabry Mosbah and members of Tal National all having entry issues (read more on p13).

Regardless, sets were rejigged, acts were substituted and the festival went on.

The *Songlines* team had a busy time meeting existing readers, signing up new ones and scouting for exciting new acts. Here's a snapshot of some of our favourite moments. Roll on 2019!



Clockwise from above: A rainbow spreads across Charlton Park on the Sunday; the *Songlines* *tintamarresque* being put to good use; the ever-entertaining Camille during her energetic set; Brazil's Renata Rosa playing her *rabeca*; KermesZ à l'Est give a raucous performance on the Open Air Stage



This page, clockwise from above: Dobet Gnahoré strikes a pose next to her *Songlines* cover; Turkey's Gaye Su Akyol gives an impeccable vocal performance; a bird's-eye view of the BBC Radio 3 Charlie Gillett Stage during Calan's lively performance

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