

## *Saïd Mesnaoui & Transe Gnawa Fusion*



***Under the ochre lights, a voice undulates, the rhythm is rigorous, the modernity slides on the endless sands of the desert. The hajhouj, with its deep and melodious sound, bewitches us, supported by hypnotic percussions, we get lost in the fire of the dance.***

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Coming from an environment where there are many musicians, it is in the respect of the tradition that **Saïd Mesnaoui** evolves, from childhood, by initiating himself to percussions. His musical path leads him to a Gnawa master who teaches him the technique of the hajhouj, a typical instrument of the Gnawa music of southern Morocco.

**1974** Beginning of his career, he forms the group Al Aânadile, participates in various concerts and Moroccan events

**1980s** As a guest of the group Jil el Ghiwane, **Saïd** undertakes tours in North Africa and the Middle East, together they make Moroccan culture live and known. Tunisia, Syria and Libya give, in turn, the group a certificate of honour for the excellence of their artistic work. For almost four years, the group has been working with the Ministry of Culture in Tunisia. During the great festival of Carthage (1983), the group obtains a special mention.

**1986** **Saïd** settles in Canada. During this period, he produces three albums. With his new group **Saïd Mesnaoui & Transe Gnawa Fusion** he is invited to many festivals across Canada and is present at various events and concerts. His music approaches a new shore and is colored by Western influences, it occurs then a fusion between the hypnotic rhythms of the Gnawa trance and various styles, which confers to the music of **Saïd** a lighter trance.

**1998** **Saïd** moves to Paris. In this movement, he is in search of a new universe. He pursues his career with French musicians. He works on a new album where the magic of Moroccan rhythms (Ghiwane and gnawa), a rock tempo, reggae, blues, jazz pulsations which under the effect of the gnawa trance are harmonized.

**2008** Back to Canada to produce his new album Fik-Anta (Wake up). The result of a collaboration with his French and Quebec musicians. From now on, his career continues between Canada, France and Morocco.

**2022** **Saïd** produces his album Al Maddloun (The Oppressed).