

INAUGURATION OF ROOTS FESTIVAL

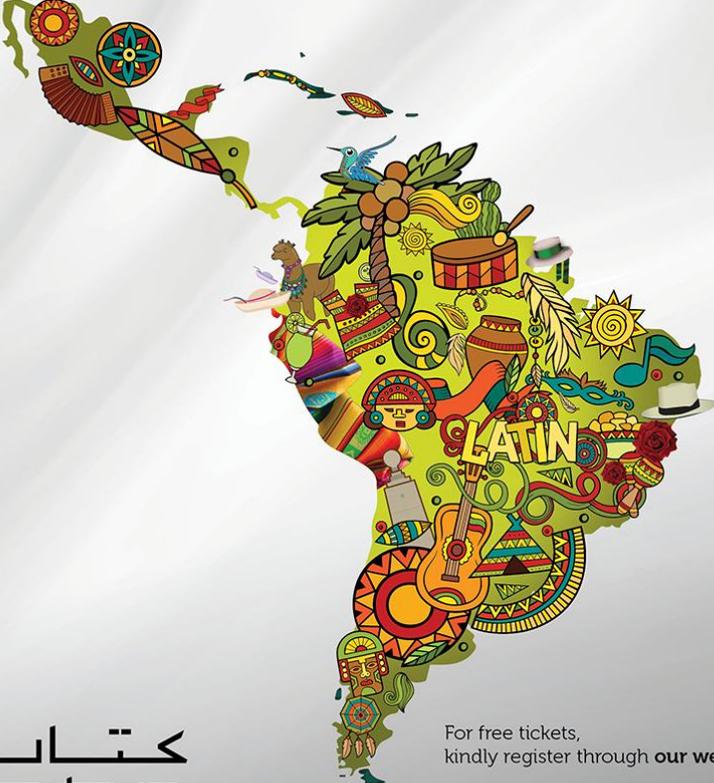
H.E. Kabalan Abisaab's Welcoming Speech 18-04-2017/ KATAR

Cultural Village Foundation – Katara presents

"Roots"

Festival of the Latin American and the Caribbean countries

18 - 22 April 2017
7:00 pm
Building 16, Drama Theatre
Age: 7 years and above



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For free tickets,
kindly register through **our website**.

www.katara.net

Strategic Partner
البنك التجاري
COMMERCIAL BANK

- **Dr. Khalid Al-Sulaiti**, General Manager of Katara Cultural Village

- - **H.E. Mr. Ibrahim Fakhro**, Head of Protocol Department- Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

- **Distinguished Excellencies & Ambassadors.**

- **Distinguished Guests, Ladies & Gentlemen.**

- I am truly delighted to welcome you tonight to this evening that is embellished by your esteemed presence, where ***Creativity embraces Beauty***, through colors, rhythms and dances that represent the most

prestigious and finest Artforms in the world, through “**ROOTS**” Festival; which brings us the richness of the Culture of the countries of Latin America & the Caribbeans in this vibrant and prominent institution, under the leadership of my dear friend Dr. Khalid Al Sulaiti. This cultural edifice, which has never failed to provide assistance and support to all the diplomatic missions accredited in the State of Qatar, and specifically to the Embassies of the Latin American and the Caribbean countries.

To Dr. Khaled, and through him to KATARA Cultural Village all the appreciation and gratitude.

- We believe that Art is a language of communication amongst nations, and a source of wealth for human life. Art is the structure of beauty, emanating from sensations and inspiration, while evoking feelings & emotions, surpassing time, history and boundaries.

Through Art, man interacts with his fellow men, as well as with the universe and nature. Art contains all the emotions, hopes and dreams, all experiences, ideas, opinions and philosophies.

- I do not exaggerate if I say that Art is the doctrine of life and people; all people, from all sides, colors, beliefs, cultures and religions. In front of Art, they converge and are equals, and on the threshold of Art all differences are dissolved, and all distances disappear.

Art leads you closer to God and his creation.

- Or didn't Neruda say: "Slowly dies who does not travel, who does not read, who does not hear music, who does not know how to find something through his eyes?"
- The Latin American and Caribbean countries, represented by their Embassies and Diplomatic Missions in the State of Qatar, wanted to share some of their heritage, colors, melodies and art with the people of Qatar, to offer parts of the aesthetics of their Artforms and the depth of their heritage, through musical performances, paintings and photographs.

- We cannot fail to mention, that the specific identity of each Latin American people, reflect their characteristics that identify them but, on the other hand, it is worth mentioning, that our peoples have succeeded in achieving an integrational consensus, while simultaneously recognizing their own cultural values.

“ROOTS” Festival, which starts today in this Cultural Edifice and is ongoing until the 22nd of April 2017 will present the following performances and exhibitions:

- From the Republic of ECUADOR, the Artistic Folkloric Group **TUNGURAHUA** carries the Ecuadorian folk art that comes from the richness of its traditions and customs and their relationship with nature,

especially the sun, earth and man. You will enjoy ceremonial dances that require psychological, physical and spiritual preparations.

-Argentina will be represented by **EMOCION**, a group of international artists, members of the Qatar Philharmonic Orchestra who share passion for Tango.

-From Venezuela, the soloist **Alirio Diaz**, with his classical guitar will bring us the music of the Venezuelan plains and memory.

-From Mexico, and as it could not be otherwise, we will have the Mariachi "**Matitlan**", with its Mexican music of strings, songs and trumpet that are admired everywhere in the world.

-From Paraguay, the folk group formed by 10 people, whose name is "**Jeroky**" who will interpret the music and dance of Paraguay.

-From Peru the folkloric group and indigenous music "**Peru Andean**", which will show us the authentic color and feel of the Inca and American Andes.

-From the land of Fidel, Cuba, the group "**Dinoh**", with its 5 members will show us music and dance of the island.

-From Panama, the renowned artist **Olga Sinclair**, will bring us the interesting pictorial exhibition "**Retrospective**".

-From Costa Rica, we will enjoy a beautiful photographic and videographic exhibition, with the wonderful places of this Central American country.

-Brazil will bring us a photographic documentary about the new life of the **Syrian refugees in Brazil**, called "**Hope for Solidarity**", which tells us about the story of people who had to leave their homeland in search of peace and security.

-From Salvador, a photographic exhibition by the artist **Gerardo Grassl**, whose work, represents the natural beauty of the country under the motto" **El Salvador is worth it "** with the purpose of attracting tourism.

-The Eastern Republic of Uruguay will bring us a beautiful **photographic exhibition** of the **Santos Palace**, a true architectural gem in the style of the Italian Renaissance.

- Dear Friends, thank you again for coming to share this special artistic and cultural event "**ROOTS**", enjoy the evening.