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MÉLANGE CREATES ALL INCLUSIVE MELANIN MAGIC WITH YOGA, SUSTAINABLE FASHION, GOURMET VEGAN EATS, WELLNESS TALK BY KT THE ARCH DEGREE AND BROWARD COUNTY DEBUT PERFORMANCES BY OSHUN AND JAH9 AND THE DUB TREATMENT

Mélange turns the heat on South Florida's melting pot with eclectic festival at Pompano Beach Cultural Center on Sunday October 14th

Broward County, FL- September 13, 2018 - *Mélange* brings together fashion, food, performance, talks and yoga to create a colorful evening that beautifully reflects the diversity for which South Florida is widely recognized.

The night opens with Yoga & Dub, a fusion of modern dance and spiritual practice with the rub-a-dub sounds of DJ Corey Chase - effectively setting the tone for this cultural cornucopia. *Mélange* offers a sonic trip into the now with rare grooves and afrofuturist tunes with live performances from international superstars bringing that #BlackGirlMagic to Broward County for the very first time!

New York's Neo-soul hip-hop duo **OSHUN** (Niambi Sala and Thandiwe) blesses the microphones with their uplifting and empowering tunes, including their hits "*Parts*" and "*Solar Plexus*" featuring Proda. Their eclectic style splices digital with the acoustic and heavy drums with watery ambiance, a blend of soul, jazz and hip-hop to create an original sound that emanates positivity.

Reggae powerhouse *Jah9 and the Dub Treatment* brings her captivating voice and mystical femiNINE energy from Jamaica to the stage, certain to wake up and shake up a crowd hungry for a spiritual revelation and revolution. Fresh off a spectacular show at Germany's Reggae Jam, Jah9's performance includes music from her latest album *Feelings* and a Yoga on Dub segment - a way of exploring breath-work in a cultural way, ways yoga intersects with Rastafari. *Mélange* is future-focused and what is unfolding looks bright in the hands of these cutting-edge artists.

Respect for our bodies and the environment are unified in the food available. *Mélange* is pleased to present *Drigo the Culinary Alchemist* - a natural foods oracle, cooking class instructor, a health-supportive and wellness consultant specializing in raw food, vegan, vegetarian, & plant-based cuisine. "I found my life's purpose by making the connection between how food affects our mind, body and soul", he says. Sharing how we can take control of our health mentally, physically and spiritually starting with the foods we put in our body. All in attendance can enjoy his hand-crafted gourmet vegan eats and a premium open bar with admission.

The interest in self-care is on the rise and many are recognizing the benefits of keeping their melanin poppin' and decalcifying their pineal glands through diet and exercise. Kamani Tait, better known as *KT the Arch Degree* of GreenLife Botanicals comes straight from St. Croix to share his knowledge on health and wellness. Through his lifelong studies with the Usha Herbal Research Institute and his late stepfather – the inimitable **Dr. Sebi** – KT has become a renowned expert on alchemy, physiology, anatomy, metaphysics and nutrition and its effects on the human body. Because of his knowledge and masterful use of herbs he has been able to assist many people in their self-healing. Taking on the title and duty as "Ethnobotanist", KT has made it a lifelong mission to educate and stimulate actions of self-care. Guests will be empowered with new ways to create optimal health in order to live their best lives.

Amidst growing concern about the conditions in the fashion industry including sweatshops and hazardous waste, *Mélange* fights for human rights, protesting the social injustice and needless extravagance with sustainable fashion. Attendees will learn the value of thrifting beyond the financial benefits, the importance of upcycling and repurposing clothes while enjoying the creativity of it brought to life.

Mélange proves to be the antidote to the climate of hate in this country, injecting care and compassion into every part of the event. Featuring eco-friendly and sustainable fashion, vegan tapas, yoga, and health and

wellness talks, the vibe is all about taking care of the planet and all its inhabitants through education and information, respect, love, and understanding for each other.

Mélange fuses elements of various cultures to create a dynamic and inclusive family-friendly experience welcoming people of different backgrounds and will be an entertaining event that advances the ingenuity and promise of our people.

Mélange is presented by Team <u>AFRIKIN</u> is an accomplished group of artists and professionals who pool their expertise to create innovative cultural events. Our services range from event management and programming to developing effective campaigns. Our team's unparalleled skill in creating new experiences with a social impact demonstrates how creative people use their efforts to solve problems.

Mélange takes place at the Pompano Beach Cultural Center at 50 W. Atlantic Blvd, Suite 1, Pompano Beach, FL 33060 On Sunday, October 14, 2018 from 5pm. Tickets start at \$55 and are on sale now at https://goo.gl/sLLWZy

Save the date: October 14, 2018 | for further information: info@afrikin.org or call 305.900.5523

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