

Magida El Roumi

“Music can speak out louder than words. I will use my music and my voice to speak out on behalf of the needy and undernourished everywhere.”

The classical Arabic soprano singer Magida El Roumi was born in 1956 in Lebanon. She comes from a musical family and her father was the Lebanese composer Halim El Roumi. Her musical influences growing up were great Arab singers such as Mohammed Abdel Wahab, Umm Kulthum, and Fairuz.

Magida's singing talent was apparent from an early age, her family recognised this talent and encouraged her to perform professionally. In 1974, she took part in a televised Lebanese talent show, *Studio El Fan*, where she performed songs by Asmahan and Layla Murad and was awarded first place.

In 1976, Magida caught the attention of the Egyptian director Youssef Chahine, who cast her in his hit film, *The Return of the Prodigal Son*. She performed three tracks for the film.

Magida El Roumi has released 13 albums and has performed concerts and participated in major festivals around the world. She is endearingly referred to as “the angel of Arab music” due to her powerful singing voice and lyrics.

Magida El Roumi is among an illustrious group of renowned classical Arab musicians to have emerged from Lebanon such as Fairuz, Sabah and Wadih El Safi.



DID YOU KNOW?

Magida earned a degree in Arabic Literature from the Lebanese University.

FUN FACT

Magida has been a UN Goodwill Ambassador since 2001 and has supported numerous charities and humanitarian efforts around the world.

MUSICAL TERM

Soprano: A singer with the highest voice is a soprano. A soprano is usually a woman with a voice that can sing the highest notes.