

## Malta

### Info

Malta war britische Kolonie und wurde am 21. September 1964 unabhängig. Am 1. Mai 2004 wurde es Mitglied der Europäischen Union und ist seitdem deren kleinster Mitgliedsstaat. Am 1. Januar 2008 wurde in Malta der Euro eingeführt. Malta ist heute Ziel zahlreicher Flüchtlinge aus Afrika.

### Video 1: "Malta & Mediterranean Music Festival" (7. - 9. Juni 2013)

The "Bling Show" featuring young refugees in collaboration with Marc Cabourdin

Since the beginning of this year, along with hip-hop artist **Jon Mallia** and breakdancer **Andrea Gergis**, has been helping the young residents of Dar is-Sliem in Santa Venera to find their voice through music and dance. The young refugees, mostly from Sub-Saharan Africa are being encouraged to tell their stories and speak about their lives through creativity, movement and music. The participants of these workshops will be performing with NO BLING SHOW in this concert.

### Video 2: Hidmet Missirijietna Festival (9. August 2013)

*A small excerpt from the 'Għana Maltija' improvisation or 'spirtu pront' as it is known, at the 'Hidmet Missirijietna' festival, featuring four renown Maltese singers reflecting on the hardships of farmers in old times. Notice how the guitarists adjust their rhythm according to who's singing next, as each 'ghannej' has his own distinct tempo depending on his style.*

There are 3 main types of għana: fil-Għoli, tal-Fatt and Spirtu Pront.

1. Għana fil-Għoli is also known as Bormliża, taking its name from the city of [Bormla](#) where it was popular. Bormliża singing requires males to reach into extraordinarily high soprano ranges without breaking into falsetto. This style mimicked the early informal għana sung by women, but due to its extreme vocal demands, this style is very seldom practised.
2. Għana tal-Fatt literally means 'fact' or 'actually happened'. This melancholic ballad style involves one għannej recounting a story about well known local identities, events or recent interesting or humorous, Maltese folktales and legends. Spirtu pront translates as 'quick wit', and originated from the informal 'song duels'
3. In Spirtu Pront sessions, two or more għannejja (singers) are paired together and take part in an improvised song duel that demonstrates their knowledge of a wide range of social topics as well as their command of the Maltese language. Sessions take around an hour in duration, and there may be a number of sessions that make up a whole performance. The għannejja are the living poets of the Maltese language, singing in a highly expressive, free flowing style. Their improvised melodic lines borrow heavily from Arabic influenced scales.