

## Khaled Harara

*Hip-Hop Artist – Yemen/Palestine/Sweden*

***Humanitarian and social activist, workshops on free expression in Gaza***

Khaled Harara was born 1987 in Yemen. He is a renowned Palestinian hip-hop artist who has lived as a refugee in Gaza. His texts discuss the political situation in Palestine from a humanitarian and social perspective and criticise the lack of freedom of expression and the suffering in Palestine under the Hamas rule.

***Palestinian Unit***

In Gaza, Khaled Harara was the first to organise hip hop workshops for youth, focusing on writing texts and on different ways of expressing oneself. The workshops were banned, just like his group “Palestinian Unit” and the artist organisation that he was a member of.

***Rapolitics***

As a result of his artistic expression, and his participation as a soldier of the PLO forces before Hamas took control of Gaza, Harara is considered an “enemy of the state”. More than once, he has been sent to prison, tortured and subject to rough interrogations, and several of his friends have been killed or injured in fights against the Hamas.

***ICORN-Gothenburg City of Refuge's guest writer***

In fear of continuing reprisals, Khaled Harara stayed on in Denmark after participating in the festival “Rapolitics”.

***Gothenburg Music College and University***

Khaled Harara was Gothenburg City of Refuge's guest writer, a former fristadsförfattare/musiker - and the first musician that ICORN accepted - from 2013 to 2015. During his stay in Sweden he participated in many cultural and musical events in Sweden and many European countries. He studied music at the Gothenburg Music College for a year and also studied at the Goteborg music university three semesters. He also worked with many cultural institutions as Riksteatern Varmland. He released two new singles with the jazz rock band Makten & Härligheten in May 2015.

***Riksteatern Varmland***

***jazz rock band Makten & Härligheten***

