

# Let music do the talk

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**DARRYL** Kennedy, an independent cultural ambassador, believes that “better cultural relations make better foreign policy.”

In his latest performance at El-Sawy Cultural Centre, Kennedy played musical pieces, where he mixed jazz with different music from all over the world. He wants music to bring people together. “There is no language better than music to spread goodwill among each other,” Kennedy explains.

“Without young people studying music, we will have a very sad world.” In this sense, Kennedy introduced the 13-year-old

Egyptian percussionist, Saeed el-Artist, to join him in performing a piece he composed for Egypt where he mixed jazz with Egyptian notes.

Kennedy, an American composer and producer, promotes music as a way of mixing different cultures together. He works in cooperation with the US State Department. “I do not work for them, I work with them,” Kennedy emphasises.

He informs the “citizen exchange” section at the State Department about the places he is visiting and they would arrange with the embassies to hold a concert where he would perform his musical pieces with local artists. In the recent concert, he performed with Egyptian



**DARRYL** Kennedy (L) and Saeed smiling after performing.

artists including a member of “Eftekasat” band whose CD was produced by Kennedy last summer.

“When I was in Egypt in summer, there was a war

going on in Lebanon. So I composed ‘Remember the Children’.” Kennedy dedicated the song “for all the children who couldn’t be with us tonight.”