

**For Public Release**

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### **Thank You Carlos Santana**

Artists Against Apartheid and the [US Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel](#) would like to extend our thanks to Carlos Santana for honoring the call for the Cultural Boycott of Israel, by [electing not to perform](#) in the apartheid state. The call for cultural boycott was successful in creating international accountability for human rights violations in apartheid South Africa, and is [now being applied](#) in the case of Israel.



The Israeli state has repeatedly evidenced that it relies on artistic propaganda to improve its "[international brand](#)" as a pluralistic democracy, all the while continuing state sponsored [ethnic cleansing](#). Performing in Israel, as if it were just another stop on the tour, normalizes the [apartheid](#) practiced by the Israeli government, and disregards Palestinian led campaigns to organize international solidarity against it ([www.bdsmovement.net](http://www.bdsmovement.net)).

All artists are requested to boycott Israel as a tour destination, [except when performing in solidarity](#) with the popular struggle against occupation, dispossession and apartheid.

Cultural figures like [Roger Waters](#), [Arundhati Roy](#), [Brian Eno](#), [John Berger](#), and [Ken Loach](#) have expanded their advocacy to publicly hold Israel accountable for its human rights violations and war crimes. We hope that Santana, as an advocate of human rights, will join [Archbishop Desmond Tutu](#) and others engaged in the nonviolent struggle for equal rights and justice for the Palestinian people in endorsing the cultural boycott of Israel.

Artists Against Apartheid – [www.artistsagainstapartheid.org](http://www.artistsagainstapartheid.org)

US Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel – [www.usacbi.org](http://www.usacbi.org)