

## Press Release

**Coleman, Lavillenie, Barshim, Semenya and Stefanidi already confirmed.  
Top Swiss Athletes will also be present.**

With 3 months until the next edition taking place on 5 July, the organisers can already confirm the presence of 5 world athletics stars as well as the top Swiss athletes.

Starting with **Christian Coleman**. At 22 years of age, the gifted American sprinter was runner up at the 2017 World Championships for the 100m and the 4x100m relay. This winter, he became the World indoor champion over 60m and broke the world record at the same distance. This will be his first appearance in Lausanne and he will line up for the 200m, where he already has a personal best of 19.85.

The most loyal of all, **Renaud Lavillenie**, world record holder for pole vault and the fresh world indoor champion, returns again to Athletissima hoping to claim a 5<sup>th</sup> victory. In the high jump, the world indoor and outdoor champion, and 2017 winner, **Mutaz Essa Barshim**, will also be present. While the Olympic and World Champion over 800m, **Caster Semenya**, recently double winner at the Commonwealth Games in the 800 and 1500 m will take part in the longer distance, a race where she took bronze at the 2017 World Championships in London.

The pole vault will be dished up twice this year, as the women will also be competing. It will only be the third time that this event will take place at Athletissima... 12 years after Elena Isinbaeva's 2<sup>nd</sup> success, one year before, she broke the world record in Lausanne. "As we have 2 top Swiss athletes competing (**Nicole Büchler** and **Angelica Moser**), it was an obvious choice to put this spectacular event on the programme. The Olympic Champion, **Katerina Stefanidi**, will also be present », explained Jacky Delapierre, the meeting director.

### Switzerland will be well represented

The organisers are also counting on the presence of the other top Swiss stars to add to, what will be, another exciting evening. This follows-up on the fantastic performances from 12 months ago that featured **Kariem Hussein** and **Lea Sprunger** in the 400m hurdles and the Swiss women's 4x100m winning relay team that resulted in a new Swiss record. Not to mention **Mujinga Kambudji**, the formidable bronze medallist over 60m this winter at the World Indoor Championships in Birmingham, who will run the 100m and **Selina Büchel** which will be at the start of 800m.

### Opening of Ticket Sales

Ticket sales open today on [www.athletissima.ch](http://www.athletissima.ch) with the new **UBS Athletics Family Package**. An attractive, affordable package for families that will provide not only a ticket to the event but also a meal and drink voucher.

Athletissima/Press Service/16.4.2018



**IAAF Diamond League**

