



Zakir Hussain and the Masters of Percussion

7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 4, 2023
Macky Auditorium

Zakir Hussain, tabla
Sabir Khan, sarangi
Tupac Mantilla, percussion
Melissa Hié, djembe
Navin Sharma, dholak

Tonight's performance will run approximately 90 minutes.

ZAKIR HUSSAIN APPEARS BY ARRANGEMENT WITH

IMG Artists, LLC
7 West 54th Street
New York, NY 10019

TONIGHT'S PERFORMANCE IS GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY

Dick Dunn, in memory of Diane Dunn

PLEASE NOTE

- Masks are optional in public indoor spaces on the CU Boulder campus as of March 7, 2022.
- Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of the house manager.
- Photography and video recordings of any type are strictly prohibited during the performance.
- Smoking is not permitted anywhere. CU Boulder is a smoke-free campus.

Zakir Hussain and the Masters of Percussion

Every other year since 1996, Zakir Hussain has served as curator, conductor and producer to bring the very cream of Indian music and world percussion to tour America and Europe with his series, Zakir Hussain and Masters of Percussion.

Growing out of his renowned international tabla duet tours with his father, the legendary Ustad Allarakha, Masters of Percussion began as a platform for both popular and rarely heard rhythm traditions from India. While performing and collaborating in India for a few months every year, Zakir has sought and unearthed lesser-known folk and classical traditions which feed into the greater stream of Indian music, playing an educational role in affording them greater visibility, as well as introducing them to audiences in the West. Over time, the constantly changing ensemble has expanded to include great drummers and percussionists from many world traditions, including jazz.

All of it creates a truly beautiful field from which he can bring Masters of Percussion to the West. The 2023 version will be no exception, presenting American audiences with extraordinary, exciting and spontaneous combinations of percussive as well as melodic performances.

Past years have included master drummers from Central Asia, India, and the U.S., virtuosi like Abbos Kosimov, a master of the Uzbek frame drum known as the doyra, Marcus Gilmore, the most talked about young jazz drummer of our time, Eric Harland of Sangam, and Niladri Kumar, the great young sitarist.

Zakir Hussain

The pre-eminent classical tabla virtuoso of our time, Zakir Hussain is appreciated as one of the world's most esteemed and influential musicians, one whose mastery of his percussion instrument has taken it to a new level transcending cultures and national borders. Along with his legendary father and teacher, Ustad Allarakha, he has elevated the status of the tabla both in India and around the world.

A child prodigy touring in India from the tender age of twelve, Hussain quickly became a favorite accompanist for India's greatest musicians and dancers. He began his international touring career by the age of 18, and has been at the helm of many genre-defying collaborations including Shakti, Remember Shakti, *Masters of Percussion*, the Diga Rhythm Band, *Planet Drum*, Tabla Beat Science and *Sangam*. His first solo album *Making Music* was released in 1987, acclaimed as "one of the most inspired East-West fusion albums ever recorded". In 1991 *Planet Drum*, an album co-created and produced with Mickey Hart, became the first recording to win a Grammy in the Best World Music category and the Downbeat Critics' Poll for Best World Beat Album. Hussain's music and extraordinary contribution to the music world were honored in April, 2009, with four widely-heralded and sold-out concerts for Carnegie Hall's Artist Perspective series.

Hussain is the 2022 Kyoto Prize Laureate in Arts and Philosophy and is the recipient of countless awards, including two Grammys, Padma Bhushan, Padma Shri, Officier in France's Order of Arts and Letters, the 2022 Aga Khan Music Award and the 1999 National Heritage Fellowship, the USA's highest honor for a master of traditional arts. Voted "Best Percussionist" by both the Downbeat Critics' Poll and Modern Drummer's Reader's Poll over several years, including 2020, Hussain was honored with SFJazz's Lifetime Achievement Award at their 2017 Gala for his "unparalleled contribution to the world of music".

As a composer, he has scored music for numerous feature films, and has composed three concertos, the most recent enjoying the distinction as first-ever for tabla and orchestra. In 2009, Triple Concerto for Banjo, Bass and Tabla and new works composed by Hussain, Edgar Meyer and Béla Fleck, were released as the Grammy-nominated *The Melody of Rhythm*. Zakir's second concerto, *Ameen, Amen, Shanti*—Concerto for Four Soloists, a special commission for the National Symphony Orchestra, premiered at Kennedy Center in March, 2011, and his third concerto, *Concerto for Tabla and Orchestra*, was premiered in September, 2015, by the Symphony Orchestra of India, subsequently enjoying international premieres.

Hussain's career as an educator is no less splendid, having led workshops and master classes all

over the world over the course of his career. He has been a professor at Princeton University, Stanford University, University of Washington, and at UC Berkeley in the prestigious post of Regents Lecturer. Zakir's yearly tabla workshop in Marin County, California, draws hundreds of serious students and performers. In 2019, he was selected as a Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellow and awarded honorary doctorates from Berklee College of Music, Boston, from Indira Kala Sangeet University, Khairagarh, and, in 2022, from Mumbai University.

Hussain is the founder and president of Moment Records, an independent record label presenting rare live concert recordings of Indian classical music and world music.

Sabir Khan

Sabir Sultan Khan is an Indian sarangi player and the son of legendary sarangi player and vocalist Padma Bhushan Ustad Sultan Khan. He belongs to the Sikar *gharana* (school) of music which has given several stalwarts to Indian classical music. Khan was born in Jodhpur, Rajasthan to renowned sarangi player and vocalist Padma Bhushan Ustad Sultan Khan. He was exposed to music when he was six years old through his grandfather Ustad Gulab Khan. He trained under his father, grandfather and his uncle Ustad Nasir Khan. He is the 10th generation to take up sarangi. His great-grandfather, Ustad Azim Khan Sahab, was a court musician at Sikar Rajasthan. Khan is known today for his mastery of sarangi. His technique of playing is a rare combination of *sur* and *laya* (note and rhythm).

Khan has performed with his father in concert and also solo. He has performed alongside artists such as Ustad Zakir Hussain, Pandit Birju Maharaj, Ustad Rashid Khan, Gazal maestro Ustad Gulam Ali, Lata Mangeshkar and Asha Bhosle, among others. He has played in feature films like *Laal Singh Chadda*, *Dangal*, *Badlapur*, *Rog*, *Dor*, *Sanwariya*, *Jodha Akbar*, and many more. He was part of A.R. Rehman and Shreya Ghosal's episode for MTV Unplugged. He Also composed songs for movies like *The Dark side of Life Mumbai City*, *Direct Ishq*, *Ghustakia* single for Zee Music. Khan has recently opened his new record label where there are many talented artists as well as celebrity singers featuring Salim-Sulaiman, Yasser Desai, Madhur Sharma, Pawandeeep Rajan, and more.

Tupac Mantilla

Grammy® nominated percussionist Túpac Mantilla is considered nowadays one of the leading forces in the contemporary rhythm world, supported by a prolific career that includes appearances, as a performer, in concert halls such as Carnegie Hall, Lincoln and Kennedy Center among many others, and as a lecturer and educator in institutions like Harvard, New York and Stanford University. A native from Colombia (South America), Mantilla is the 2003 First Prize recipient of the Bogota's Philharmonic Orchestra classical soloist competition, and of the Louis Armstrong Jazz Award in 1997 (Pennsylvania, U.S.), and for more than 20 years has collaborated with artists such as Bobby McFerrin, Esperanza Spalding, Savion Glover, Ustad Zakir Hussain, Lisa Fischer and Julian Lage, to name a few.

As the artistic director and founder of the Global Percussion Network PERCUACTION and Colombia's Body Percussion troupe TEKEYÉ, his innovative rhythm and body percussion related methods, books and systems have benefited directly more than 100.000 people around the world since 2010.

In recent years, Mantilla's focus has been centered around his Solo Percussion project, successfully launching two shows: *ONE* (2015), and *Body Songs* (2018), which have featured him in sold-out concerts in Japan, Europe, North and South America. And in 2019 he launched R.I.T.M.O. (Rhythmic Immersion Training for Multidimensional Openness), a holistic learning methodology that helps and serves individuals through rhythm and the use of the body as a musical and evolutionary tool. For more info, visit: www.tupacmantilla.com

Navin Sharma

Navin Sharma was born on Nov. 5, 1975. He was born in Thane District (Ulhasnagar). This Perak-born performer continues to surprise audiences wherever he goes with everything from soothing ballads, to folk and classical. Sharma showed love for music from an early age, and by the age of 12 was taking his first steps as an artist. He learnt dholak from his first guru and father, Shri Shyam Rughuram Sharma. After realizing his desire to study more Indian classical music, his father insisted he learn tabla from maestro Ustaad

Allarakha, with whom he studied for several years. He has performed with Ustad Zakir Hussain in Masters of Percussion since 2007. Navin has performed with many diverse artists over his career, working with jazz, fusion, pop, rock, ghazal and bhajan ensembles.

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See **page 24** of this program for details