

BANGALORE BREAKDOWN

World music w/ Indian, African & Jazz elements

Condensed Biographies - Ensemble Members

PREMIK RUSSELL TUBBS Premik is an accomplished multi-instrumentalist, performs on various flutes, soprano, alto and tenor saxophones, Akai EWI and Yamaha WX7 wind synthesizers, and lap steel guitar. The 2008 schedule had him playing Sting's Rainforest Concert at Carnegie Hall and extensive touring with Boris Grebenshikov beginning in London at the Royal Albert Hall, continuing on to Dublin, Kiev, Milan, Moscow, St. Petersburg, ending the year in Vienna. Premik has worked with Carlos Santana, Whitney Houston, Herbie Hancock, John McLaughlin, Ravi Shankar, Narada Michael Walden, Jean-Luc Ponty, Clarence Clemons, Jackson Browne, Lonnie Liston-Smith, Sting, Billy Joel and James Taylor, to name a few. www.myspace.com/premik www.premik.com

ULI GEISSENDOERFER is a versatile pianist and composer exploring rhythms and melodies across many styles of music, with a special emphasis on Latin and modern jazz and improvisation. He has worked with William Cepeda (awarded a Grammy nomination), Groove Collective, Tito Puente, Giovanni Hidalgo, Blood Sweat & Tears, Leslie Uggams, Cirque du Soleil, Kofo the Wonderman and Ute Lemper. www.ulimusic.com

GINO SITSON is a native of Cameroon and possesses an impressive four octave vocal range. Gino studied at the University of Paris and Sorbonne University. His second album, Song Zin (I Want To Tell You), was nominated for a Kora Award (Africa's Grammy equivalent) and selected by the LA Times as one of the Top 10 Jazz Albums of 2002. <http://www.myspace.com/ginositson>
<http://www.ginositson.com> <http://www.njamy-sitson.com>

BEAT KAESTLI, a Switzerland native, his performances have premiered at Birdland, The Bitter End, BB Kings, and the Bluenote. Beat also toured with Glenn Miller Orchestra to numerous cities across the United States. He has toured the world with the Orange Gospel Tour and produced smashed dance/club hits. <http://www.myspace.com/beatkaestli>

NATHAN PECK, bassist, was born in Ohio, 1977 and began playing professionally at age 15. He can be seen performing in NYC at Knitting Factory, Smoke, Iridium, 55 Bar, Lenox Lounge, Deer Head Inn, Joes Pub, Kenny's Castaways, Arthurs Tavern, Tribeca Rock Club, the Annex, and more. www.myspace.com/nathanpeckmusic www.nathanpeck.com

LJOVA (Lev Zhurbin) was born in 1978 in Moscow, Russia, and moved to New York with his parents in 1990. A graduate of The Juilliard School, he arranges music for Yo-Yo Ma, the Kronos Quartet, Jay-Z and others; and composing original music for film, TV, theatre and the concert stage. www.ljova.com

STEVE SANDBERG is an Emmy-nominated composer, vocalist and keyboardist. He has toured with David Byrne, Bebel Gilberto, and Ruben Blades and inspires children all over the world with his original music for Nickelodeon's Dora the Explorer and Go Diego Go. www.myspace.com/stevesandberg

MATHIAS KUNZLI For five consecutive years Mathias Kunzli was the drummer for the Swiss Youth Jazz Orchestra, a national group that toured Switzerland and Italy.

In 1995, he won two scholarships from Berklee College of Music in Boston and moved overseas. He graduated in December 1998 and has made the United States, New York City, his residence ever since.

His desire and ability to adapt to a wide range of musical situations have enabled Mathias to tour extensively with numerous projects.

As a drummer and percussionist he has had the chance to perform or record with Moby, Lauryn Hill, Yo-Yo Ma Silk Road Project, Airtó Moreira, Flora Purim, Randy Brecker, Bob Berg, Marc Ribot, John Zorn's Electric Masada, Jerry Bergonzi, The Paul Winter Consort, and many others.

<http://www.mathiaskunzli.com/live/>

DIBYARKA CHATTERJEE

<http://www.tabla.org/dc.html> Dibyarka has performed with many imminent classical artists like Smt. Lakshmi Shankar, Pt. Falguni Mitra, Pt. Ramesh Mishra, Pt. Samarendra Sikdar, Smt. Shubhra Guha, Sri Debojyoti Bose, Sri Snehasish Mozumder, Steve Gorn, and with fusion musician/composers like Salman Ahmad (Junoon), Gary Lucas, Najma Akhtar, Douglas Cuomo etc. He has composed music for, and performed in, two off-Broadway theatrical productions. He has also performed in many prestigious venues like the Indian Consulate (NYC), City Center (NYC), Lincoln Center (NYC), Place des Arts (Montreal), the Google Amphitheater (Palo Alto) etc. Since 2006 Dibyarka has been an integral part of Chhandayan, an organization dedicated to the promotion and preservation of Indian Classical music in North America.

TODD ISLER Drummer, teacher and author Todd Isler is based in New York City, where he has been active in the jazz and world music scenes for over 20 years. He has released two original CDs, ³Two Step: Duets and Beyond², and his current ³Soul Drums², as well as his book ³You Can Takadimi This², published by Gerard and Sarzin in 2005. He has appeared on hundreds of recordings He has composed and performed with several modern dance companies around the U.S. In 2008 he toured Japan with Francis Mbappe and also joined Mike Gordon¹'s band (of Phish fame). Todd plays in the New York area with his two bands, ³Toddsquad and ³Secret Stevie².

<http://www.myspace.com/toddisler>

www.toddisler.com

NAREN BUDHAKAR Naren was born in Pune, the cultural capital of western India to a musical family. His father, as a violinist, provided Naren his earliest exposure to Indian classical music. His aesthetic sense allows him to complement his percussion to many different music forms. He has performed with numerous Indian classical and Western artists such as Pundit Jasraj, Krishna Bhatt, Ustad Ashish Khan, Terry Riley, La Monte Young and many others. <http://www.naren.org/new/>

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