



*MFA Mid-Residency Recital
Herb Alpert School of Music*

RADIANCE

Ravi Deo

*March 10th, 2024 at 8 pm
Roy O Disney Theatre
California Institute of the Arts*

Musical Program

Prologue

Ravi Deo, voice

A musical invocation for peace.

Baat

Members of the audience

An audience-driven interactive experimental work investigating Hindustani musical patronage and the participatory role of the audience in performance settings. This iteration of Baat is presented in tandem with the following solo presentation.

Mayur Taal

Ravi Deo, Tabla

*Chirag Dixit**, Sarangi; Binh Tat, Tambora*

Ravi Deo presents a tabla solo in Mayur Taal, a 13-beat time cycle. This solo explores taal through improvisation, theme and variation, and special compositions. Original lehera accompaniment on sarangi in raag Shivranjani.

–Intermission–

** Guest Artist

Chatbot

Visual Presentation

Meet Ragaverse, a Hindustani music chatbot created by Deo in January 2024.

Intangible Improvisation

*Zak Herman, Patrick Matthews-Halmrast,
Clare Marie Nemanich, Ravi Deo*

A unique presentation of free improvisation inspired by the approaches of Tim Feeney and Carmina Escobar

Ignis

Music by Ravi Deo

*Mariana Arroja, Baran Ehsaei, featured vocal
Clare Marie Nemanich, Lioness-Sia, supporting vocal;
Matthew Haramia, mallets*

With flames ascending, where do we go?

Shiva: Themes from SMITE (Video Game)

Music and Lyrics by Ravi Deo

Simone Maura, Violin; Binh Tat, Violin; Erika Duke-Kirkpatrick, Cello; Alex Grant, Bass
Levy Barlevy, Trombone; Sebastian Melendez, French Horn
Michael Ghadban, guitar; Ravi Deo, padhant*

In reverence, we hail Shiva's mighty name,
Ascetic Annihilator, eternal flame.

Timeless nurturer of the cosmic dance,
Whose drumming initiates creation's expanse.

Unformed of the skies, garments woven from ash,
Holder of sun and moon, in cosmic splash.

A deity profound, before celestial birth,
The Great One reigning over heaven, hell, and earth.

*CalArts Faculty

Sombras da Noite

Lyrics and Music by Ravi Deo
Portuguese translation by openai

Mariana Arroja, voice
Erika Duke-Kirkpatrick, cello*

Beneath the moon's melancholy glow,
Nostalgia weaves its somber flow.
In fado's echo, the soul softly pleads,
A heartfelt lament as night proceeds.

Shadows dance in the cloak of the night,
Leaves of the past, in the wind take flight.
Oh, fado, a show of shadows and light,
Passion's embrace, destiny in our sight.

The melancholic tone, a voice profound,
Tales of love lost, in pain, are bound.
On life's stage where fado reveals, Melody
transcends, the soul gently heals.

Let the wind of time tenderly sway, Carry
away sorrows that night may convey.
Fado and thumri, in a tender morrow,
Embrace a brighter, harmonious tomorrow..

Imperial Holiday

Music by Ravi Deo

*Alex Taylor, saxophone; Levy Barlevy, trombone
Jade Dacumos, Piano;
Michael Ghadban, guitar; Alex Grant, Bass
Matthew Haramia, drumset*

Darth and the StormTroopers are taking a tropical bender. Who doesn't need a holiday?

Orange Guru Suit

Music by the Rabbinical School Dropouts

*Alex Taylor, saxophone; Levy Barlevy, trombone
Jade Dacumos, Piano; Michael Ghadban, guitar;
Alex Grant, Bass; Matthew Haramia, drumset;
Ravi Deo, tabla*

Ravi joined forces with like-minded Long Beach and San Diego based artists to form the esoteric space-Klezmer band, the Rabbinical School Dropouts in 1997. Led by brothers Michael and Johnathan Friedman, RSDO performed in a variety of styles drawing largely from Experimental Jazz, Afro-Cuban, Levantine, and Balkan musical forms. Signed with John Zorn's Tzadik Records in 2004. On hiatus since 2012.

Biography

Ravi Deo is an award-winning tabla artist and music composer. He apprenticed in Hindustani music with late Pt. Rameshji Kumar for over 25 years, is well-regarded as a tabla soloist in the Pt Bansilalji parampara, and is appreciated for his collaborative versatility and sensitive accompaniment across several genres.

Deo's informed experiences in ethnomusicology, intercultural performance, and contemporary Hindustani music led him to work as consultant master artist for Nickelodeon Television, record on several music albums, create original music for a variety of performance and video game platforms, guest lecture at Universities and Symphony Orchestras, and rhythmically support artists from musical cultures across the globe.

At CalArts, he is pursuing an MFA in Performance, Composition, and North Indian Music under the guidance of Andrew Grueschow, Tim Feeney, Swapan Chaudhari, Aashish Khan, Nyoman Wenten, and Houman Pourmehdi.

Words of Thanks

My gratitude is always to my guru late Shri Ramesh Kumar, and to my longtime mentors Prof. Abhiman Kaushal, late Dr Gopal Marathe, late Smt Anjani Ambegaokar, and late Mr Andrew Osman.

My gratitude to CalArts faculty mentors Andrew Grueschow, Tim Feeney, Amy Knoles, Swapan Chaudhari, Aashish Khan, Nyoman Wenten, and Houman Pourmehdi for their guidance.

Thank you to my co-artists who inspire me to create and share musical work.

My gratitude to my family.

My gratitude to Binh Tat, Rica Kagawa, Kat Weightman, Jonghoon Ahn, Miranda Cooper, and Genevieve Kraemer.

My gratitude to Anant Shah, and all of tonight's crew.

My gratitude to this wonderful audience!



