

The Harmonic Bridge: Connecting Mediterranean Jazz and Indian Classical Music

"Fusion is not about being stuck in the past. It's about moving forward, taking the best from the past, and mixing it with the best from the present to create something new and exciting."

(Jazz Guitarist, **Al Di Meola**)

World Music is a subgenre of music that includes many traditional and modern musical genres from around the globe. World Music incorporates components from African, Latin, Indian, Middle Eastern, and other musical traditions, giving rise to a distinctive sound that represents the diversity of global music. It encourages awareness and admiration of other cultures by showcasing the heterogeneity of their musical expressions. World music is evolving and inspiring new generations of musicians and listeners alike thanks to an expanding worldwide audience.

Mediterranean jazz and Indian classical music are a musical combination made in heaven. The rich, complicated rhythms of Indian classical music combined with the melodic melodies of the Mediterranean produce a singular and fascinating listening experience. Jazz's mellow and soulful tones combine with Indian classical music's intricate and rich melodies to produce a beautiful fusion that cuts over national boundaries and cultural barriers.

For Immediate Release:

Istituto Italiano di Cultura di Mumbai, The Royal Opera House Mumbai, and Avid Learning present **Jugalbandi: The Crossing - An Evening of World Music Fusion**, a rare evening of musical diversity, where distinct world music styles come together to create something entirely new and original. The improvisational nature of jazz and the emotive power of Indian classical music combine to create a sound that is both captivating and inspiring. The concert will bring together celebrated international artists **Enzo Favata, Giacomo Riggi, Marco Frattini, Bindhumalini Narayanaswamy, Jagadeesh Ramanujam Mudambi, Vedanth Bharadwaj, and Varijashree Venugopal**.

Please read below for more information:

The unconventional multi-instrumentalist **Enzo Favata** introduced a new band to the world stage as part of their 2020 album ***The Crossing***. With **Marco Frattini** on drums and the drum machine, and **Giacomo Riggi** on the vibraphone, they will interpret fresh suggestions and new sound colors. Their jugalbandi with Carnatic music exponents including **Bindhumalini Narayanaswamy** (singer, composer), **Vedanth Bharadwaj** (guitarist), and the young **Varijashree Venugopal** (singer) along with experienced guitarist and composer **Jagadeesh Ramanujam** will create magic on stage.

This fusion serves as a celebration of the variety of world music and a reminder of the ability of music to bring people together from all walks of life. Discover the wonder of this mix of global music and let the beats carry you on an exploration of music as you lose yourself in the fascinating melodies.

Join us as we meld two worlds in seamless harmony for an extraordinary evening of music, culture, and fusion. You definitely won't want to miss this performance!

Where - Royal Opera House, Mama Parmanand Marg, Mumbai – 400 004

When - Saturday, 22nd April 2023

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM – Performance

Tickets - www.insider.in

Press Email: Ayes Shah Dadachanji (ayeshah.avid@gmail.com)

About Performers

Enzo Favata has played with his projects in many prestigious festivals and stages around the world. In 2019 he created a new project **The Crossing**: a quartet that moves freely across various musical languages. The band was immediately successful and has played on various tours in South America, Europe and Asia, giving life to an album awarded by critics and the public.

Marco Frattini is one of the most respected drummers in Italy. His ability to always keep the beat solid and groovy whatever is the genre or style has had him performing at festivals and clubs with artists such as George Garzone, Trilok Gurtu, Randy Bernsen, Javier Giroto, Howard Levy, Karen Asatrian, Ross Stanley, C'mon Tigre, Ron Gallo, Yazz Ahmed and many many others.

Giacomo Riggi is an Italian vibraphone and marimba player who graduated in classical percussions with honours in the high musical education Institute P. Mascagni in Livorno with Master Gionata Faralli's guidance. He also dabbles in singing and composition from "classical" to "jazz" and music for children has travelled the world on tour to Lithuania, Estonia, Finland, Romania, France, Spain, Germany, England, Russia among others.

Bindhumalini Narayanaswamy is a singer and composer. She constantly strives to explore avenues outside of her strict classical roots to play with the pure soul stirring power that music has. won the National Award and Filmfare Award as Best Singer for the songs she created and sang in the film *Nathicharami*.

Vedanth Bharadwaj specializes in singing and playing the songs of saint poets from the Bhakti and Sufi traditions at music festivals in India and across the world. He has formally learnt Carnatic, Hindustani and Western Classical music and is currently a disciple of maestro Ramamoorthy Rao.

Varijashree Venugopal finds her own space and unique language by interspersing different genres of music and merging into various musical cultures, yet retaining the authenticity of her musical roots. She has worked as a composer and songwriter spread across a variety of platforms such as playback singing for films, tele soaps, theatre productions, short films, albums, etc.

Jagadeesh Ramanujam Mudambi is a self-taught guitar player, composer and founder of *MoonArra*, based in Bengaluru. He is an experienced guitarist performing with pop, rock, jazz and fusion ensembles for three decades. He is also the Director of the Bangalore School of Music, heading the Jazz & Contemporary music department.

About Partners

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