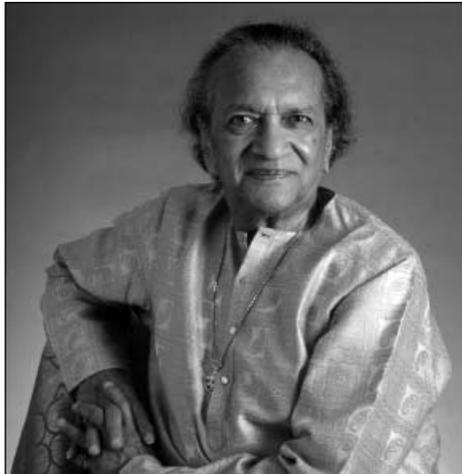


Sunday, May 7, 2006, 7pm
Zellerbach Hall

Festival of India III

featuring

Ravi Shankar, *sitar*



© Vincent Limongelli

and

Anoushka Shankar, *sitar*

with

Tanmoy Bose, *tabla*

Partho Sarothy, *sarod*

Ravichandra Kulur, *flute*

Neyveli S. Radhakrishna, *violin*

Swarnima Gusain, *vocals*

Hari Sivanesan, *veena*

Pirashanna Thevarajah, *percussion*

Sanjeev Shankar, *shehnai*

Aditya Prakash, *vocals*

Kenji Ota, *tanpura*

*This performance is made possible, in part, by the generous support of the members of the
Cal Performances Producers Circle and Friends of Cal Performances.*

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PROGRAM

The first half of this evening's program will feature Ravi Shankar's Festival of India III.

The performance will begin with a *vandana*, an invocation or prayer, to Lord Ganesha, the deity who removes all obstacles and brings good luck; to Saraswati, the goddess of music and all arts; to the Guru or teacher; to all forms of yoga; and finally to the awakening of the ultimate—the Kundalini. This *vandana* was composed in 1974.

The second item will be a *tarana* composed in 1987. *Taranas* are a form of singing with sound syllables that carry no specific meaning. This composition is based on *Raga "Nata Bhairavi"*—in *teental* of 16 beats.

The next piece, *Sandhya Raga*—composed mostly for instruments in 1987—is based on *Raga Yaman Kalyan*.

The final work, *Viraha Milan*, composed in the second week of September 2005, is in semi-classical folk style. This is a thematic composition of Radha experiencing her pangs of separation from her beloved Krishna. Krishna arrives and their union or Milan creates joy and ecstasy.

The first half of this evening will be led and conducted by Anoushka Shankar.

INTERMISSION

The second half of the program will feature the Maestro himself with Anoushka on the *sitar* and Tanmoy Bose on the *tabla*.

Management:
ICM Artists, Ltd.
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Legendary *sitar* virtuoso, composer, teacher and writer, **Ravi Shankar** is India's most esteemed musical ambassador and a singular phenomenon whose artistry crosses all cultural and musical boundaries. A student of the illustrious guru "Baba" Ustad Alaudin Khan, Mr. Shankar was already one of the brightest stars in India before coming to international attention in the 1960s. Since then, he has been the foremost pioneer in disseminating India's rich classical music tradition to the West.

The youngest son of a Bengali family, Ravi Shankar was born in 1920 in Varansi (Benares), the holiest of Indian cities. At the age of 10, he accompanied elder brother Uday Shankar and his company of dancers and musicians to Paris, where the younger Shankar attended school. He spent several years in the West absorbing different kinds of music before returning to India in 1938 to begin his career. He combined his concert performances with his work for All India Radio (1949–1956), where he established the National Chamber Orchestra. As word of his virtuosity spread throughout India, then Europe, Asia and the United States, Mr. Shankar embarked on the most extraordinary international careers in the history of contemporary music.

A prolific and sought-after composer, Ravi Shankar has written numerous works for Western collaborations, in addition to his many traditional ragas and talas. His *Concerto for Sitar and Orchestra* was commissioned and premiered by the London Symphony Orchestra under André Previn. A second *sitar* concerto, *Raga-Mala (A Garland of Ragas)*, was commissioned and premiered by the New York Philharmonic under the direction of Zubin Mehta in 1980. Mr. Shankar's chamber works for *sitar* and other instruments includes violin and *sitar* compositions for the distinguished violinist Yehudi Menuhin and himself, and works for flute virtuoso Jean-Pierre Rampal, *shakuhachi* master Hosan Yamamoto, and *koto* virtuoso Muzumi Miyashita. Mr. Shankar has enjoyed a close relationship with Philip Glass, collaborating with the composer on the 1990 album *Passages* and the recent multi-artist work *Orion*, which opened the 2004 Cultural Olympiad in Greece.

Mr. Shankar has composed extensively for film and ballet. His scores for Satyajit Ray's acclaimed *Apu* trilogy raised film music to a new standard of excellence, and he was nominated for both a

Grammy and Oscar for his original score to *Gandhi*, the Academy Award-winning classic film by Sir Richard Attenborough. He made history on both the British and Indian cultural scenes with the ballet *Ghanashyam*, which he wrote, composed and choreographed.

Ravi Shankar is the recipient of many awards and honors, including the Presidential Padma Vibhushan Award (1980) and the Award of Deshikottam, given by Vishwa Bharati and presented in December 1982 by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. He is an honorary member of the American Academy of the Arts and Letters and recipient of 12 honorary doctorates. In 1986, he became a member of the Rajya Sabha, India's Upper House of Parliament. He is a Fellow of the Sangeet Natak Academy and Founder President of The Research Institute for Music and the Performing Arts.

In 1999, the government of India honored Mr. Shankar by awarding him its highest civilian award, the "Bharat Ratna," or "Jewel of India." In 2000, Mr. Shankar received France's highest civilian award, the "Commandeur de la Légion d'Honneur." In March 2001, the British High Commissioner and Lady Young awarded Ravi Shankar the "Honorary Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire."

Ravi Shankar's extensive discography of more than 60 albums includes Angel Records' 1996 release *In Celebration*, a lavishly documented four-CD retrospective of his greatest recordings issued in honor of his 75th birthday, and the 2001 Angel release *Full Circle, Carnegie Hall 2000*. This was Mr. Shankar's first live-concert recording in nearly two decades, for which he received the Grammy Award for Best World Music Record. Angel/EMI continues to release Mr. Shankar's albums, many of which were previously unavailable on CD.

Mr. Shankar continues to tour each season all over the world. He divides his time between India and the United States, with regular visits to Europe and the Far East. He is the author of three books: *My Music, My Life* (in English), *Rag Anurag* (in Bengali) and *Raga Mala* (in English), an autobiography that was released in 1999.

Ravi Shankar has been named the "Godfather of World Music" by George Harrison and been given the title "Global Ambassador" by the World Economic Forum.

Anoushka Shankar has shown herself to be a unique artist with tremendous talent and understanding of the great musical tradition of India. Anoushka is the only artist in the world to be trained completely by her father and legendary *sitar* virtuoso and composer, Ravi Shankar. She has been playing and studying the *sitar* with him since she was nine, and at age 13 she made her performing debut in New Delhi, India. That same year, Anoushka entered the recording studio for the first time to play on her father's recording, *In Celebration*. Two years later she helped as conductor with her father and dear friend, George Harrison, on the 1997 Angel release, *Chants of India*. Shortly thereafter, she signed an exclusive contract with Angel/EMI Classics. In fall 1998, her first solo recording, *Anoushka*, was released to tremendous critical acclaim. Two albums followed, *Anourag* in 2000 and *Live at Carnegie Hall* in 2001. The latter was nominated for a Grammy Award in the Best World Music Album category, making her the youngest-ever nominee in that category. She also played *sitar* on her father's Grammy Award-winning album *Full Circle: Carnegie Hall 2000*, and has appeared playing *sitar* on several other CDs, including Sting's *Sacred Love*.

Anoushka spent her formative years in London, where she was born in 1981. By the time she was seven, she was also living partly in New Delhi, where she still spends half the year performing and helping to take care of the newly constructed Ravi Shankar Centre. At age 11, she moved from London to Encinitas, California, where she graduated in 1999 with honors from public school. The year 2002 saw the release of *Bapi: The Love of my Life*, a biography she wrote on her father, and Anoushka has also contributed as a writer to several other books. The next year, she acted in her first film, *Dance Like a Man*. She is also a gifted classical pianist and retains a wide range of interests. But her devotion to the *sitar* and to her father's guidance is unmistakable, with a discipline that has led her into an already extraordinary performing career.

In recognition of her artistry and musicianship, the British Parliament presented Anoushka with a House of Commons Shield in 1998. She is the youngest as well as the first female recipient of this high honor. Anoushka became the first woman to perform at The Ramakrishna Centre in Calcutta in February 2000. The Indian Television

Academy, Asmi and *India Times* chose her as one of four Women of the Year in India in 2003. In 2004, Anoushka was chosen as one of 20 Asian Heroes by the Asia edition of *Time* magazine.

Anoushka made her conducting debut at age 19 in New Delhi, conducting a 22-member orchestra in the premiere of a new composition of her father's, entitled *Kalyan*. She later conducted again at the historic *Concert for George* in November 2002. The new composition of her father's, called *Arpan*, featured a guitar solo by Eric Clapton and performances by 43 musicians playing Indian and Western instruments. Before conducting, she also played a *sitar* solo and performed "The Inner Light" with Jeff Lynne.

Anoushka now spends much of the year giving solo performances in Europe, America and Asia, and continues touring the world with her father's ensemble. Anoushka is also championing her father's *Concerto No. 1 for Sitar and Orchestra*, which she first performed with Zubin Mehta conducting the London Philharmonic Orchestra in 1997. She has premiered several new works of her father's, including a piece for *sitar* and cello with legendary cellist Mstislav Rostropovich at the Evian Festival in 1999, "Mood Circle" at the World Economic Forum in New York in 2002, and "Nivedan" at the "Healing the Divide" benefit in New York City in 2003, which was organized by Richard Gere and Philip Glass and attended by His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Anoushka has shared the stage with many of the world's top celebrities, including Sting, Madonna, Nina Simone, Anjelique Kidjo, Herbie Hancock, Elton John, Peter Gabriel and James Taylor, and had the fortune to perform for such personalities as Ray Charles and Prince Charles.

After a year's sabbatical in 2004, Anoushka has returned to the concert stage alone and with her father, but has also grown as a composer. She scored the music for a short film entitled *Ancient Marks*, and recorded her fourth solo album, *Rise*, released in September 2005, featuring several of her new compositions, played by her and many notable musicians around the world. As her solo career continues to blossom, it seems she is poised to carry forward her father's legacy as one of the most creative and influential figures in the music world.

Tanmoy Bose is the fabulous *tabla* player from Kolkata. A favorite of both Ravi Shankar and Anoushka, he has accompanied them for many years. He charms the audience with his stage presence and extraordinary talent.

Partho Sarothy, the extremely talented sarod player has been a disciple of Ravi Shankar for 25 years. Partho has not only accompanied his guru in most of the prestigious halls around the world but has also won the hearts of many as a soloist

Ravichandra Kulur gave his first solo recital at age 12. From then on Ravichandra has emerged on as one of the most sought after flutists from India traveling all over the world for his solo concerts as well as experimental music. Ravichandra has also mastered the art of playing *kanjira*.

Neyveli S. Radhakrishna is an exceptional artist who has developed a unique style of playing violin. He is a seasoned south Indian classical violinist who is working with legendary musicians in the field world music in different parts of the globe.

Swarnima Gusain a gold medalist and recipient of several awards and scholarships is an inspiring classical Indian vocalist. She has also sung on Anoushka Shankar's recent album, *Rise*.

Hari Sivanesan an exceptionally talented young musician started playing the *veena* 14 years ago at the age of nine in London. He also joined Ravi Shankar in the Dartington hall project last year.

Pirashanna Thevarajah is a brilliant percussionist who started learning the *mridangam* at the age of nine. Ten years on, he is now a versatile percussionist who plays both eastern and western percussion and has also performed across Europe, India, Canada and the United States.

Sanjeev Shankar is a young talented artist belonging to a family of *shebnai* players. Also a disciple of Maestro Shankar, he continues the family tradition with aplomb.

Vocalist **Aditya Prakash**, at just 17 years old, has been studying Carnatic music for the last nine years. He goes to India every December to perform in the prestigious music season and was also invited to perform at the Ravi Shankar Center in New Delhi. This is his first major tour.

Kenji Ota is a brilliant guitarist from Japan now living between Los Angeles and New Delhi studying the *sitar* with Ravi Shankar. He has traveled all over America and Europe with Ravi Shankar and Anoushka playing the *tanpura*.