

FOR IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE

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INDIAN *TABLA* VIRTUOSO ZAKIR HUSSAIN BRINGS THE  
**MASTERS OF PERCUSSION**  
TO CAL PERFORMANCES SUNDAY, APRIL 25 AT 7:00 P.M.

**BERKELEY, March 18, 2004** – Renowned *tabla* maestro **Zakir Hussain** and the **Masters of Percussion** present an exhilarating program of classical and folk repertoire from the Hindustani (North Indian) and Carnatic (South Indian) traditions **Sunday, April 25 at 7:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall. Joining Hussain on stage are his brothers **Fazal Qureshi** (*tabla*) and **Taufiq Qureshi** (percussion), **T. H. Vinayakram** (*ghatam*), and **Vijay Chauhan** (folk drums). The program also features special guests **Ustad Sultan Khan** on the *sarangi*, violinists **Ganesh** and **Kumaresh**, and **Manipuri Jagoi Marup**, an ensemble of dancing folk drummers from Manipur.

**PROGRAM**

Under the direction of percussion legend Zakir Hussain, the **Masters of Percussion** program offers audiences an opportunity to experience India's melodic (*raga*) and rhythmic (*tala*) music traditions, as well as dance forms from the north east Indian state of Manipur. The concert features an array of traditional Indian instruments, including *tabla* (tuned North Indian concert drums), *ghatam* (South Indian clay pot), *dholak* (North Indian folk drum), and *sarangi* (vertical bowed instrument). Solos, duets, and ensemble pieces by Hussain and his fellow musicians will explore the territory between Northern and Southern India and traditional and contemporary music styles. The Masters of Percussion tour, an outgrowth of Zakir Hussain's renowned *tabla* duet tours with his father, the legendary Ustad Allarakha, has been presented in the West by Hussain since 1996, and offers a changing line-up of drummers and musicians from India who are both longtime and recent collaborators.

**ARTISTS**

Widely considered one of the chief architects of the contemporary world music movement, *tabla* virtuoso **Zakir Hussain's** contribution to the world concert stage is multi-faceted and unique. The gifted son of *tabla* legend Ustad Allarakha, Hussain began touring at the age of 12, traveling to the United States in 1970 to make his debut as accompanist to Ravi

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Shankar. Since then the lengthy list of career highlights includes historic collaborations with John McLaughlin and Shakti, Planet Drum with Mickey Hart, and recordings and performances with artists as diverse as George Harrison, Joe Henderson, Van Morrison, Airto Moreira, Giovanni Hidalgo, Pharoah Sanders, Billy Cobham, the Hong Kong Symphony and New Orleans Symphony. Hussain composed the soundtracks for the films *In Custody*, *Little Buddha*, and *Everybody Says I'm Fine*, among others, and has been commissioned to compose scores for numerous dance companies, including Alonzo King's Lines Ballet and Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. In 2001, Hussain and pianist Ethan Iverson co-composed the score for *Kolam*, performing the music live with cellist Yo-Yo Ma for the Mark Morris Dance Group at the work's world premiere at Cal Performances, part of Ma's Silk Road Project tour.

In 1992, Hussain founded Moment! Records which features original collaborations in the field of contemporary world music, as well as live concert performances by renowned masters of Indian classical music. Hussain has earned numerous awards throughout his career, among them the Padma Shri and the Padma Bhushan, two of India's highest honors awarded to civilians, and a 2002 Grammy nomination for Best World Music Album for *Saturday Night in Bombay*, an album of material from the ensemble Remember Shakti (Hussain, John McLaughlin, U. Shrinivas and V. Selvaganesh).

**T. H. Vinayakram** is a master of the *ghatam*, renowned for his imaginative and expert drumming. Beginning his concert career at the age of 13, he has displayed his creative genius in various ensembles, most notably Shakti and Planet Drum. In the world of Carnatic music, Vinayakram (nicknamed "Vikku") is renowned for the crispness of his tone and his thorough knowledge of *tala* (rhythm). Currently, he is the founder/principal of Sri Jaya Ganesha Thala Vadya Vidyalaya Percussion School in Chennai and has published two books, *Art of Mridangam* and *Mridanga Pada Bhodhini*.

**Fazal Qureshi** began his training early under the keen eye of his father, Ustad Allarakha. With encouragement and inspiration from his elder brother, Fazal Qureshi has developed a style distinguished by an acute sense of rhythm, versatility and eloquence. He has performed both as a soloist and as an accompanist in prestigious "Sangeet Sammelans" festival in India as well as major festivals abroad.

**Taufiq Qureshi**, Zakir Hussain's youngest brother, is one of the today's most sought-after rhythm programmers and percussionists for studio recordings. Similar to his brothers, his earliest musical influence was his father, Ustad Allarakha. In addition to collaborating with his brother Zakir, Taufiq Qureshi has performed as a percussionist with a host of international luminaries including Jeremy Spencer of Fleetwood Mac, Sivamani, Louis Banks, Pandit Vishwamohan Bhatt, T.H. Vinayakram, Ranjit Barot and others.

**Vijay Chauhan** is master of the *dholki*, a percussion instrument of Maharashtra that has been played in his family for generations. Besides the *dholki*, he plays other percussive folk instruments as the *dholak*, *duff*, *chanda*, *halgi* and *dafali*. He collaborates often with composers of Hindi, Marathi and Tamil film soundtrack material, and has recently toured England and Australia with folk artist Gurdass Mann.

**Ustad Sultan Khan** is one of the foremost *sarangi* players of India, renowned for his extraordinary technical and melodic control over the difficult stringed instrument. In 1974 he joined Beatle George Harrison and sitarist Ravi Shankar's "Dark Horse" tour, and since that time, he has taken his music to concert halls around the globe, gaining increasing popularity among classical and world music audiences. He has a longstanding creative relationship with Zakir Hussain, performing, touring, recording and composing with the *tabla* player for more than 20 years.

Born into a musical family, brothers **Ganesh** and **Kumaresh** received training from their father, Sri Rajagopalan. In 1983, they were recognized by the government of Tamil Nadu as State Artists and other awards soon followed. The two violinists are acclaimed as soloists as well as accompanists to vocalists in the Carnatic tradition, with a dynamic stage presence and a strikingly original style that expresses the beauty and tonality of their instrument.

**Manipuri Jagoi Marup** is one of India's premier performance troupes, combining dance, drumming, and martial arts in its repertoire. Dedicated to the rejuvenation of traditional folk and classical Manipuri dance styles, the ensemble was established in 1963 by the late Guru Padmashri Amubi Singh, and has performed its unique style of athletic choreography all over India and the world.

## TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for Zakir Hussain's **Masters of Percussion** on **Sunday, April 25** at **7:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$22.00, \$30.00** and **\$42.00**. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at [www.calperfs.berkeley.edu](http://www.calperfs.berkeley.edu); and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens and other students receive a \$2 discount, and UC Alumni Association members receive a \$3 discount (Special Events excluded). For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit the Cal Performances web site at [www.calperfs.berkeley.edu](http://www.calperfs.berkeley.edu).

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### CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

#### CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

**Sunday, April 25 at 7:00 p.m.**

**Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus**  
Bancroft Way at Telegraph, Berkeley

*World Stage*

**Zakir Hussain, tabla**

**presents Masters of Percussion**

#### **Program:**

Coming together for a single evening, Zakir Hussain's Masters of Percussion include T. H. Vinayakram (*ghatam*), Vijay Chauhan (folk drums), Fazal Qureshi (*tabla*), Taufiq Qureshi (percussion), Ustad Sultan Khan (*sarangi*), Ganesh and Kumaresh (violins), and Manipuri Jagoi Marup, a folk dancing and drumming troupe from Manipur, India.

**Tickets: \$22.00, \$30.00** and **\$42.00**, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; online at [www.calperfs.berkeley.edu](http://www.calperfs.berkeley.edu); and at the door.

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