

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Year of India

Tabla Master Zakir Hussain
with Rakesh Chaurasia, Bansuri



photo credit: Jim McGuire

Saturday, March 17, 2018 at 8 pm
Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center, Morgan Hall
Ninety-fifth Concert of the 2017-18 Concert Season



Year of
india
2017–2018

program

ZAKIR HUSSAIN, tabla
with RAKESH CHAURASIA, bansuri

The program will be announced from stage.

There will be one twenty minute intermission.

Zakir Hussain and Rakesh Chaurasia Tour 2018

"It is not only a pleasure to accompany Rakesh Chaurasia in concert, but I must say that sitting with him on stage instills a great sense of pride in me. He is one of the new breed of Indian classical musicians who have an admirable grasp of many genres of music. To listen to him and hear his musicality, his point of view and approach to the ancient art form in which he has received his training is really a breath of fresh air. He most certainly is a worthy successor to his uncle, the greatly revered flautist, Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia."

– Zakir Hussain

biographies



Zakir Hussain, the pre-eminent classical tabla virtuoso of our time, is appreciated both in the field of percussion and in the music world at large as an international phenomenon. A national treasure in his native India, he is one of the world's most esteemed and influential musicians, renowned for his genre-defying collaborations.

Widely considered a chief architect of the contemporary world music movement, Zakir's contribution has been unique, with many historic and groundbreaking collaborations, including *Shakti*, *Remember Shakti*, *Masters of Percussion*, the *Diga Rhythm Band*, *Planet Drum*, *Tabla Beat Science*, *Sangam* with Charles Lloyd and Eric Harland, in trio with Bela Fleck and Edgar Meyer and, most recently, with Herbie Hancock. The foremost disciple of his father, the legendary Ustad Allarakha, Zakir was a child prodigy who began his professional career at the age of twelve, touring internationally with great success by the age of eighteen.

As a composer, he has scored music for numerous feature films, major events and productions. He has composed two concertos, and his third, the first-ever concerto for tabla and orchestra, was premiered in India in September, 2015, premiered in Europe and the UK in 2016, and performed in the USA in April, 2017, by the National Symphony Orchestra at Kennedy Center. A Grammy award winner, he is the recipient of countless awards

and honors, including Padma Bhushan, National Heritage Fellowship and *Officier* in France's Order of Arts and Letters. In 2015, he was voted "Best Percussionist" by both the *Downbeat* Critics' Poll and *Modern Drummer's* Reader's Poll.

As an educator, he conducts many workshops and lectures each year, has been in residence at Princeton University and Stanford University, and in 2015, was appointed Regents Lecturer at UC Berkeley. He is the founder and president of Moment Records, an independent record label presenting rare live concert recordings of Indian classical music and world music. Zakir was resident artistic director at SFJazz from 2013 until 2016.

On January 15, 2018, HarperCollins India released Zakir's long-awaited oral memoir, (available on Amazon), *A Life in Music*, by Nasreen Munni Kabir, the distinguished British television producer, director, and author. The *Life* is the result of two years of intensive interviews.



Rakesh Chaurasia, the nephew and child prodigy of flute maestro Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia, has a famous name to live up to. Amongst the promising musicians of the second generation, Rakesh has carved a niche for himself as an accomplished flautist. Infusing his personal style with the tradition of his renowned uncle, he has evolved an approach which maintains the purity of the flute while also managing to capture the attention of young listeners. The most accomplished of his uncle's disciples, he promises to carry the Chaurasia legacy to new heights.

Rakesh's flute has matched note and rhythm with wind instruments of other cultures as well as having performed 'jugalbandi with Carnatic and world famous instrumentalists. Rakesh's forte is in blending his flute without really losing its identity in mixed instruments' concerts. Rakesh has already globe-trotted many times over, enthraling audiences at classical and non-classical concerts. He is also an accomplished studio musician, having recorded with most of the leading stalwarts of the Indian film industry.

Rakesh has been the recipient of numerous awards and accolades. He received the Indian Music Academy Award, presented by the Honourable President of India, Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam in 2007, the Aditya Birla Kalakiran Puraskar in 2008, the Guru Shishya Award in 2011, IWAP-Pandit Jasraj Sangeet Ratna Award in 2013 and the Pannalal Ghosh Puraskar 2013.

Despite his experimental work, Rakesh has never deviated from his main goal of becoming a full-fledged classical musician. He has regularly appeared in prominent festivals such as the WOMAD festival in Athens, Womad Earthstation in Europe, and the 'Festivals of India' in Russia, Japan, the US and Europe. His growing maturity and status has brought him invitations to perform solo at major events within India and abroad, including the Festival of Saint-Denis in Paris and the Leicester International Music Festival in England. Most notably, Rakesh was invited to conclude the twenty-four hour live BBC Radio broadcast celebrating Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's Silver Jubilee, reaching audiences worldwide.

Recently Rakesh toured as a duo for classical concerts as well as for The Masters of Percussion with legendary tabla virtuoso Ustad Zakir Hussain at prestigious venues across the globe. Rakesh has also performed with some international names such as Bela Fleck, Edgar Meyer and Joshua Redman.

Rakesh's most recent venture is his fusion band Rakesh and Friends (RAF) which creates music that appeals to the young without sacrificing the essence of classical music.



about the year of India

The 2017-2018 academic year at Kennesaw State University (KSU) is designated the *Year of India*. For the past 33 years, KSU has dedicated each academic year to the study of a particular country or region introducing thousands of students to the rich diversity of world cultures that make up the human family. The program represents one of KSU's most successful efforts at internationalizing our campus. It offers a unique opportunity for the campus and community to develop a complex understanding of the area under study, to break down stereotypes, and build connections across cultures. Featuring a full calendar of academic and cultural events, the program draws upon the expertise of our faculty to offer special courses, organize lectures and events, engage in collaborative research, partner with Indian universities and community groups, and mentor and assist students interested in learning about India and its place in today's global society.

Highlights of the Year of India include: a special course on Indian Cinema, a course on gender relations in India, a course on the post-colonial literature of India, the Sociology of India and a team-taught interdisciplinary course on India that includes the opportunity for students to travel to India as part of the learning experience. We will also hold an international conference titled, *Envisioning the Future and Understanding the Realities of India's Urban Ecologies*. We encourage everyone to join us throughout this academic year in this fascinating and rewarding educational experience.

For more information visit: dga.kennesaw.edu/yearof/india

DIVISION OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS

The Division of Global Affairs is a multi-departmental organization that spearheads programs designed to connect KSU students to the world, and the world to our students. Each year, this award-winning division leads a comprehensive array of scholarly, educational and service-related global learning programs on behalf of the entire university, while administering hundreds of international studies programs, courses and events. A university experience is about more than teaching students the skills to succeed in their professional lives; it is also about helping them become engaged, responsible global citizens. At the Division of Global Affairs, we believe that exposure to other cultures through programs such as this are a crucial piece of accomplishing these goals.

about the school of music



Welcome to the Bailey Performance Center!

The School of Music at Kennesaw State University is an exciting place! We have a wonderful slate of performances planned for this year's *Signature Series*, and if you have not yet purchased your season tickets, I encourage you to do so as soon as possible. The Atlanta Symphony returns again this year as well as a wonderful slate of other performances.

The Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center is celebrating its 10th Anniversary Season this year. When this building opened in October of 2007, it was transformational for the School of Music and for KSU! It continues to be a jewel in our crown and musicians from around the world love to perform here because of the wonderful acoustic properties of Morgan Hall.

The weekend of October 7th–8th, we had an alumni recital on the 7th and a grand celebration Sunday afternoon October 8th, with full choir and orchestra to celebrate all this Center has meant to us these past 10 years! In honor of the Bailey 10th Anniversary, we officially launched our *Name a Seat Campaign* during our celebration in October. What a wonderful way to honor a loved one or to provide for future programming for Morgan Hall.

I look forward to a long and rewarding relationship with you. With your continued support of music and the arts, I look forward to all that we will accomplish together!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen W. Plate".

Stephen W. Plate, DMA
Director, KSU School of Music

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Please consider a gift to the Kennesaw State University School of Music.

<http://community.kennesaw.edu/GiveToMusic>