

Combining a coming-of-age in southern Virginia with her Maharashtrian heritage, **Manisha Shahane** (pronounced ma-nee-shah sha-hah-nay) takes you on an Imaginary Train ride to Dadar's Shivaji Park in Mumbai and Tupperware parties on Carol Court with her bilingual debut album, *Peace in Progress*. This is no surprise, given that Manisha was born to Indian immigrants and grew up in southern Virginia performing in the Western pop and classical traditions, coupled with appearances in the Indian vein. Her father sometimes accompanied her on tabla, a drum commonly used in North Indian classical music. Influenced by her mother's passion for singing, Manisha started singing at age 6 and began writing songs, poems, and music at age 11, just as she embarked on classical piano studies and singing in school choirs. Her discovery of jazz while singing with the "Virginia Belles" during her college years eventually led her to study with pianist Frank Wilkins and, subsequently, with the esteemed Charlie Banacos, a master of jazz theory and improvisation. With experience in genres ranging from Jazz to Classical to Rock to Indian music to Reggae to Afro-Cuban Armenian Salsa - and her original music - she has worked with musicians such as pianist Vince Evans (Luther Vandross, Dianne Reeves), percussionist Jerry Leake (Ali Akbar Khan, Natraj), bassist Eli Magen (Israeli Philharmonic), drummer Alison Miller (Sheila Jordan, Norah Jones), plus guitarists Kevin Barry (Mary Chapin Carpenter, Paula Cole) and Prasanna (Joe Lovano, Hari Prasad Chaurasia). Following the release of *Peace in Progress*, her shows have garnered audiences in several cities in the US, as well as in Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, and London. After shoveling more than 40 inches of snow following a Boston blizzard, Manisha wisely relocated to sunny Southern California in late 2005 where she is working on her second album. A 2007-08 recipient of the ASCAP Plus Award in the Jazz and Popular Division, Manisha performs regularly as a solo act or with her band. In addition to performing, writing, and recording, Manisha is a teaching artist working primarily in urban settings. She lives in West LA with her husband and stepson. Downloads are available online at iTunes. To buy CDs and for more information, please visit www.ManishaMusic.com.



We divide the perfect sphere of life.
 Young or Old.
 Yankees or Rebels.
 Right brain or Left brain.
 Improvisers or Composers.
 Eastern or Western.
 Samba or Jhaptal.
 Let us meet.

original songs rooted in folk, jazz, classical & Indian traditions
 by Manisha Shahane, voice/piano/frame drum

1. SHYAM RAO-CHI MULGEE

2. FIRST DANCE

3. LULLABY IN RAAG YAMAN

4. MOTHER DON'T CRY

5. INTO THE VALLEY

6. LOVE SHEETS/NACH RE MORA LIVE MIX

7. SOMETHING IN YOUR VOICE

accompanied by
 Mark San Filippo, drums
 Geoff Rakness, upright bass

with special guests
 Sheela Bringi, bansuri (bamboo flute)
 Janice Foy, cello

(Please see reverse side for musician bios)

Bridging Hemispheres

Sponsored by
 the Semel Institute

JOLYON WEST AUDITORIUM
 C LEVEL

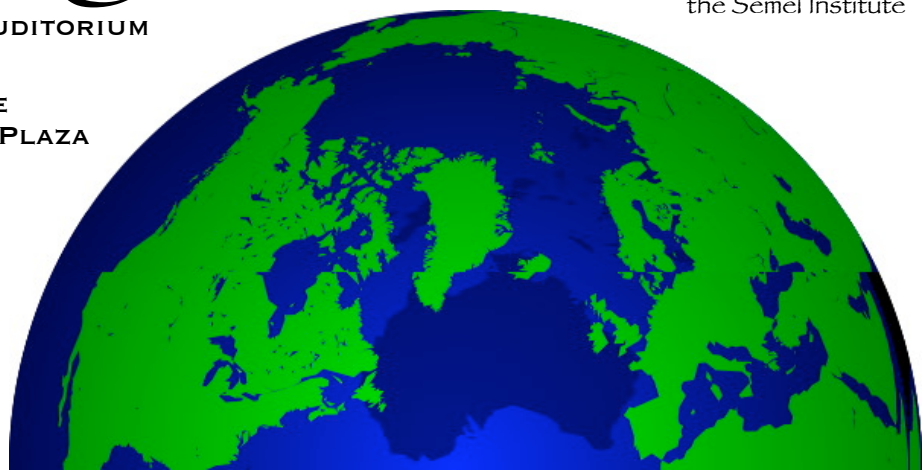
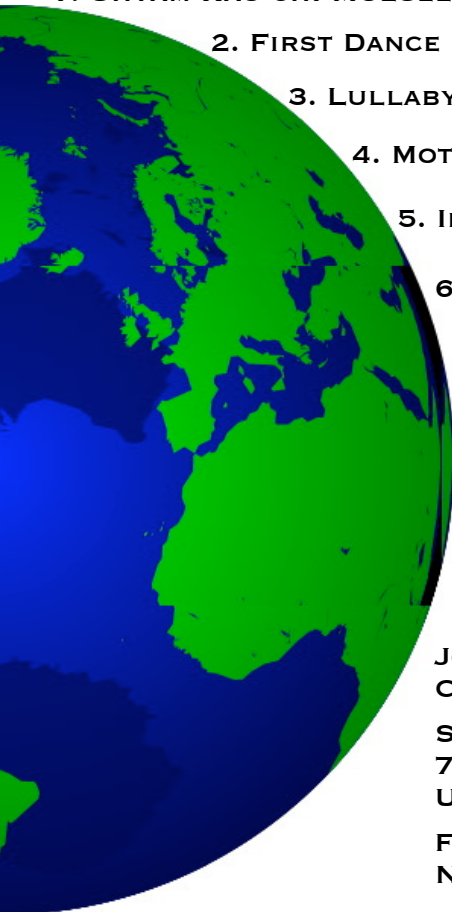
SEMEL INSTITUTE
 760 WESTWOOD PLAZA
 UCLA

FRIDAY NOV 16
 NOON - 1:00PM

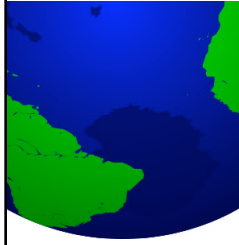
"Anyone can make the simple complicated.
 Creativity is making the complicated simple."

-Charles Mingus

brought to you by Geoff Rakness



Mark San Filippo began studying music at an early age when his parents enrolled him in the first of many years of weekly piano lessons. Drums entered his life when he became a teenager, as he performed with other like-minded musicians, forming bands, writing music, playing gigs, and infuriating his neighbors with raucous band rehearsals. At the same time, he became a member of the Los Angeles Junior Philharmonic Orchestra. He later attended Pasadena City College where he earned an AA Degree with a Concentration in Music. At PCC he studied with famed cornetist Bobby Bradford who introduced Mark to jazz music, and he has been hooked ever since. PCC awarded Mark the Jazz Ensembles Award for Outstanding Contribution. After PCC, Mark transferred to UCLA from which he graduated Summa Cum Laude in 2000 with a degree in Ethnomusicology, Jazz Studies Concentration. Mark received numerous scholarships including the prestigious Gluck Fellows Scholarship. While at UCLA, he felt blessed to study privately with world-renowned drummer Billy Higgins and he learned West African drumming styles from artist-in-residence Cheick Tidiane-Seck from Mali. Leimert Park and late-night sessions at the World Stage were also Mark's teachers. Today Mark performs and records with acts that are as varied as the people who live and work in his hometown of LA. He is inspired by the creativity of each person with whom he has been blessed to work.



Geoff Rakness learned early on to make the most of an opportunity. When he was 13 years old, his next door neighbor gave him her old bass guitar. Geoff secretly *really* wanted a guitar at the time, but he thought the bass would do. It turns out that he never quite found the time to put the bass down in order to go get the guitar he wanted originally. After 17 years of playing bass, he's happy that this instrument found him. We can thank his neighbor.

Geoff plays electric and double bass in different settings ranging from jazz to classical to folk/country to rock. He studied with Roberto Miranda in the Jazz Studies program at UCLA from which he received his BA in Music with a business specialization. While at UCLA, he also studied classical double bass with Paul Zibits. Beyond his studies at UCLA, he has also had the opportunity to study privately with Ray Brown and Chris Hanulick of the LA Philharmonic.

In addition to working with Manisha Shahane, Geoff's current projects include playing with the Richard Glaser Band, Dafni, and Kevin Carlberg. He has appeared with various projects over the years at numerous clubs in Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco, as well as in Austin, Texas.

"Real music is not for wealth, not for honours or even the joys of the mind...
but as a path for realisation and salvation."

-Ali Akbar Khan

brought to you by Sheela Bringi

Sheela Bringi is a multi-instrumentalist and singer from Colorado, whose training spans Indian Classical Music, Jazz, and Contemporary Performance & Improvisation. Sheela has been playing the North Indian Classical Bansuri, or the bamboo flute, for the past ten years and is currently studying under the guidance of master flautist G.S. Sachdev from India. Sheela received her undergraduate degree from Mills College in Oakland in 2006, where she played with the Contemporary Performance Ensemble under Fred Frith, and worked with guest artists including Cecil Taylor, Terry Riley, and Meredith Monk. This fall, Sheela relocated to Valencia, CA, to begin her M.F.A. studies in World Music (with an emphasis in North Indian Music) at the California Institute of the Arts (CalArts). At CalArts, Sheela is deepening her understanding of Indian music with Maestros Aashish Khan and Swapan Chaudhuri, while exploring the intersections of Indian musical traditions with those of Jazz and Contemporary Music. To this end, she recently formed the quartet 'Riyaaz' with fellow CalArts musicians. In all her musical endeavors, Sheela holds a deep reverence for her family, relatives, and ancestors in South India, and the musical and spiritual teachers with whom she has been blessed to study.



Janice Foy is a Montana-born cellist and pianist who shares her gifts through performance and teaching. Called a 'gem of a cello coach' by actor Samuel L. Jackson, she received a special Commendation from City Hall for having championed American music globally, reflecting her goodwill tours abroad, collaborations with Koreans, Croatians, Romanians, Germans, Polonia, and a Command Performance before HRH Prince Bandar bin Sultan. Additionally, Janice has recorded music for & appeared on "Friends", "Seinfeld", & "Alias", consulted for "ER", and served as a guest artist/lecturer on radio stations & college campuses. Her many CDs include arrangements by Doc Severinson's former arranger, Shelly Cohen. She has been the principal cellist in various orchestras, most recently accepting this position in a multi-ethnic orchestra under the leadership of Maestro Jae Kyung Lee. Her many community contributions include promoting after-school string programs and participating in school assembly concerts. She hopes to start a music school for the underserved. Janice earned her BA and MA in Music with Distinction from California State University, Northridge and, in 1990, she received a PhD in music from UCLA, where she specialized in Ethnomusicology. Bravo! L.A. is the umbrella organization for her ensemble projects. While her foray into the jazz world is new, stay tuned for her upcoming programs with Leon Wesley and Bennie Maupin. Visit Bravo-LA.com.