

Chahar Bagh Musical Project

Fourfold Garden Proposal Description

EHSAN MATOORI / RAJIB KARMAKAR

Ehsan Matoori,
an Iranian santoor player and composer, based in CA,
started partnering

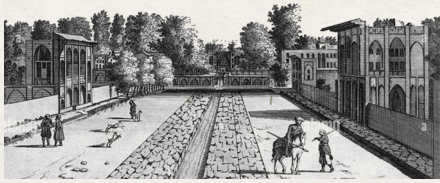
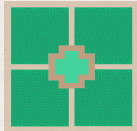
with

Rajib Karmakar,
an accomplished sitar player and composer from India, based in
CA, to create a project that celebrates the shared musical heritage
of Iran and India while drawing inspiration from the symbolic
Chahar Bagh concept.

What is Chahar Bagh

The term "Chahar Bagh" (also spelled as Chaharbagh or Charbagh) originates from Persian and translates to "Four Gardens" or "Fourfold Garden." It refers to a specific type of garden design characterized by a quadrilateral layout divided into four parts or sections.

The Chahar Bagh design has a long history and is commonly associated with Persian and Mughal gardens. It represents a highly structured and balanced approach to design, emphasizing balance and harmony. The concept of Chahar Bagh was introduced in Persia during the Achaemenid Empire (6th to 4th centuries BCE) and later influenced garden design in various parts of the world, including India.



In addition to its aesthetic appeal, Chahar Bagh gardens often hold symbolic and spiritual significance. The four divisions can represent different elements or concepts, such as the four rivers of paradise, the four seasons, or the four stages of life. These gardens are also known for integrating water features, including fountains, pools, and irrigation systems, which contribute to their tranquil and soothing ambiance.

Project Overview

Name of each Garden

GARDEN OF LOVE

Garden of Love:

- We emphasize emotions of love, romance, and connection.
- Our melodies are expressive, tender, and evocative.

Garden of Freedom:

- We focus on evoking a sense of liberation, empowerment, and openness.
- Incorporate energetic rhythms and uplifting melodies.

GARDEN OF FREEDOM

GARDEN OF HUMANITY

Garden of Humanity:

- Capture the essence of unity, compassion, and diversity.
- Integrate elements from different cultures and musical traditions.

Garden of Wisdom:

- Our music reflects contemplation, introspection, and intellectual depth.

GARDEN OF WISDOM

Performance Highlights

Multicultural Collaboration: The performance brings together the Santoor and Sitar, along with percussions representing the rich musical traditions of Iran and India. The collaboration between the two artists exemplifies the harmonious fusion of these cultural heritages.

Note: For each performance, we will invite a guest artist to join us, such as a dancer, instrumentalist, percussionist and or vocalist.



Original Compositions:

Our repertoire includes original compositions blending melodies, rhythms, and improvisations from Iranian and Indian musical traditions. These pieces are specifically crafted to reflect the essence of the Chahar Bagh concept, symbolizing order, balance, and harmony.

Visual Presentation:

To enhance the audience's experience, our performance incorporates visual elements inspired by the Chahar Bagh garden design. These visuals create an immersive atmosphere, complementing the music and adding a captivating visual dimension to the show.



Garden-inspired Music: Each garden within the Chahar Bagh concept inspires our compositions. From the Garden of Love to the Garden of Freedom, Garden of Humanity, and Garden of Wisdom, our music reflects the themes and emotions of each garden, creating a multi-sensory experience for the audience.

Cultural Exchange: Through our performance, we aim to foster cultural exchange and appreciation by introducing your audience to the diverse musical traditions of Iran and India. We will provide insights into the historical and cultural contexts behind the music, creating a deeper understanding and connection with the audience.

Engaging and Interactive Experience: We encourage audience participation and engagement during our performances. This can include brief explanations about the instruments, the cultural significance of the music, and opportunities for Q&A sessions, further enriching the audience's experience.

By incorporating the themes of love, freedom, humanity, and wisdom into our music, we will create a captivating performance that celebrates the cultural heritage of Iran and India while paying homage to the Chahar Bagh concept. Our project promises to leave a lasting impression on your audience, offering a unique and immersive musical experience that intertwines history, art, and culture.

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