



indian classical लपइत इतार इ tabla

workshops and performances



These workshops can be tailored to the needs of various age groups and abilities.

Each workshop covers the fundamental principles of North Indian classical music and demonstrates its application on two of Indian music's foremost instruments

- Sitar and Tabla. Through the use of traditional oral teaching methods, participants will learn a Raga - Indian scale and a Taal - Indian rhythmic time cycle and learn how the two are interwoven to create an Indian Classical music performance.

Discussed and demonstrated within each workshop will be:

Tuning & approach to pitch & scale

Structure of a Raga

Structure of a Taal

Indian music's approaches to composition

Indian music's approaches to improvisation

Application of oral notation - participation through speaking rhythmic syllables & singing melodic scales & melodies.

Please note that due to the fragile nature of the instruments, the instruments are not for "hands on" use by participants. Participation is through the traditional oral methods as described above.

Workshops are particularly effective when combined with a performance.

Participants are then able to experience the music in a live performance context played by professional musicians. This gives a deeper insight into the dialogue between the musicians and their instruments and the ways that the music moves between composed and improvised forms.

Performances can also be followed by a question & answer type discussion session, where participants can ask the musicians about the music, instruments, approaches to performance, practice etc.



Ricky Romain (Sitar) & Jon Sterckx (Tabla) are professional musicians trained in North Indian classical music. They have been regularly performing together since 2001 and have developed a strong performance rapport between them. Their shared understanding and appreciation of North Indian music is always apparent within their performances, as is their mutual enjoyment of each others playing, and of the music being created through their combined playing. Through the sound world of North Indian Rag and Taal, Ricky & Jon's highly engaging and dynamic performances range from slow, meditative, melodies through to fast and highly detailed exciting rhythmic interplay.



Ricky Romain trained in Indian classical music between 1972 and 1977 with Punita Gupta and Bengali sitar player P. Gunguly and has subsequently taught himself to play the Surbahar (bass Sitar). Ricky has performed regularly throughout the West Country and Nationally. He has also been involved in a wide variety of collaborations and recordings with Classical Indian musicians. In addition he has worked with practitioners from other musical and artistic genres including Jazz, Rock, Folk, World and Classical Music, Dance, and Movement. Ricky was a founder member of Jazz fusion group Na-Da and the world fusion band Dhani.



Jon Sterckx studied Tabla both in the UK and in India with several teachers including Harjinder Singh Matharu (UK), Kailash Nishad (India) and Shivanand Bandari (India). He has learned various styles of tabla playing, including techniques and material from the Delhi, Benares and Punjab styles of tabla playing. Jon also has a BA (Hons) Music . He is a versatile percussionist, plays a range of instruments and has worked with a wide range of musical styles and with various bands and fusion groups including Indo Arabic fusion duo Taaliqa and fusion group Dhani.

Recordings of Ricky & Jon online: www.jonsterckx.co.uk/indianclassical.html

Please contact us for booking details, costs, availability etc.

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Quote:

" . . .The brilliant sitar of Ricky Romain in duet with Jon Sterckx's tabla wizardry was a first class example of musicians "playing off" each other, their evident joy never becoming indulgent, and never compromising the aims of the music. . . ." - Colin Sell.