

ALI ASGHAR RAHIMI

Iranian Sufi / mystical music composer, Master (Virtuoso) of the Tanbour and vocalist, former student of Master Seyed Amrollah Shah Ebrahimi and Master Taher Yarveysi, he has been composing, researching, teaching and performing Persian spiritual music and ancient Maghams of Tanbour for almost 25 years.

His mastery of instrumental technique and Persian musical language, his original creativity and the deep knowledge of Magham repertoire have helped him create a new and distinct style in the Persian mystical music by blending emotion and spirituality with innovative techniques of composition and performance.

Rooted in a rich and ancestral heritage, his music - profound, spiritual, compelling, entrancing - draws inspiration from the poetry of great mystical poets Mawlana Jalaluddin Rumi, Omar Khayyam and Ain-al Quzat Hamedani. Skillfully combining ancient Maghams of Tanbour, complex free-flowing melody lines and soul-stirring poems sung in a soft yet powerful and deep vocal style, he creates tapestries of sound, word and emotion that touch the heart and inspire contemplation and meditation.

As a solo artist, accompanied by his Ensembles or joined on stage by some exceptional foreign musicians, he performed in:

- Turkey (Konya) in 2009 (Mawlana's Commemoration Festival)
- UK (London) in 2011
- Nepal (Kathmandu) in 2011 (Osho Tapoban Commemoration Concerts)
- Turkey (Konya) in 2011 (Mawlana's Commemoration Festival)
- Lebanon (Beirut) in 2012
- Romania (Bucharest) in 2013
- Russia (Saint Petersburg) in 2014
- Nepal (Kathmandu) in 2014 (Osho Tapoban Commemoration Concerts)
- Romania (Bucharest & Brasov) in 2017,
- Morocco (Rabat) in 2017 (Visa for Music Festival)
- Romania (Bucharest) in 2018
- Qatar (Doha) in 2018
- Romania (Rasnov & Brasov) in 2018 (Film and Histories Festival #10 FFIR)
- Romania (Cluj Napoca) in 2018 ("Ancestral Dialects" Concert)
- Finland (Helsinki) in 2018 (Sacred Music Festival)

- Romania (Bacau) in 2019 (24th National Symposium of Aesthetics)
- Romania (Bucharest) in 2019 (European Cultural Center for UNESCO)
- Romania (Bucharest) in 2019 ("Ancestral Dialects" Album launching)
- South Africa (The Music Imbizo International Music Conference and Showcase) in 2020
- Romania (Bacau) in 2021 ("7 Letters with self-ignition" Theatrical Production by "George Apostu" International Culture & Art Centre)
- Romania (Rasnov & Brasov) in 2021 (Film and Histories Festival #13 FFIR)
- Romania (Bucharest) in 2021 ("East meets East" Concert)
- Romania (Bacau) in 2021 ("East meets East" International Artistic Residency)

as well as in the most important concert halls and major cultural events (inauguration of the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage Office -Tehran, 2012, 70th anniversary of UNESCO -Tehran, 2014, UNESCO ICCN Meeting -Isfahan, 2014, etc.) in Iran.

"Invisible Fire", "Shams and Tanbour", "Death to Birth", "Sound of Rumi", "Chants of Light" – five of his early year spiritual music projects - have been internationally acclaimed.

"Bangi Ajab" (music, tanbour – Ali Asghar Rahimi, lead vocals – Shahram Nazeri) – a project supported by UNESCO which combines video images of the most beautiful heritage sites in the city of Esfahan with traditional Iranian music – is to be released soon.

"Ancestral Dialects" (music, tanbour, vocals – Ali Asghar Rahimi, seaboard – Mircea Kiraly, cello – Attila J, Szabo, Guest Artist - Actress Elena Ivanca) was released in 2019 and is available for purchase / streaming on all digital music stores (<https://ffm.to/ancestraldialects>)

He made his film debut in 2018 when he composed the music for SIMIN, an Iranian film directed by Morteza Atashzamzam and signed the arrangement and orchestration for the theme song of NIRVANA, an Iranian-Bengali co-production by the same director.

In 2020 he composed the soundtrack for the "[Art & Heritage](#)" documentary series about art, spirituality, sacred spaces UNESCO Heritage Sites in Romania, a project produced by Trinitas TV and supported by Romania National Commission for UNESCO.

In 2021, UK-based Evolution Media Music released DESERTS - ASIA album (<http://evolution.sgl.harvestmedia.net/album/EMM368/EMM368-Wonders-Of-Nature-Deserts-Asia>), part of "Wonders of Nature" production music series, that includes "Nowhere to hide", "Farah and Kavir" and "Rainshadow", three of his songs written and arranged in collaboration with South African composer Nic Paton and musician Ronan Skillen.

He is a Member of the Committee for registration of spiritual music of Iran in UNESCO's World Heritage, Founder & Head of Tanbour Association of Esfahan, Member of the House of Music of Iran, Founder and Music Director of Roohafza Ensemble (1999-2016) and Yasna Ensemble (2016- present), Founder of Yasna Production Co.

For latest news, music and more please visit: **www.aliasgharrahimi.net**