Songs of the Soul A Tribute to Sri Chinmoy's 80th Birth Anniversary

Boris Purushottama GREBENSHIKOV IN CONCERT SEPT. 2nd, 7:30PM

NYU Skirball Center

Featuring Tabla Virtuoso Samir Chatterjee

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www.GrebenshikovConcert.com

NYU SKIRE

As more than 40 years, Sri Chinmoy worked tirelessly for the establishment of tolerance, oneness and peace. His prolific creativity was an expression of his firm realisation that, in essence, each human being is infinite, eternal and immortal. His abundant art, poetry, music and humanitarian initiatives will serve as a source of inspiration for acons to come.

TONIGHT'S CONCERT IS DEDICATIED TO

www.srichinmoy.org

"It is through nusic that the universal feeling of openess can be achieved in the winkling of an eye."

2001

- Sri Chinmoy

Opening Performance by Sahadeva Ensemble

MUSICIA

THE

Sahadeva Torpy of London, England, who studied under Sri Chinmoy's guidance for more than 25 years, brings together talented musicians from around Europe and Canada in the Sahadeva Ensemble. His arrangements of Sri Chinmoy's English songs offer a unique insight into these sacred poems.

Boris Purushottama Grebenshikov

VOCALS/RHYTHM GUITAR

with International Guests

Samir Chatterjee	TABLA
Premik Russell Tubbs	
Dundubhi Dikel	VIOLIN
Nilasha Broughton	VIOLIN
Shamita Achenbach-König	

"There is a great silence inside of everybody, the source of all inspiration, of everything. I always prefer to let music speak for itself and then the human pupper has no further words." - Boris Purushottama Grebenshikov

BORIE PURUSHOTTAMA GREBENSHIKO

The Russian music legend has produced more than 50 albums since the formation of his legendary band Aquarium in 1972. His music over the years has incorporated a range of styles, from folk and blues to translucent acoustics – and includes a host of various ethnic and folklore influences.

As a young student in the Soviet Union, he started experimenting with poetry, music and theatre – merging Eastern philosophies and traditional Russian themes. His big break came in 1980, when he was invited to perform at the Tbilisi Rock Festival. Although his band was officially banned by the State, following the festival his underground profile continued to rise sharply over the next seven years until Perestroika ushered in a new era of opportunity. Boris became the first Russian musician to record in the West.

PURUSHOTTAM

CRUEBENSHIKOV

In Russia he can sell out any stadium. With his smoky tenor voice he continues to 'express the inexpressible' in a lyrical language that has earned him the affectionate title, "Poet Laureate of Russia". When he performs to non-Russian speaking audiences he says, "There are things that are universal enough that every person who listens will perk up their ears."

In 1989 he was the subject of "The Long Way Home," a film by Michael Apted documenting Grebenshikov's struggle to record his album "Radio Silence" with Dave Stewart of Eurythmics.

In February 2006, Grebenshikov met the Indian spiritual teacher Sri Chinmoy, who blessed him with the name Purushottama, which signifies 'the one who is beyond all limitations'. In May 2007, inspired by Sri Chinmoy, Boris Purushottama Grebenshikov performed with his band *Aquarium* to a capacity audience at the Royal Albert Hall.

-NYU SEIRBALL CENTER, SEPTEMBER 2, 2011 ---

From India

SAMIR CHATTERJEE is

NTERNATIONAL

a virtuoso Tabla player from India. He travels widely across the world throughout the year performing in numerous festivals as a soloist or with other outstanding musicians from both Indian and Western musical traditions. Samir performed at the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony in 2007 and a few times at the United Nations. He recently produced a collection of Sri Chinmoy's compositions on an album titled Guru Pranam: The Eternal Songs of Sri Chinmoy.

Samir Chatterjee lives in the New York-New Jersey area, where he has become a catalyst in the fusion of Indian and Western music, performing with Pauline Oliveros, William Parker, Branford Marsalis, Ravi Coltrane, Dave Douglas, Dance Theater of Harlem, the Boston Philharmonic and several other jazz, classical and avant-guarde musicians and ensembles. His compositions are widely acclaimed.

ULE

Samir Chatterjee has been teaching for the last 35 years and many of his students are established performers. He is the Founder-Director of Chhandayan, one of the leading organizations promoting and preserving Indian music and culture in the West. He is the author of two comprehensive books on Indian music entitled 'A Study of Tabla' and 'Music of India'. He is on the faculty at Yale University, the Manhattan School of Music, the University of Pittsburgh and the New School for Jazz and Contemporary Music.

Since June 2008, Samir has been working in Afghanistan helping them in their musical revival.

-BORIS PURUSHOTTAMA GREBENSHIKOV

From the USA

PREMIK RUSSELLTUBBS

is a composer, arranger, producer and an accomplished multi-instrumentalist who lives in New York City. He performs on various flutes, soprano, alto and tenor saxophones, wind synthesizers, and lap steel guitar.

In May of 2008, Premik performed with Sting's Rainforest Foundation Fund benefit concert, 'Some Kinda Legacy', at Carnegie

Hall, followed by extensive touring with Russian legend Purushottama Boris Grebenshikov beginning in London at the Royal Albert Hall, continuing on to Dublin, Kiev, Milan, Moscow, and St. Petersburg, ending the year in Vienna. In 2008, he accompanied both Ravi Shankar and his daughter Anoushka Shankar on tamboura at the Kimmell Center in Philadelphia. On various occasions in 2009, he accompanied contemporary Rabindrasangeet vocalist Rezwana Chowdhury Bannya. May of 2009 brought Premik to California for the Narada Michael Walden Foundation 'Let the Sunshine In' benefit concert. In May of 2010, Premik played at Carnegie Hall in the Rainforest Fund's 21st Birthday Celebration Benefit Concert. In April of 2010, Premik accompanied renowned tabla master Samir Chatterjee in the release of Chatterjee's CD celebrating the music of Sri Chinmoy, *Guru Pranam: The Eternal Songs of Sri Chinmoy*. In November of 2010, Premik recorded with 2010 Grammy nominee vocalist and composer Chandrika Krishnamurthy Tandon.

Premik has worked with Carlos Santana, Whitney Houston, Herbie Hancock, John McLaughlin, Ravi Shankar, Narada Michael Walden, Clarence Clemons, Ornette Coleman, Jackson Browne, Jean-Luc Ponty, Lonnie Liston-Smith, Sting, Billy Joel, and James Taylor, just to name a few. He is equally adept in pop, R&B, jazz, world and experimental genres.

5

From Switzerland

DUNDUBHI DIKEL studied the violin at the Conservatory of Bregenz, and the University of Music Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria. A founding member of the female vocal and instrumental ensemble *Mountain-Silence*, she has toured Europe, America and the Far East. As well as the violin, she also plays the Chinese erhu. Dundubhi currently lives in Zurich, Switzerland.

From Canada

NILASHA BROUGHTON began her musical studies at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto and continued with degrees at McGill University in Montréal and the University of Ottawa. Equally proficient on violin and viola, she has toured with orchestras in Canada, the United States, Japan and Europe. Inspired by the music of Sri Chinmoy, classical chamber music and world music, she has recently been performing in an ensemble which inludes celtic harp, flute, guitar and Indian harmonium. Nilasha resides in Ottawa, Canada.

From Austria

SHAMITA ACHENBACH-KÖNIG lives in Vienna, Austria. She studied cello at the Conservatory of Bregenz, the University of Music Mozarteum in Salzburg and the Vienna Conservatory. She has performed with the Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Vienna Symphony Orchestra and the Vienna Bach Soloists. A member of the female vocal and instrumental ensemble Mountain Silence, she has toured Europe, America and the Far East. In 2005 Shamita set a Guinness World Record at the Impossibility Challenger Games in Munich, playing the cello non-stop for 24 hours.

To My Star

I have a star. It's not her lot The warmth given to us, mere mortals; To us a lamp in cozy home; To her just bitter taste of wine.

SONGE

RESENSATION

To her just bitter pain of burning Where everybody shuns the flame; A small boy says isn't it sad, Look, daddy, look—the star is falling.

I have a star. It's not her lot To tire or look for peace and quiet; She does not know what it means: This peace and quiet; nor does it matter;

Sometimes she'll have a dream at night Of a cozy home untouched by trouble; And then, awake, a star again. And bitter taste of smoke and tea.

Ficus Religiosa

Oh my Ficus, dear Ficus, Ficus Religiosa, Why you're standing alone on the edge of the Earth? Imbeciles-unbelievers tried cutting you down, But just blunted their swords and sadly went home.

Clear sun and moon never go down on you. All around your roots golden rivers do flow, And on the branch that's the highest, two magical birds Never close their eyes, guarding you as you grow.

One is named Eudundoxia and the other Snandulya, They've got feathers of pearl that turn azure at night. Their hearts are of stone, their tears—of iron; And their eyes, oh, those eyes with their ever-changing light.

I have read in a book: when the world becomes evil, When The Saw will be Empress, and Icepick-The King;" They will get off their branch, they will rise into heaven And they'll take me and you safely under their wing.

NYU SKIEBALL CENTER, SEPTEMBER 2, 2011

NYU Skirball Center

The Jack H. Skirball Center for the Performing Arts is the premier venue for the presentation of cultural and performing arts events for New York University and lower Manhattan. Led by executive producer Jay Oliva (President Emeritus, NYU) and senior director Michael Harrington, the programs of the Skirball Center reflect NYU's mission as an international center of scholarship, defined by excellence and innovation and shaped by an intellectually rich and diverse environment. A vital aspect of the Center's mission is to build young adult audiences for the future of live performance. www.skirballcenter.nyu.edu

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The Skirball Center's ability to continue providing affordable ticket prices, presenting high quality and innovative performances, supporting exciting young artists and developing new audiences for the future of live performance relies on the generous support of our friends. Consider making a gift today, become a Friend of the Skirball Center and influence the future of the performing arts. Contributions are welcome through our website or checks made out to 'NYU Skirball Center' can be mailed to 60 Washington Square, Suite 503, NY, NY 10012.

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SONG

BENBLUKOS