

CONCISE PROFILE : TAUFIQ QURESHI

Taufiq Qureshi, an ace percussionist of India, is also an acclaimed composer. **Being the son and disciple of the legendary tabla maestro Ustad Allarakha; Taufiq's performances showcase the traditional flavour and intricacies of Indian rhythm, interwoven with the sparkle of his phenomenal command over contemporary world percussions.**

Taufiq has pioneered and developed a distinct technique of playing the African percussion instrument, Djembe, in the context of Indian rhythmic compositions. It is solely to Taufiq's credit that today the Djembe is making its presence felt on the music and concert scene in India.

He has designed a new language as a bridge to transpose the traditional Tabla repertoire onto this non Indian instrument. His version of the Djembe is inspiring a whole new breed of percussionists in India.

Taufiq's trademark style of using his 'in and out breathe' and incorporating body and vocal percussions, to create unique rhythmic motifs spanning across cultures; has become a trend. His sense of tone and his mastery over a wide variety of percussions adds a unique element to any collaboration and thus enhances a fusion music concert.

Taufiq's albums have been released world over and he has performed at prestigious music festivals all over the globe. **Taufiq has been featured as a performing artiste on the 2009- Grammy award winning album 'Global Drum Project'. Taufiq's album 'Rhydhun' amongst others is said to have set new standards for world music in India way back in the year 2000. He has been a recipient of the "Gold Award for the best Music" at the Cannes Ad-Film Festival and at the London International Festival for some of his exemplary advertisement-jingles. Taufiq has lent a third dimension to many a chartbuster songs and background score tracks of the Indian Film Industry genre of music, by virtue of his inimitable sense of rhythm arrangement and feel for sound.**

This exceptionally versatile percussionist, is the worthy torchbearer of a rich legacy of percussion, being the son and disciple of the legendary Ustad Allarakha and brother of the maestro Ustad Zakir Hussain by whom he has been greatly influenced. Taufiq has been fortunate to have received guidance from Ghatam Vidhwan, Pandit Vikku Vinayakram.

Over the last fifteen years, he has been imparting training to deserving students, some of whom are now making their mark and carrying forward his work.

Today Taufiq is recognized for his path-breaking work, as a performing artiste and as composer/arranger in the field of world music, of taking the nuances of traditional rhythms of India to an alternate form, of world music and offering it to a larger audience following, comprising of all age groups and from different parts of the world.

Taufiq continues to evolve as a musician in the ever-inspiring world of music.

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