

2011-2012
SEASON



music dance theater

Cal Performances

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

Voices of Afghanistan

Featuring The Voice of Kabul & *Rubâb* Virtuoso

Ustad Farida Mahwash

Homayoun Sakhi

The Sakhi Ensemble

Abbos Kosimov, *doyra*

Zmarai Aref, *tabla* & *dohlak*

Khalil Ragheb, *harmonium*

Pervez Sakhi, *tula*



Sat, June 2, 7 pm
Craneway Pavilion
1414 Harbour Way South, Richmond, CA

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Season Sponsor





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Ustad Farida Mahwash's "beautifully expressive voice retains remarkable range, flexibility, and soul-searing intensity. And her spirit continues to soar."

—*The New York Times*

"The passionate mixing of sensual and sacred was uncontainable...these gifted artists left us cheering for the art that endures devastation."

—*Opera News/SF Magazine*

"Fiercely virtuosic" —*San Francisco Chronicle* (of Homayoun Sakhi)

Ustad Farida Mahwash, Afghanistan's best-loved singer joins internationally renowned Afghan composer/*rubâb* master Homayoun Sakhi and his ensemble of luminary musicians to explore their country's rich musical heritage in *Voices of Afghanistan*, a celebration of both the past and future of Afghan music, from the sacred to the secular, and the traditional to the contemporary.

The first woman to be granted the honorific title of Ustad (Maestra), Farida Mahwash is celebrated for her *ghazal* repertoire and her passionate yet refined, powerful, and haunting voice. Forced to flee the turmoil in Afghanistan for Pakistan in 1991, she was finally granted political asylum in the United States by UNHCR.

Brilliant and charismatic virtuoso Homayoun Sakhi is the most outstanding and innovative player of Afghanistan's national instrument, the *rubâb*, earning global acclaim for his soaring technique, melodic flair, and unparalleled style.

In *Voices of Afghanistan*, these gifted musicians kick off their national tour with a partnership formed during their critically acclaimed appearance at Cal Performances' Ojai North! 2011.

Order Online
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