FRIDAYS AT 12:30 SERIES PRESENTS
WESTERN UNIVERSITY PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE
INTERNATIONAL WEEK CELEBRATION
Friday, November 25, 2022
12:30 p.m., Paul Davenport Theatre and via livestream
Dr. Jill Ball, director

Taiko (2000) Scott Harding (b. 1968)
Prayer for Ukraine (1885) Mykola Lysenko (1842-1912)
Mvt. 3 Toccata
Mvt. 6 Scherzo
Mvt. 3 Toccata
Mvt. 6 Scherzo
Arr. Meagan Foster
Summer 2020 (2020) Ritesh Das (b. 1957)
Arr. Hoi Tong Keung
Special Guest Ritesh Das, tabla

Camaleón (1991) Rubén Blades (b. 1948)
Arr. Hevaldo (Fox) Souza
Dr. Denis Jiron, trombone
Seth McNall, trombone
Caroline Blumer Delazaro, vocals
Hevaldo (Fox) Souza, piano

Funding for this concert has been generously provided by the
Jeffrey Distinguished Visitors Fund and the Don Wright Faculty of Music Undergraduate Gift Fund

Please join us for Voice Fridays’ annual International Week concert Songs of Many Lands, immediately following this performance at 1:30pm in von Kuster Hall. International Week at Western is held annually as a campus-wide celebration of all things international.

WESTERN UNIVERSITY PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE
Ryan Breen Mathew Cinquina Jacob Conrad Liam Fischer Meagan Foster Max Harris Quinn Jamieson William Kim Isaac Lee Adela Li Patrick Linardic Liam Lund Charles Peters Sofia Pompe Manuel Tho
Ritesh Das was born in Kolkata, India to parents Nrityacharya Prohlad Das and Smt. Nilima Das. He is the brother of the late kathak dancer, Pandit Chitresh Das. His parents had a music and dance academy, Nritya Bharati, the first of its kind in Kolkata after the Independence of India. Growing up in this environment allowed him immediate exposure to music and tabla at a young age. His musical studies began in 1972, studying vocals with T.L. Rana, sitar with M.D. Mullick, and finally settling on tabla with Pandit Shankar Ghosh.

When Das was 22-years-old, he moved to Los Angeles, CA to perform as a musician in the AMAN Folk Ensemble. In 1985, Das moved to Toronto where he began teaching tabla on a full-time basis. In 1991, he formed the Toronto Tabla Ensemble, made up of his students at the time. Along with the ensemble, he has toured Canada many times as well as touring Australia and Europe. Das along with TTE have performed at numerous jazz and folk festivals, and have also appeared on CBC and other News Network and Much Music. His album, Firedance, received a nomination for the Juno Award for Best Global Album. Along with the Ensemble, Das has released seven CDs and is currently composing music for the eighth. He has composed pieces for documentaries, commercials and dance choreography.

In 2016 he was awarded the Roy Thomson Hall Award of Recognition through Toronto Arts Foundation.

Das is the director of the Toronto Tabla Ensemble School of Tabla, with teaching locations in Toronto and London, Ontario. His classes are designed to produce professional tabla players, as many of his students have become. Das recently launched the first Toronto Tabla Youth Ensemble featuring young artists between 8 and 15 years of age who he continues to train.

**TRANSLATION**

What’s up, Chameleon?
¿Qué es lo que pasa, Camaleón?

Calm the envy you have for me.
Calma la envidia que me tienes

Though you change color,
Aunque tú cambies de color

I always know where you come from.
Yo siempre sé por dónde vienes

I know you, Chameleon.
Yo te conozco, Camaleón

The thing that’s driving you crazy,
Lo que te está volviendo loco

is that you’ve seen, little by little,
es que tú has visto, poco a poco

that your evil does not hurt me.
qued maldad no me hace daño

That I am stronger every year,
Que estoy más fuerte cada año

that is what is breaking your coconut (head),
Eso te está rompiendo el coco

What’s up, Chameleon?
¿Qué es lo que pasa, Camaleón?

That you see that your evil does not hurt me.
Que tú ves que tu maldad no me hace daño

What’s up, Chameleon?
¿Qué es lo que pasa, Camaleón?

That even if you try to stop me, I stay strong every year.
Que aunque tú trates de pararme, sigo fuerte cada año

What’s up, Chameleon?
¿Qué es lo que pasa, Camaleón?

I live, live, live from the truth and you eat from deception
Yo vivo, vivo, vivo de la verdad y tú comiendo del engaño