WESTERN UNIVERSITY PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE
Friday, November 25, 2022
7:30 p.m., Paul Davenport Theatre
Dr. Jill Ball, director

Taiko (2000)

Scott Harding
(b. 1968)

Prayer for Ukraine (1885)

Mykola Lysenko
(1842-1912)

Suite on Ukrainian Themes, Op. 2 (1869)
Mvt. 3 Toccata
Mvt. 6 Scherzo

Mykola Lysenko
(1842-1912)
Arr. Meagan Foster

Summer 2020 (2020)

Ritesh Das
(b. 1957)
Arr. Hoi Tong Keung

Special Guest Ritesh Das, tabla

Mambo #5 (1949)

Dámaso Pérez Prado
(1916-1989)

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

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 Thomas
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?

Eso te está rompiendo el coco

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

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

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

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

I know you, Chameleon.  
Yo te conozco, Camaleón

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

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

That is what is breaking your coconut (head),

Que estoy más fuerte cada año