

Hemispheres 09
Modern Journeys
in Global Sounds



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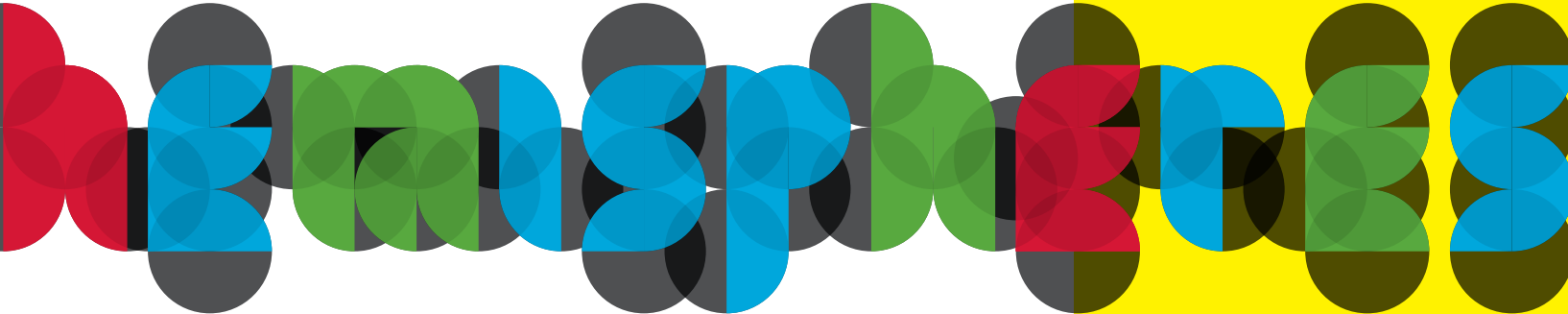
By contributing to Sydney Opera House's Annual Giving Program you can help us to bring outstanding world music to our stages. Your donation will ensure that the ticket prices for these performances are as accessible as possible. Please contact the Philanthropy team for further information: (02) 9250 7077 or visit our website: sydneyoperahouse.com/give

Welcome to Hemispheres

Hemispheres is a collection of extraordinary music coming to Sydney Opera House from all parts of the world. The full program presents artists who often verge on the legendary in their own cultures, and may be revelations to Australian audiences. As well, the program brims with virtuosity in styles and instruments that are not part of the mainstream. The world is full of fantastic music and Hemispheres will transport you to the most exotic sounds on the planet.

In 2009, our exciting program includes artists from both hemispheres, including Cuba, Tunisia, China, New Zealand, Germany, Mali and more. We encourage you to come and experience this world of great music.

Philip Rolfe
Associate Director & Acting Head of Music



How to Book

SAVE WITH MULTIPACKS

Buy two or more shows and save 15%

Tickets are strictly limited and must be purchased in the same transaction. Multipacks are available on full-price A & B-reserve tickets only. Not available for purchase online.

WIN HUNGERFORD HILL WINES

Book early to win!

Book a Multipack by 31 January and go in the draw to win two cases of Premium Wine courtesy of Sydney Opera House Wine Partner, Hungerford Hill.

Total Prize value \$500. Entries will be drawn 5 February. (LTPM/08/00739)

TO BOOK

02 9250 7777

sydneyoperahouse.com/hemispheres

All prices quoted are inclusive of GST where applicable. Booking fees may apply. No refunds, except as outlined in the Code Of Practice for Event Ticketing in Australia. Details correct at time of printing (12 Dec 2008). Program may be subject to change.

Calendar

8 MARCH
CONCERT HALL

Sa Dingding (CHINA)
A unique blend of traditional Chinese folk music and western electronica.

9 MARCH
CONCERT HALL

Roberto Fonseca (CUBA)
The prodigious Buena Vista Social Club pianist.

13-15 MARCH
THE STUDIO

Rasa Unmasked (MALAYSIA & AUSTRALIA)
A bold new contemporary dance work with a captivating live score.

22 MARCH
THE STUDIO

Dhafer Youssef (TUNISIA)
A collaboration of global sounds; Arabic oud, Japanese percussion, piano and double bass.

5 APRIL
CONCERT HALL

Rita (ISRAEL)
Original contemporary songs that transcend ethnicity and culture.

12 APRIL
CONCERT HALL

Angelique Kidjo (BENIN) & **Ayo** (GERMANY)
Two shining stars of global music.

13 APRIL
CONCERT HALL

Tinariwen (MALI) & **Te Vaka** (NEW ZEALAND)
Saharan desert blues and pan Pacific grooves.





Sydney Opera House and WOMADelaide present

Sa Dingding

China's Sa Dingding takes to the stage alongside 21st century DJs, martial artists and oriental dancers.

Singing in Mandarin, Sanskrit, Tibetan and an entirely self-created language, Dingding's haunting vocals bring to mind the simply unforgettable beauty of Chinese tradition, alongside smoky lo-fi electronica.

Sa Dingding has sold over 2 million albums worldwide and is the 2008 winner of the BBC Radio 3 World Music Award (Asia).

"Imagine Björk and Massive Attack let loose on the score to *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*." THE AUSTRALIAN

"A young contender for global stardom." THE GUARDIAN

DATE

8 MARCH, 8PM

VENUE

CONCERT HALL

TICKETS

\$49 - \$99

SAVE 15% WITH MULTIPACKS



Roberto Fonseca

A new musical colossus from Cuba

Roberto Fonseca is one of the most talented and charismatic young musicians to emerge from Cuba in recent times. Drawing on his work as pianist with Buena Vista Social Club (having succeeded the legendary Ruben Gonzalez) Fonseca possesses a unique percussive style and his compositions draw on his Afro-Cuban heritage and a deep love of jazz, funk and soul.

He's toured the world as pianist with Cuban legends Omara Portuondo, and the late Ibrahim Ferrer and makes his Sydney debut as bandleader with his quintet in a stunning stage show that recharges the Cuban tradition.

"A genre-busting tour de force... the lyricism of his playing recalls Herbie Hancock." THE OBSERVER

"Another prodigiously accomplished pianist from Cuba." HERALD GLASGOW

DATE

9 MARCH, 8PM

VENUE

CONCERT HALL

TICKETS

\$49 - \$89

SAVE 15% WITH MULTIPACKS

Presented in association with Lingalayam Dance Company
and Sutra Dance Theatre

Rasa Unmasked

Rasa Unmasked brings the Asian diaspora's leading talents together for a bold, vibrant and sensuous new contemporary dance work performed with a dramatic live score.

Choreographed by Australia's Anandavalli and Lingalayam Dance Company in collaboration with Malaysia's Ramli Ibrahim and Sutra Dance Theatre, Rasa Unmasked explores the nine key sentiments of rasa: sringara (love), veera (heroism or valour), karuna (compassion), adbhuta (wonderment), hasya (mirth and laughter), bhaya (terror), bibhatsa (disgust), raudra (anger) and shanta (serenity).

The soundscape – performed by three musicians live on stage – incorporates the Javanese gamelan, Carnatic Indian vocals, and percussion; underpinning a compelling dance work that offers you a universal vision of humanity's contemporary, emotional landscape.

“The depth of understanding and interpretation was powerful and affecting.”

THE AUSTRALIAN ION THE COURTESAN'S DAUGHTER IN 2001

DATES
13 – 15 MARCH

TIMES
**FRIDAY & SATURDAY
8:15PM, SUNDAY 5PM**

VENUE
THE STUDIO

TICKETS
**\$35/ \$30 CONCESSION
SAVE 15% WITH MULTIPACKS**

malaysia @
australia



Dhafer Youssef

Dhafer Youssef is a remarkable vocal talent, and masterful Oud player. He returns to The Studio to perform another captivating collaboration of global sounds – this time accompanied by the very gifted 2006 Thelonious Monk Piano Competition Award-winner Tigran Hamasian, Japanese drummer, percussionist and electronic artist Satoshi Takeishi, and Christopher Jennings on bass.

Dhafer Youssef's live performances are incomparable. Those who were lucky enough to catch him in his sold-out 2007 concert wrote of "perpetual chills" (jazzscene), and a "spine-tingling performance" (The Australian). Wrap yourself in a sweeping silk curtain of Arabic music and be transported, in time, place and spirit with "The most glorious affect of cultural globalisation you're likely to hear" (fineMUSIC Magazine).

"The kind of gig you watched and prayed would never end, charged with such magic that you knew you would be telling people about it in years to come." STRAIGHT NO CHASER

DATE

22 MARCH, 5PM & 7:30PM

VENUE

THE STUDIO

TICKETS

\$40/ \$38 CONCESSION
SAVE 15% WITH MULTIPACKS

Presented in association with One Entertainment

Rita

A legend in her homeland, Rita's most recent album sold 40,000 units in the first two weeks and her last tour of Israel sold more than 100,000 tickets.

Rita combines Middle Eastern sounds and distinctive Persian rhythms to create emotive and powerful contemporary ballads that have won her millions of fans worldwide. Lushly backed by her band of six musicians, Rita will sing her greatest hits and songs from her latest platinum selling album *Remazim*.

Don't miss this opportunity to hear Israel's greatest diva, in an exclusive and intimate concert experience.

DATE

5 APRIL, 8PM

VENUE

CONCERT HALL

TICKETS

\$49 – \$120

SAVE 15% WITH MULTIPACKS

A large, stylized graphic of the word "ISRAEL" in a bold, sans-serif font. The letters are filled with a vibrant pink color and feature a pattern of overlapping circles in shades of pink and grey, creating a modern, artistic look. The graphic is positioned at the bottom of the page, partially overlapping the black and white photograph of Rita.

Presented in association with BluesFest

Angelique Kidjo & Ayo

An exciting double bill with two stars of global music.

Legendary world music icon, 2008 Grammy-award winner, UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador, and commonly known as ‘The Diva from Benin’ – Angelique Kidjo has done more to popularise African music than any of her contemporaries during her 20-year career.

Angelique Kidjo and her 8-piece band will deliver a hi-energy performance of Afro-funk, salsa, reggae, gospel and jazz.

Ayo, is the latest musical sensation from Europe. Born in Germany, of Nigerian and Gypsy heritage, Ayo’s gentle reggae folk roots, and soul-stirring grooves have captivated European audiences. Her new album *Gravity At Last* topped the French charts in 2008.

**“Kidjo seizes your attention
and then keeps you riveted.”** USA TODAY

**“[Ayo’s] voice is airily soulful – Sade inevitably crops up in
comparison –and she works against an acoustic backdrop
that feels both effortless and focused.”** NEW YORK TIMES

DATE
12 APRIL, 8PM

VENUE
CONCERT HALL

TICKETS
\$49 – \$120
SAVE 15% WITH MULTIPACKS

BENIN

GERMANY



maori

NEW ZEALAND

Tinariwen & Te Vaka

This phenomenal double-bill takes you from the desert to the ocean. Two Bands. Two continents. One sensational night of music.

Tinariwen are the kings and queens of Saharan desert blues and they've taken the music world by storm. Their rolling, yearning grooves and uncompromising messages of simplicity and freedom, distilled over twenty years of struggle, rebellion and exile, have earned them two BBC World Music Award nominations, countless accolades and citations and the enduring respect of their own people.

"[Tinariwen] sounds thrillingly unlike anything else on the planet." Q MAGAZINE, UK

Te Vaka capture the infectious rhythms of Polynesia, creating a powerful pan Pacific groove. On stage they deliver an exciting show of music and dance, drum-driven rhythms, body percussion and traditional Maori, Samoan and Tokelauan sounds, on a journey to the Pacific Islands and into the heart of Polynesia.

"One of the most dynamic live experiences I have ever witnessed." THE GUARDIAN, UK

DATE
13 APRIL, 8PM

VENUE
CONCERT HALL

TICKETS
\$49 - \$89
SAVE 15% WITH MULTIPACKS
