

MEKAAL HASAN

PRESENTS

The Night of Song

A TRIBUTE TO NUSRAT FATEH ALI KHAN

The 1996 masterpiece Night Song performed live, reimagined for a new generation

WATCH THE HIGHLIGHT REEL

IN COLLABORATION WITH THE AGA KHAN MUSEUM

CANADA + UNITED STATES | CONCERT TOUR 2027

ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT

THE PROJECT

One album. One legacy.
A live tribute across North America.

The Night of Song is a live concert series paying tribute to the legendary Pakistani vocalist and composer Ustad Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, created and produced by Mekaal Hasan in collaboration with the Aga Khan Museum.

The performance presents the classic 1996 record Night Song, produced by Michael Brook for Peter Gabriel's Real World Records, performed live in its entirety and reimagined through Mekaal Hasan's signature blend of South Asian classical tradition and contemporary ensemble arrangement.

This is not a qawwali-only presentation. It is a full band reimagining of the album, with qawwali woven in as a featured color, honouring the source while speaking to international audiences.



Shahzad Ali Khan performing The Night of Song, Lahore

1996
THE ORIGINAL NIGHT SONG ALBUM

8
MUSICIANS ON STAGE

2027
NORTH AMERICA CONCERT TOUR

2
COUNTRIES, CANADA + USA

THE INSPIRATION

Why Night Song, why now

Released in 1996 on Real World Records, Night Song paired Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan's transcendent voice with Michael Brook's atmospheric production, creating one of the most influential cross-cultural records ever made and carrying Sufi devotional music to listeners far beyond South Asia.

Nearly three decades on, Mekaal Hasan returns to this material as producer and guitarist, asking what these songs sound like when performed live by musicians raised in the tradition Nusrat carried, and shaped by everything his legacy made possible.

A documentary on the life and music of Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan accompanies the concert series, framing each performance in the story of the man himself.

WATCH: THE NFAK DOCUMENTARY



Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan with producer Michael Brook

> *I don't want perfect. Perfect is boring.*
>
> MEKAAL HASAN, THIS BEING HUMAN, THE AGA KHAN MUSEUM PODCAST READ

THE SHOW

The album, alive on stage



The Night of Song performed live in Lahore

The show has already been created, produced, recorded and mixed by Mekaal Hasan, and performed before live audiences in Lahore. What tours North America in 2027 is a proven production, not a concept.

- Full live presentation of the Night Song album
- Eight-piece ensemble: band, qawwali voices and flute
- Qawwali featured as an accent, not the whole evening
- Documentary screening component available per venue
- Filmed, mixed and published performances as proof of show

> *A perfect blend of qawwali and progressive rock that highlights each artist's mastery.*
>
> DAWN, THE ICON INTERVIEW, 2026 READ

PRESENTED ACROSS CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES BY THE AGA KHAN MUSEUM

Created and produced by Mekaal Hasan in collaboration with the Aga Khan Museum, the 2027 tour celebrates the memory of Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan for audiences across North America.

THE LINEUP

Mekaal Hasan and the performers



Mekaal Hasan, guitarist and producer

Conceptual direction, production and guitar by Mekaal Hasan. The touring ensemble is the same lineup heard on the published performances, with select Canadian performers joining per city.

- **Mekaal Hasan** — GUITAR
- **Mohd Ahsan** — FLUTE
- **Sameer Ahmed** — BASS
- **Farhan Abbas** — BACKING VOCALS
- **Shahzad Ali Khan** — LEAD VOCALS
- **Awais Shabbir** — DRUMS
- **Karam Shahbaz** — BACKING VOCALS / HARMONIUM
- **Ali Hassan** — TABLA







WATCH THE NIGHT OF SONG

The full performance, published and public

Every song below has been filmed, mixed and released on Mekaal Hasan's official YouTube channel. Click any title to watch.

OFFICIAL HIGHLIGHT REEL

The Night of Song in two minutes, the fastest way to experience the show

WATCH NOW



Ni Saiyon

WATCH ON YOUTUBE



Tere Bin

WATCH ON YOUTUBE



Sun Yaara

WATCH ON YOUTUBE



Shaman Paiyan

WATCH ON YOUTUBE



Tu Mera Dil

WATCH ON YOUTUBE



Sanson Ki Mala

WATCH ON YOUTUBE

CROSS-CULTURAL COLLABORATION

A local guest artist in every city

At each tour stop, The Night of Song invites a leading musician from that city to feature on one song, making every performance a one-night cultural exchange between Pakistan's living tradition and the local scene.

The model is proven. Jim Creeggan of Barenaked Ladies has already performed and recorded with Mekaal Hasan and Shahzad Ali Khan, and those collaborations have drawn strong audience response online. For Toronto, the invitation is his.

JIM CREEGGAN x MEKAAL HASAN, RECORDED COLLABORATIONS

COLLABORATION HIGHLIGHTS

WATCH FULL COLLABORATION



Mekaal Hasan performing with Canadian musicians



ALSO FEATURED

Mekaal Hasan in conversation with the Aga Khan Museum, on the project and the legacy of Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan.

LISTEN: AGA KHAN MUSEUM PODCAST

MEDIA & PRESS

Covered where it counts

Featured across leading national and international press, broadcast and podcast platforms. Click any entry to read, watch or listen.

THE AGA KHAN MUSEUM

THIS BEING HUMAN PODCAST, OFFICIAL MUSEUM SERIES

Music: A Language We All Speak with Mekaal Hasan, a dedicated segment on honouring Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan.

OPEN

DAWN

THE ICON INTERVIEW, 2026

The Evolution of Mekaal Hasan, a career retrospective on the progressive rock tribute to Night Song.

OPEN

THE NEWS INTERNATIONAL

INSTEP, 2024

The man who should be king, Mekaal on building a Pakistani archive and the NFAK tribute with the Aga Khan Museum.

OPEN

THE NEWS INTERNATIONAL

INSTEP, 2024

Mekaal Hasan Band honors Ustad Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan with multiple concerts.

OPEN

THE PAKISTAN EXPERIENCE

PODCAST, EPISODE 419

A two-hour conversation on Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, qawwali and the process of making music.

OPEN

MEKAAL HASAN OFFICIAL

BEHIND THE SCENES

Making of The Night of Song, the creative process and arrangements behind the tribute.

OPEN

> *Today, Hasan leads Pakistan's most respected rock group.*

NPR, MORNING EDITION

READ

> *A major influence on the rock scene worldwide.*

MARK LEVINE, IN ROLLING STONE INDIA

READ

THE 2027 TOUR

Canada and the United States, presented with the Aga Khan Museum

The concert tour is presented by the Aga Khan Museum across North America in 2027, celebrating the memory of Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan. Dates and cities are in planning with the Museum and partner venues and presenters.

Museums, performing arts centres, festivals and cultural presenters interested in hosting The Night of Song, or in supporting the tour, are invited to connect through the Aga Khan Museum or directly with Mekaal Hasan's team.

AGA KHAN MUSEUM, JOIN AND SUPPORT

AGAKHANMUSEUM.ORG

> *This project is a love letter to the great Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan.*
>
> MEKAAL HASAN, THE NEWS INTERNATIONAL

READ

ABOUT MEKAAL HASAN

Producer. Guitarist. Bridge between worlds.

Mekaal Hasan is an internationally acclaimed composer, producer and guitarist, renowned for pioneering a distinctive musical language that bridges South Asian classical and Sufi traditions with jazz, progressive rock and contemporary world music. His work has earned recognition as one of the defining voices in modern cross-cultural music from the region.

A graduate of Berklee College of Music and the first Pakistani musician admitted to the institution, Mekaal founded Digital Fidelity Studios in 1997 and the Mekaal Hasan Band in 2001. Through both, he has played an influential role in shaping Pakistan's independent music landscape, producing and engineering recordings for many of the country's most celebrated artists while developing a bold, technically accomplished approach to contemporary fusion.

Mekaal's music has reached audiences across Pakistan, India, North America and beyond, with appearances at SXSW in Austin, the South Asian Bands Festival in Delhi, Dhaka Folk Festival, Mosaic Festival in Canada and the Sufi Peace Concert at Union Square in New York. His work has been featured by NPR and documented in the books Heavy Metal Islam and We'll Play Till We Die by Mark LeVine, as well as Rockistan by Tayyab Khalil. He also founded a pioneering cross-border Indo-Pak ensemble whose lineup was featured on Coke Studio, reinforcing his enduring commitment to musical exchange beyond borders.

RECOGNITION

- First Pakistani musician admitted to Berklee College of Music, Boston
- Widely regarded as a pioneer of contemporary South Asian fusion music
- Internationally acclaimed for bridging Eastern traditions with Western jazz, rock and contemporary production
- Featured by NPR and recognised internationally for his contribution to cross-cultural music
- Founder of Digital Fidelity Studios and the Mekaal Hasan Band, helping shape modern Pakistani independent music
- Featured subject of three published books: Heavy Metal Islam and We'll Play Till We Die by Mark LeVine, and Rockistan by Tayyab Khalil
- Headline performances at SXSW Austin, South Asian Bands Festival Delhi, Dhaka Folk Festival, Mosaic Festival Canada and the Sufi Peace Concert at Union Square, New York
- Founder of the first cross-border Indo-Pak group, with the lineup featured on Coke Studio

STAGE FORMATION

The Night of Song on stage

Standard stage plot for the eight-piece ensemble, shown from the audience perspective. Full technical rider available on request.



MEKAAL HASAN

THE NIGHT OF SONG

A TRIBUTE TO NUSRAT FATEH ALI KHAN

SCAN FOR ALL LINKS

CONTACT AND BOOKING

Let's bring the night to your city

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