

## **SITAR MAESTRO: USTAD NISHAT KHAN**

### **A rare UK performance by one of the most exciting players of India**

The *sitar* is the instrument that first comes to mind when talking about Indian music and Ravi Shankar is the first name that comes to mind. Over time, as audiences have acquired more knowledge about the variety and unrivalled artistry of Indian music and musicians – so different styles and more musicians have been acknowledged. Singing has always been considered as the basis for all Indian music. The style of *sitar* playing that is most closely associated with singing was developed and highly refined by that great *sitar* maestro the late Ustad Vilayat Khan. Today Nishat Khan – his nephew and son of Ustad Imrat Khan – is perhaps best placed among the younger generation to carry on the great legacy of the *gayaki ang* (vocal style) in *sitar* playing – and at a young age he provides great hope for the future of Hindustani classical music. Nishat Khan is accompanied on *tabla* by the UK-based rising young star – Shahbaz Hussain Khan.

Sparkling technique, tremendous lyricism, youthfulness, heritage are all characteristics of Nishat Khan's *sitar* playing. Versatility is another characteristic as he has done significant work in collaborations. But it is in his traditional genre as a soloist in North Indian classical music that he truly shines. In an age of globalisation of economies and cultures, it is all the more important that the high values of the great traditions of Indian music are not lost and diluted into some kind of standard uniform universal world music.

Support for this kind of music is valuable not only for the artist but also for the noble cause of traditional Indian music.

#### **Artists**

<b>Ustad Nishat Khan</b>	sitar
<b>Shahbaz Hussain Khan</b>	tabla

#### **Concert date**

Tue 6 June, 7.30pm

#### **LONDON**

Queen Elizabeth Hall  
0870 401 8181  
[www.rfh.org.uk](http://www.rfh.org.uk)

Ticket prices £15; £12.50; £8

#### **Notes to editors**

Nishat Khan is available for interviews.

For further press information and images please contact Elie Gussman or Kuldeep Jalf, Asian Music Circuit on 020 8742 9911 / [elie@amc.org.uk](mailto:elie@amc.org.uk) / [kuldeep@amc.org.uk](mailto:kuldeep@amc.org.uk) / [www.amc.org.uk](http://www.amc.org.uk)

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