

PRESS RELEASE

Sufi Music Music From Rajasthan

There is folk music – and then there is folk music from *RAJASTHAN, the land of the Kings* in Western India.

This is perhaps the finest folk music in the world, rich in its diversity, exciting and vibrant in rhythm and beautiful in melody. Not only are the artists extraordinary and wonderful to look at, but they are powerful musicians whose lyrics tell of love, separation, heroism, patriotism, respect for nature, marriages, birth and death and every aspect of life and human expression. Finally, the lyrics are about the love for GOD.

This tour lives up to all expectations of superb entertainment – but with a focus on the lyrics of SUFISM. The poetry of Bulesha and Shah Latif is performed alongside songs about Heer Ranja and Laila Majnun.

The artists are all from the Manganiyar community of hereditary caste musicians, the demand for whom has taken them far from the arid confines of a vast desert land.

Extraordinary rhythmic virtuosity on the *KHADTAL* – four strips of wood – compliment the driving beats of the *DHOLAK*. The beautiful *SARANGI*, played almost in classical style and the enigmatic *KAMAICHA* provide melodic support to the fantastic vocals.

This tour also includes the entertaining dance and music of the original snake charmers community – the *KALBELIA* with the *PUNGI* the snake charmers pipe.

Notes to editors

The artists are available for interview and photoshoots on 12th and 13th July 2006.

The artists are:

Khete Khan Manganiyar	khartal
Lakha Khan	sarangi and vocal
Ghewar Khan Manganiyar	Kamaicha
Anwar Khan Manganiyar	vocal
Kachara Khan Manganiyar	vocal
Firoz Khan Manganiyar	dholak and vocal
Sua Devi	Kalbelia dancer
Sheshnath	Kalbelia pung

TOUR DATES

Thu 13 TH July	7.45pm	London Purcell Room
Sat 15 th July	10am – 3pm	Asian Music Centre, Acton, workshops
Sun 16 th July	afternoon	Larmer Tree Festival, Wiltshire
Tue 18 th July	8pm	St. George's , Bristol
Sat 22 nd July	3pm	Appleby Jazz festival, Cumbria
Sun 23 rd July	6pm	Civic Theatre, Chelmsford
Fri 28 th July	7.30pm	Ayscoughfee Gardens, Spalding
Sat 29 th July	7.45pm	Queen Mary's College, Central Studio, Basingstoke

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The **Asian Music Circuit (AMC)** is the UK's leading promoter for music from the Asian continent, famous for presenting a diverse range of innovative and eclectic Asian music tours, concerts, workshops, lectures and events in the UK. The AMC has just completed the development of a unique multi media Centre for Asian Music