Town Hall Seattle and SAMA: Music + Art present

## GLOBAL

# RHYTHMS

2024 2025

## WORLD ON A STRING



Town Hall Seattle and SAMA: Music + Art present

### **Debashish Bhattacharya**

October 16, 2024, 7:30pm in The Great Hall Curated by Jon Kertzer



#### The Debashish Bhattacharya Trio

Debashish Bhattacharya - *Chaturangui, Pushpa Veena* Anandi Bhattacharya - *Vocals, Swarmandal* Subashis Bhattacharya - *Tabla* 



#### About The Debashish Bhattacharya Trio

**Pandit Debashish Bhattacharya** is an award-winning artist who is known throughout the world as the unrivalled master of Hindustani slide guitar. A product of the demanding tradition of the ancient guru-student training system, he has received numerous international awards and accolades, including two Grammy nominations, Billboard Top 10, and the BBC Planet Award.

Rounding out the Trio are Debashish's daughter **Anandi**, a gifted vocalist and a rising star in her own right, and Debashish's younger brother **Subhasis**, who is recognized as one of the greatest percussionists of his generation.

This program consists of a unique tribute to the pioneering Indian recording artists of the early 1900s. In those days, small shellac disks captured succinct renditions of Hindustani classical ragas and popular songs, creating a sensation among the wider populace. This golden era saw the rise of the first celebrity musicians; household names of the time. The Ensemble will recreate the spirit and character of those early recordings. Dressed in the fashion of the period, they will transport us to those early days, where a family might have huddled around a radio to hear their favorite stars.

Another highlight of the performance will be the ornate stringed instruments of Debashish's own creation. These include the Chaturangui (Chatur = 4, ang = color, "gui" from guitar), a 26-string slide guitar; Pushpa Veena (Pushpa = "flower" Veena = "stringed instrument"), a 25-string hybrid of the Rabab sarod and slide guitar, and more.

With lilting, elegant vocal lines, labyrinthine slide guitar, driving complex rhythms of tabla, and the luminous sparkle of the Swarmandal, the evening will feature various combinations of members and instruments: the full ensemble, duets, and solo pieces. On full display in each work will be the combination of virtuosity, finely filigreed ornamentation, and emotional expression that makes Hindustani music so appealing.

#### Thank you to our Global Atmosphere Partners!



Spice Waala is an Indian street food restaurant in Seattle with locations in Capitol Hill, Ballard and Columbia City neighborhoods. They serve authentic flavors from the streets of Calcutta & New Delhi. Spice Waala was started in 2018 at the South Lake Union Saturday Market by Uttam Mukherjee & Aakanksha Sinha.

#### **UPCOMING GLOBAL RHYTHMS CONCERTS**



Kayhan Kalhor 12/6 at 7:30 PM A Wild Ride on the Kamancheh



**Omar Sosa & Seckou Keita SUBA Trio** 

1/16 at 7:30 PM Featuring Gustavo Ovalles, percussion



**Trio Brasileiro** 4/28 at 7:30 PM **Spirited Strings** 



**Ballaké Sissoko and Derek** Gripper

2/2 at 7:30 PM A New String Theory

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Join us for the rest of the Global Rhythms Series for a year of masterful string Details at thsea.org/global-rhythms