



LAKHA KHAN

TRADITIONAL / FOLK / SUFI

RAJASTHAN (INDIA)

"No frills needed; just great playing from an Indian master" - Simon Broughton, Songlines

LAKHA KHAN AWARDED THE PADMA SHRI 2021 - Khamangani! Spectacular news! Ustad Lakha Khan has been bestowed with the Padma Shri (or Padma Shree) - India's fourth highest civilian award for the arts. He is a living legend, and perhaps the greatest sindhi sarangi maestro, and a keeper of India's songbook, a voice of unity and secularism. Second to the Left is proud and honoured to work with, and represent Padma Shri Lakha Khan. Our heartiest congratulations and best wishes to the maestro for the long overdue recognition he deserves, and a big thank you to all the presenters, bookers, festivals, friends and well-wishers who have been part of this decade-long journey. Shukriya, Dhanyavad!

A living legend and the undisputed master of the sindhi sarangi - A national treasure, at 68 Lakha Khan is a Sangeet Natak Akademi award winner for his contribution to Rajasthani folk music, and perhaps the greatest exponent of the sindhi sarangi. Born in the village of Raneri in Jodhpur district, Rajasthan, India into a family of traditional musicians from the Manganiyar community, he was trained at an early age in rendering the compositions of the Multan school of Manganiyars.

His first public performances were in the late 60's and 70's in India, and under the guidance of the late ethnomusicologist Komal Kothari, toured Europe, UK, Russia and Japan through the early 90's. He resumed international touring in 2013 with his first ever US tour, and now completed three US tours, and two European tours in Belgium, Denmark and Sweden. Today, Lakha Khan is one of the last remaining Manganiyars to have mastered this complex instrument and to carry forward the centuries-old musical tradition of Rajasthani and Multani folk and Sufi music.

His music is truly secular and straddles both the classical and folk domains, with a vast songbook that incorporates Meera bhajans, Sufi kalaams, popular Hindi tunes, and the ancient stories and oral histories of the region, spanning the western Indian sub-continent. He sings in over six languages including Hindi, Marwari, Sindhi, Punjabi and Multani. Bestowed with a powerful and melodious voice that perfectly compliments his instrument, Lakha Khan's music transcends boundaries and invokes a spiritual oneness in the listener. He is accompanied by his son Dane Khan on the dholak - the double headed Indian folk drum.

- Sangeet Natak Akademi National music award for his contribution to Rajasthani folk music
- Performed at the 2011 Edinburgh Folk Music Festival, The Amarrass Desert Music Festival (2011, 2014), Peabody Essex Museum (2013), Old and New Dreams Festival, Chicago (2014), two Europe tours (2016/'18) to Denmark, Sweden, The Netherlands, Luxembourg and Belgium.
- Three coast-to-coast US tours (2013/ '14/ '17) including sold out concerts in NYC & Pittsburgh
- Confirmed 2019 November tour including at Le Guess Who Festival.

Group Size: 2 musicians + 1 presenter / manager



NEW DELHI (INDIA)

MADISON WISCONSIN (US)

MAKING MUSIC SUSTAINABLE

STREAMING: lakhakhan.bandcamp.com

PRESS PICTURES: <https://app.box.com/s/pwb8opkft96m1gicd84>

DISCOGRAPHY:



AT HOME
(2012, AMARRASS RECORDS)
"Incandescent Sufi voices that incite ecstasy"
- Songlines ★★★★★



LIVE IN NASHVILLE
(2015, AMARRASS RECORDS)
"No frills needed; just great playing from an Indian master"
- Songlines ★★★★★

BOOKING:

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MANAGEMENT:

Ankur Malhotra: +1 608 334 0583
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LAKHA KHAN

PLAYED AT

Select performances 2013-to date

WOMEX - Tampere, Finland

LE GUESS WHO? - Utrecht, The Netherlands

MUSIKHuset DEXTER - Odense, Denmark

RACHOT PRODUCTION - Prague, Czech Republic

ATLAS - Aarhus, Denmark

CONRAD - Luxembourg

VIKTORIEATEARN, MIX MUSIK - Malmö, Sweden

EDINBURGH FOLK MUSIC FESTIVAL - Scotland

AMARRASS DESERT MUSIC FESTIVAL - New Delhi, India

SENSATIONAL INDIA FESTIVAL - Peabody Essex Museum

OLD AND NEW DREAMS FESTIVAL - Chicago, USA

MAHINDRA KABIR FESTIVAL - Varanasi, India

CUNY - New York City, USA (**sold out**)

US TOURS - 2013, 2014, 2017

VIDEO

At Home

Lakha Khan teaching and playing at his home in the Indian desert.

<https://youtu.be/ldqFP5iNr5Y>

"Mast Qalandar" Live in New York City:

From his sold out concert at Live @365 Sounds in 2017

<https://ind.pn/2FuK3gf>

Meda Mehar Muraad Na Milda

Live at Dexter Odense, Denmark, 2018

<https://youtu.be/iPkCl67ia4U>

TESTIMONIALS

"In the master's hand, the Sufi-influenced melody he coaxes from it (the sarangi) is transformative" - Michael Sullivan, NPR

4 Stars, "No frills needed; just great playing from an Indian master" for Lakha Khan: Live in Nashville

- Simon Broughton, Songlines

4 stars, "Incandescent Sufi voices that incite ecstasy"

- Simon Broughton, Songlines

"His songbook contains the roots of India's national popular music"

- Aaron Cohen, Chicago Tribune

"At Home is a superb set of field recordings"

- Peter Margasak, Chicago Reader

"Top 5 Rajasthani albums ever" - fROOTS

"... we witnessed wild and expressive art." - Torben Holleufer, Gaffa

STREAMING

Bandcamp:

<https://lakhakhan.bandcamp.com>

DOWNLOAD

Photos - Bio - Press

<https://app.box.com/s/pwb8opkfet96m1gjcl84>