

# The Art of Improvisation Iranian Contemporary Dance and Music

Saturday, October 22, 2022 - 6:00 p.m.  
Conrad Prebys Concert Hall

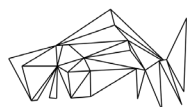
**Featuring:**

Pejman Hadadi  
Tombak and Frame drums

Behfar Bahadoran  
Setar, Tanbour, Tar

Shahrokh Moshkin-Ghalam  
Dance

Shahrokh Moshkin-Ghalam, Pejman Hadadi and Behfar Bahadoran will take the stage to explore the ecstatic art of improvised music and dance. Acclaimed as one of the world's greatest dancers, Shahrokh's revolutionary style will embody Pejman's masterful percussive expressions and Behfar's passionate motifs - based on the Persian classical Dastgah modal system and Maqam melodic phrasings - on Tar, Setar, and Tanbour.



## Artist Bio:



### **Shahrokh Moshkin-Ghalem** **Master Iranian Dancer and Choreographer**

- Born in Iran, Shahrokh is an Iranian modern dancer trained and raised in Paris
- Graduated in History of Art and Theatre from the University of Paris
- Critically acclaimed choreographer, director and actor
- For six years he appeared under the direction of Ariane Mnouchkine with the THEATRE DU SOLEIL
- Had major parts in plays such as Tartuffe of Molière
- Founder and artistic director of Nakissa Art Company
- Trained in various styles of dance in Paris, Shahrokh draws inspiration from diverse eastern and western traditions to create a unique style of dance.
- Persian, Indian, Flamenco and Sufi influences blended with contemporary training in both dance and theatre are his signature style. He has influenced and changed the nature of Persian dance today
- Performed “Seven Princesses” Ballet based on the works of the great Persian poet Nezami in 2002 at the Royal Opera House of Covent Garden. He has created theatrical plays and ballets inspired by great Persian classical thinkers and poets such as Omar Khayyam, Nizami, Ferdowsi, Iraj Mirza (Zohreh and Manouchehr/Arefnameh)
- Shahrokh regularly performs in prestigious venues including Carnegie Hall, New York; Queen Elizabeth Hall, London; Royce Hall, Los Angeles; Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco
- As an official member of La Comédie Française (The House of Molière) from 2005 to 2012, Shahrokh has had major roles in several different plays with world renowned stage directors



### **Pejman Hadadi** **Innovative Iranian Master Percussionist**

- Born in Tehran/Iran in 1969
- Studied music with master musicians including Asadollah Hejazi, Bahman Rajabi
- Collaborated with music ensembles including Oshagh, Nava, Dastan, Zarbang, Hamavayan and NuAeen
- Innovated a version of custom-made tunable frame drums called Pezhvāk or Davaayer-e Kooki
- Collaborated with master musicians such as Hossein Alizadeh, Shahram Nazeri, Ali-Akbar Moradi, Kayhan Kalhor, Homayoun Shajarian, Sima Bina, Parissa and Mojgan Shajarian
- Performs regularly in prestigious concert halls and music festivals including Carnegie Hall, New York; Queen Elizabeth Hall, London; Disney Hall, Los Angeles; San Francisco World Music Festival; Silkroad Festival in Hong Kong; Sfinx Festival in Holland and Prince of Egypt
- Recorded numerous albums and film scores including: Monad, Torbat, Fire of Passion, Scattering Stars Like Dust, Prince of Persia
- Two times recipient of the Durfee Foundation Master Musician Award
- Teacher and educator of rhythm and percussion
- Faculty member at UCLA

*“Hadadi is a technical wizard who contributes fire and a unique personality to improvisational passages.” John Payne, Los Angeles Weekly*

*“Hadadi was clearly a virtuoso, coaxing speech from his frame drum by tickling, teasing, tapping, palming, plucking, strumming, slapping, chopping, knuckling, and touching his drum in every conceivable way. The variety of timbres he achieved from playing a single drum was astounding, and the quickness with which his fingers whipped across the drum’s head and scurried over its rim was staggering.” Jeremy Siskind, Doo Bee Doo Bee Doo, an online cross-cultural magazine.*



**Behfar Bahadoran**  
**Virtuoso Composer and Multi-instrumentalist**

- Born in Tehran/Iran in 1987
- Studied under Iranian classical and folklore music masters including Homayoun Khorram, Ramin Rahimi, Ali-Akbar Moradi, Darioush Talaei and Hamid Motebassem
- Visual Arts graduate from Maryland Institute College of Art
- Composer, multi instrumentalist and a multidisciplinary visual artist
- Founded Pezhvak Ensemble in 2008
- Band leader and cofounder of Sorvad Ensemble
- Worked and performed alongside notorious international musicians and artists such as Majid Derakhshani, Alireza Shahmohammadi, Pejman Hadadi, Pezham Akhavass, Dawn Avery, John Wubbenhorst, Larry Mitchel, Kazem Davoudian, Susan Deyhim and Mojgan Shajarian.
- Performs regularly at many prestigious venues in the United States including the Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco; Lincoln Center and Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York; Kennedy Center and Freer Shackler Gallery in Washington D.C.

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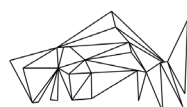
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**Aaron Sum**, Production Assistant  
**Andrew Munsey**, Recording Engineer

**Karim Moussa**, Recording Assistant  
**Sherry An**, Marketing & Promotions Coordinator  
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