

Hindustani Vocal Ensemble

Rita Sahai, director

PROGRAM

Raga Alhaiya Bilawal
Raga Bhairav
Raga Bihag
Raga Yeman

Dan Kennedy, tabla

March 6, 2017 ∞ 5:00 pm
Recital Hall, Ann E. Pitzer Center

We want you and your fellow concertgoers to have a positive experience. In order to facilitate that, please completely turn off your phone and any other electronic devices you may have with you in the concert hall. Concertgoers who cause unnecessary distractions may be asked to leave. Audio or visual recording is prohibited.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

After coming to the United States over two decades ago, **Rita Sahai** continued her extensive music studies under the world famous sarod maestro Ustad Ali Akbar Khan, who passed away in 2009. Impressed by her talent and passion towards music, “Khansahib,” as she affectionately called her guru, gave her the title *Gayan Alankar* (Jewel of Music). Sahai, an acclaimed composer, performer and teacher, tours throughout the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and India. She is also in demand at recording studios at home and abroad, where she graciously lends her voice to many diverse musical projects, including contributing vocal tracks for Grammy award-winning artist Béla Fleck and performing on Alonzo King’s *Sacred Texts*, a CD of international music that won the Isadora Duncan Award for music excellence. She has also collaborated on several live musical productions with Jennifer Berezan’s “Edge of Wonder” project.

Dan Kennedy holds a master’s degree in music from California Institute of the Arts, and a doctoral degree in percussion performance from the State University of New York at Stony Brook, under the guidance of multi-percussionist Raymond DesRoches, hand-drum specialist John Bergamo, and tabla master Swapan Chaudhuri. He has been the founding member of several contemporary music ensembles, including the California E.A.R. Unit and the Talujon Percussion Quartet, and has performed throughout the United States, Europe, India, Bali, and Japan.