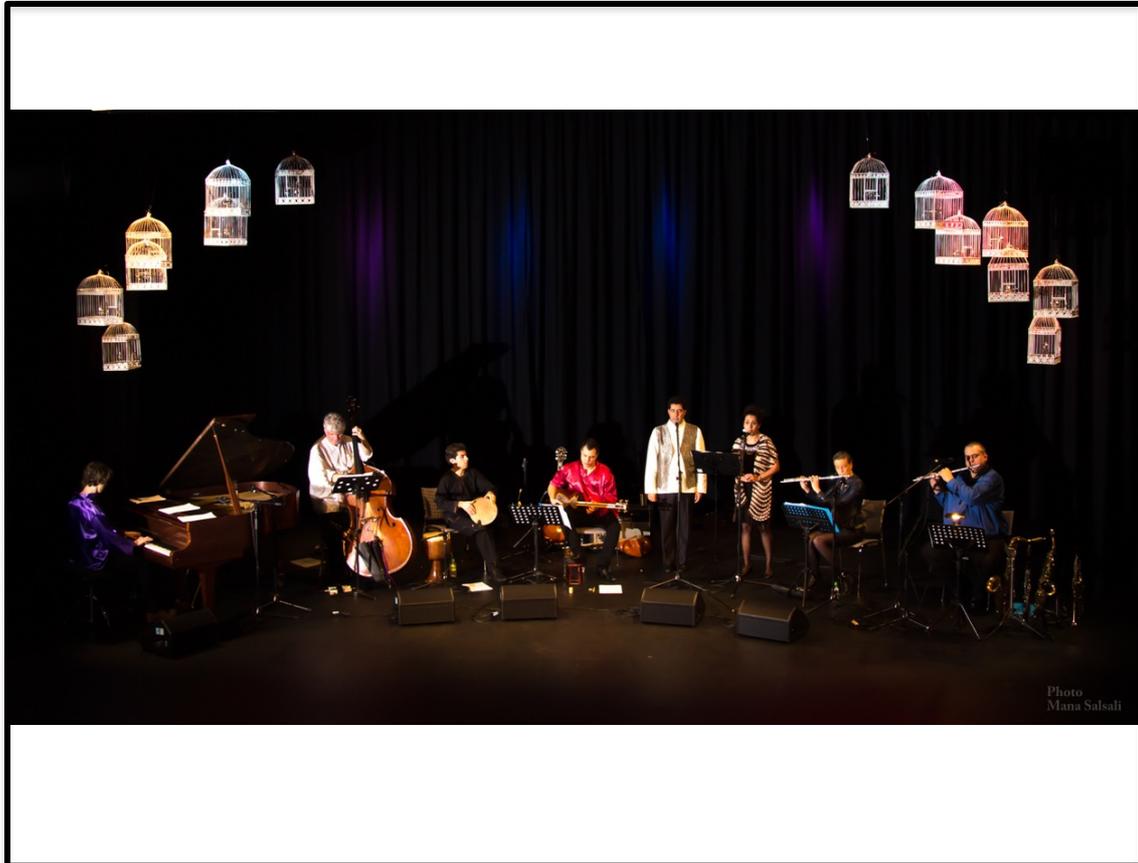


# Mysteries of Eternity

By Jazzab Ensemble



Mysteries of Eternity - Jazzab Ensemble in concert - BEMAC Cultural Diversity Week 2014

## PRESENTER'S INFORMATION



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## COMPANY PROFILE

Jazzab explores Iranian classical music in the world of Jazz. Combining the delicacy and mysticism of Iranian musical traditions with the experimentation and sophisticated sounds of Jazz.

## ABOUT THE SHOW

### SHOW SYNOPSIS

“Mysteries of Eternity” is a series of concerts that Jazzab Ensemble has been hosting throughout Queensland in 2014/ 2015. Lead man, Barbod Valadi has composed and arranged original tunes featuring beautiful lyrics humbly borrowed from classical and modern Persian poets (Omar Khayyam, Hafiz and Rumi). Barbod has also cleverly re-arranged traditional Persian songs and classic jazz pieces to present a unique repertoire of modern jazz to bring a new sound for world music audience.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Barbod Valdi	Ensemble Leader, Composition and arrangement, Guitar and Tar
Omid Rahimi	Vocals and Daf
James Ball	Piano and Clarinet
John Stefulj	Saxophones, Flute
Peter Walters	Double Bass
Mostafa Odabae	Tombak and Traditional percussion
Bahador Valadi	Producer and Event Coordinator

### BIOGRAPHIES

**Barbod Valadi**, with his diverse musical background, sees musical exchange between cultures as a vital proactive step in a global world. Born in Tehran, Barbod has a background in both Iranian Classical Tar and Rock music. Since moving to Australia to study Jazz guitar, he has explored merging intricate, traditional, Iranian melodies and rhythms with the modes, forms and harmony of Jazz music traditions. Composer, arranger, leader, producer and founder of Jazzab, Barbod is at the heart of an emerging genre of Persian Jazz. He is currently studying a Bachelor of Music (Jazz) at Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University, and also holds a Bachelor of Graphic Design from Sooreh University in Tehran. Driving Barbod’s music and ambition is a desire to find ways for art to bring cultures together and engender better cultural understandings.

**Omid Rahimi** is a professional singer with vocal expertise in Iranian folk and traditional music. Omid primarily has been trained on twelve modes of Persian traditional music, known as ‘Dastgah’, by Morteza Sharif. He specialized in two schools of singing: Tehran and Esfahan. Then he received advanced levels of the school of Esfahan from maestro Jalal Taj Esfahani. During his education in the city of Esfahan, Omid also attended percussion-training courses taught by Majid Hesabi. It

has been for twenty years that Omid has been singing and playing major Iranian percussion instruments, Daf & Tombak. Omid has performed in numerous occasions and has been awarded certificates of appreciation by distinguished organizations such as The Mental Health Council of Australia and Radio 4EB. He released his first CD, "Khorram Yaad" album in 2013, that consists of reciting six of Maestro Homayoun Khorram's works with creative variations in singing based on personal investment.

**James Ball** leads a diverse musical life far from the ordinary, performing across a wide variety of styles as a leader and sideman. He draws on a multitude of influences when playing, aiming to create a distinctive sound in any musical context, full of vitality and spirit. He recently has graduated with honour in jazz Piano from the Queensland Conservatorium.

**John Stefulj**, multi-instrumentalist, producer, composer, researcher, educator and consultant, John Stefulj has composed, arranged, performed, recorded and taught with artists throughout Australia as a professional multi-instrumentalist and educator since the 1980s.

In 2013, John undertook an eventful performance, research and professional development expedition to the United States (New York) and Brazil (Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo and several other cities). John's work continues within and across a variety of contemporary, traditional and indigenous multi-arts as part of his lifelong commitment to cultural enhancement throughout communities, including activities in ensembles, recordings, clinics and festivals. Through primary, secondary and tertiary level teaching, John has shared his experiences from a broad range of music and associated environments, and similarly, he finds teaching to be integral to his sense of creativity and contribution in performance.

John realises his enthusiasm towards composed and improvised music by blending both approaches comfortably, which has led him to experiment in many and acoustic and electronic mediums, permitting him the enjoyment of a broadening media base through involvement in a range of educational, theatre, film, television, radio street performance, multimedia environments and other art forms.

**Peter Walters**, acoustic and electric bassist, composer, arranger, producer, teacher Peter has been at the forefront of jazz performance in Brisbane for over 2 decades. As a bassist, he is highly sought after for his superb accompaniment of singers and instrumentalists alike. Classically trained by Ken Poggioli (Queensland Orchestra) he quickly established his jazz credentials with strong and imaginative playing. He is a deft soloist, displaying a complete command of whatever style he is playing be it bebop, blues, rock, soul, latin, manouche or contemporary jazz.

He has backed some of Australia's finest performers such as Kerry Biddell, Vince Jones, Wiley Reed, James Morrisson and Don Burrows as well as international artists Vanessa Rubin, Sheila Jordan, Johnny Griffin, Clifford Jordan, Annie Ross, Don Menzer, Richie Cole, Joachim Khun, Jason Rebello, Andreas Oberg and many more.

Peter has a Masters Degree in Music majoring in composition and has written and arranged for ABC and SBS television documentaries and film and theatre as well as arranging for and producing vocal and instrumental albums. He teaches jazz bass at the Qld Conservatorium and the QUT contemporary music faculty. He has also been awarded 'Best Producer' for the Wiley Reed album 'Straight From The Heart' at the Queensland Sunny awards.

"Peter has achieved that most difficult of musical ambitions: that of discovering his own voice as a composer, without sacrificing either sophistication or communicative power. "

Robert Davidson, PHD, Head of Composition, University of Queensland.

**Mostafa Odabae** has been playing Tombak, a Persian goblet drum, for 6 years and teaching it for more than three years in Australia. He has been involved with few local music bands and played in many multicultural and Iranian festivals.

## **PERFORMANCE SPECIFICS**

### DURATION

Act 1 – 45 min

Interval – 20 – 30 min

Act 2 – 45 min

### SUITABLE VENUES

This show is suitable for proscenium arch, town hall, auditorium, Church, theatre hall, cultural facilities venues.

### MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PERFORMANCES PER WEEK

3 performances

### MINIMUM BREAK BETWEEN PERFORMANCES

60 minutes

### LICENCING AGREEMENTS

Barbod Valadi owns the copyright for the music and all its contents. All performances should be considered private and confidential and may not be shared with any third party without the prior permission of Barbod.

### APRA OBLIGATIONS

Mostly, we are playing original music.

## TOURING PERSONNEL

The touring party consists of 7 people.

Name	Role
Barbod Valdi	Ensemble leader, Composer, Tar Player
Omid Rahimi	Singer
James Ball	Piano player
John Stefulj	Saxophones, Flute player
Peter Walters	Double bass player
Mostafa Odabae	Percussion player
Bahador Valadi	Producer and Event manager

## PERFORMANCE HISTORY

Year	Venue	Number of performances
March 2013	Nowruz Festival Brisbane Multicultural Center	1
April 2013	Queens St mall	1
May 2013	Encounter Festival Queensland Conservatorium	1
June 2013	Zillmiere Festival	1
November 2013	Brisbane City Hall	1
December 2013	Brisbane Powerhouse (Planet Program)	1
April 2014	Brisbane Conservatorium	(Mysteries of Eternity) 1
June 2014	Fete de la Musique	1
June 2014	Palm Creek Festival	2
September 2014	Greek Club - Multi faith Dinner	1
September 2014	Queensland Multicultural Centre Jazzab in Concert	(Mysteries of Eternity) 1
November 2014	Riverside stage - G20 Cultural celebration	1
November 2014	QPAC - Green Jam stage	(Mysteries of Eternity) 1
December 2014	Woodford Folk Festival - Folklorica stage	1

## **AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT**

### OVERVIEW

Workshop and Q&A session about Persian traditional and Jazz music.

### DESCRIPTION / DETAILS

The workshop includes talking about the scales and the form of Persian music its history, and also about Persian instruments e.g. Tar, Tombak and Daf which are explained by musicians in an interactive workshop.

### COST

\$10 extra on top of each ticket

Or \$150 for each workshop session

### TARGET AUDIENCE FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

This show is suitable for all age groups.

## **MARKETING**

In 2012, six professionally trained Iranian and Australia musicians came together to form Jazzab Ensemble. Since then, the Brisbane-based group has had the honour of collaborating with many great musicians including teachers from the Queensland Conservatorium. Jazzab Ensemble explores classical Iranian music within the world of jazz. They combine the delicacy and mysticism of Iranian musical traditions with the experimentation and sophisticated sounds of jazz. Two seemingly syncretic traditions in a meld of microtones, strong rhythms, and jazz modes give this group an edgy vibe. Jazaab brings you to a meeting of cultures on a Persian carpet of sound. Get on and take the ride.

### MARKETING COPY

#### *One line*

“Come join Jazzab Ensemble for a magical ride on a Persian carpet of music, poetry and wine”

#### *Short*

The secrets eternal neither you know nor I  
And answers to the riddle neither you know nor I  
Behind the veil there is much talk about us, why  
When the veil falls, neither you remain nor I

Omar Khayyam (1048 – 1131)

Translated by Edward FitzGerald (1809 – 1883)

#### *Extended*

This special concert is part of the Mysteries of Eternity series that Jazzab Ensemble has been hosting throughout Queensland in 2014 - 15. Lead man, Barbod Valadi has composed and arranged original tunes featuring beautiful lyrics humbly borrowed from classical and modern Persian poets. Barbod has also cleverly re-arranged

traditional Persian songs and classic jazz pieces to present a unique repertoire of modern jazz that will take your breath away.

#### COLLEAGUE RECOMMENDATIONS

##### **Jo Pratt - CEO/ Executive Producer, BEMAC**

Jazzab first came across my radar in 2013 as part of an Iranian festival we supported. I was blown away by the concept and talent, and excited to see the band's interpretation of Jazz. Consisting of some of Brisbane's finest jazz musicians, Jazzab, under the direction of talented Iranian musician, Barbod Valadi, provides a unique and mesmerising jazz performance.

#### VIDEO LINKS

<http://www.youtube.com/user/JazzabEnsemble>

#### IMAGES

<http://jazzabensemble.com/gallery/>

#### MARKETING MATERIALS

**Social media:** Jazzab Ensemble official website [www.jazzabensemble.com](http://www.jazzabensemble.com), Jazzab Youtube channel, <http://www.youtube.com/user/JazzabEnsemble>  
Jazzab Facebook page  
Jazzab Twitter.

**Print media:** flyers and posters.

#### SPONSOR OR OTHER ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BEMAC  
Queensland Conservatorium

## PRODUCTION DETAILS

### TECHNICAL SUMMARY

4 X foldback

5 X chairs

1 X vocal mic

2 X percussion mics

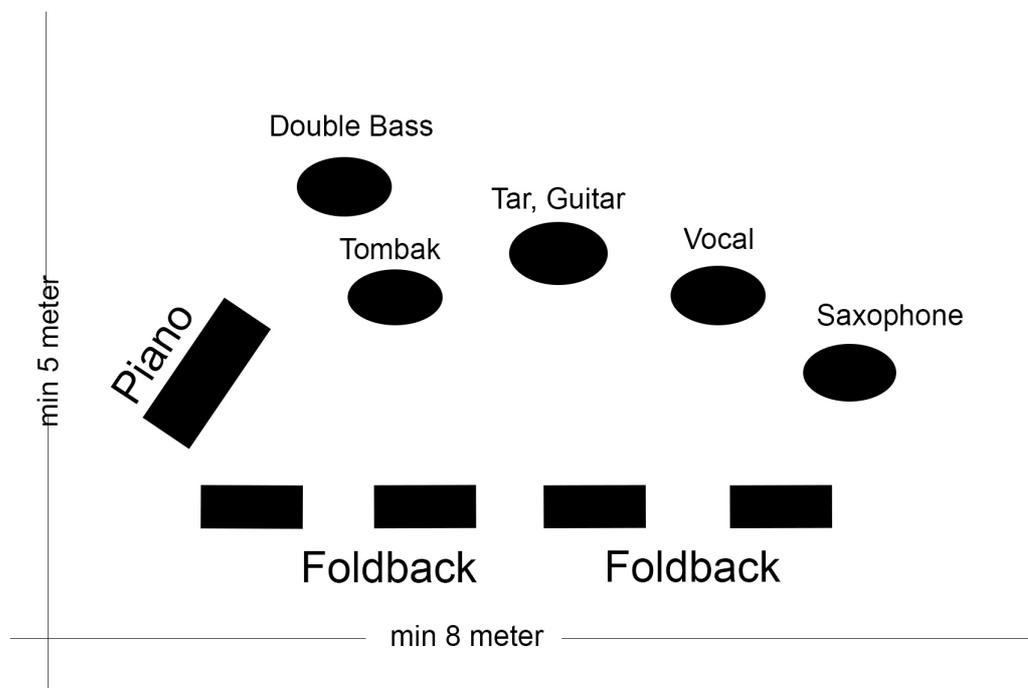
3 X instrumental mics

2 X DIs for double bass and keyboard OR if Piano is available 2 mics for Piano

### CREW REQUIRED FROM VENUE

Sound Technician and stage manager.

### STAGE



*Company to supply*  
Music and instruments.

*Venue to supply*  
Sound and lighting, chairs, grand piano if available,

LIGHTING  
Simple lighting

## SOUND

4 X foldback

5 X chairs

1 X vocal mic

2 X percussion mics

3 X instrumental mics

2 X DIs for double bass and keyboard OR if Piano is available 2 mics for Piano

PA required

## WARDROBE

Dressing room

## **CONTACTS**

*Barbod Valadi , Jazzab ensemble leader:*

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