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# Sur Jahan

**WORLD PEACE MUSIC FESTIVAL 2019**

**1-3 Feb, Mohar Kunj, Kolkata**

**Sur Jahan** (earlier known as Sufi Sutra) is a World Peace Music Festival developed by banglanatak dot com, a 18 years old Kolkata-based social enterprise specializing in Culture and Development. “Music for All, Music for Peace” is the Mantra of this non-commercial festival which celebrates cultural diversity. Music teams from 27 countries (Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, Hungary, Iran, Italy, Morocco, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Scotland, Senegal, Spain, Sweden, Syria, Tajikistan, Tunisia, UK and USA) and 10 states of India have participated since its inception in 2011. Each year 5-6 international bands participate in the festival, which has day-time cultural exchange workshops and evening concerts. It has been termed as a “people's festival” by the media worldwide and has evolved as a Headliner Festival in both Kolkata and Goa.

9th edition of Sur Jahan will be held in Kolkata on Feb 1-3, 2019. After Kolkata, the festival goes to Goa, to be held at The International Centre Goa on 6-8 Feb, 2019.

## Evening Concert

	6 pm	7 pm	8 pm
<b>Feb 1</b>	<b>Inauguration</b>	<b>Babra Hungary</b>	<b>Liona &amp; Serena Strings Spain</b>
<b>Feb 2</b>	<b>Folks of Bengal India</b>	<b>Monsieur Doumani Cyprus</b>	<b>Mawlawiyah Egypt</b>
<b>Feb 3</b>	<b>Baul India</b>	<b>Mario Lucio Cape Verde</b>	<b>Closing Ceremony</b>

## What's on

1. Inauguration: Feb 1 at 6 pm (Venue: Mohar Kunj, Kolkata)
2. Evening Concert: Feb 1 – 3 at 6 pm to 9 pm (Venue: Mohar Kunj, Kolkata )
3. Daytime Workshop: Feb 2 – 3 at 11 am to 2 pm (Venue: Mohar Kunj, Ground 2)
4. Showcasing traditional folk performances: Feb 1-3, 3.30 pm onwards (Venue: Mohar Kunj, Ground 2)
5. Showcasing Rural Handicrafts: 2.30 pm onwards on Feb 1 and 10:30 am onwards on Feb 2-3 (Venue: Mohar Kunj, Ground 2)

## Daytime Workshop

	11 am	12 noon	1 pm
<b>Feb 2</b>	<b>Babra Hungary</b>	<b>Mario Lucio Cape Verde</b>	<b>Liona &amp; Serena Strings Spain</b>
<b>Feb 3</b>	<b>Monsieur Doumani Cyprus</b>	<b>Mawlawiyah Egypt</b>	<b>Folks of Bengal India</b>

# Band Details for Sur Jahan 2019, Feb 1-3

## Mohar Kunj, Kolkata

### Mario Lúcio / Cape Verde

Mario Lúcio, the WOMEX lifetime award winner Musician from Cape Verde, was born in Tarrafal, on the island of Santiago in Cape Verde in 1964. His musical talent got noticed when he was a child and by the time he was a 12-year-old, he was playing several instruments, writing poems and composing lyrics. At 14, Mario had become one of the greatest musicians of his generation and was part of a revolutionary band of young musicians called Abel Djassi, which introduced sophisticated arrangements in traditional music in northwestern Africa. Today, Mario Lúcio is a phenomenon in his country and beyond. As a singer, songwriter, arranger and producer, he is a point of reference because of the high quality of his compositions, arrangements and philosophy. He is also a lifetime researcher of traditional music, an activity that continuously supplies him a fresh air of modernity, originality and poetry. He is one of the greatest modern musician-composers of Africa and is loved and revered in countries like Brazil, France and Italy as well. A multi-instrumentalist, Mario is the founder-leader of the band Simentera, and has performed concerts in Brazil, France, Italy, England, Germany, Belgium, Luxembourg, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Finland, Norway, Austria, Portugal, Switzerland, Slovenia, Greece, Spain, Senegal, Ghana, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, United States and China.

**Evening Concert:** Feb 3 at 7 pm

**Day Time Workshop:** Feb 2 at 12 noon

### Liona & Serena Strings / Spain

Liona & Serena Strings offers a special interpretation of the Sephardic music and its own melodies to the Piyutim (spiritual and philosophical Hebrew texts), that has its origin in the Spanish land and is based on scales used in the ancient land once called Sefarad. It is a team of six musicians from different music disciplines (Classic, Jazz, Flamenco, North African, Middle Eastern) who connect and create new, vibrant sounds without losing the sensitivity of treating fragile, antique music and texts with utmost care. The band moves from chamber music through Spanish tunes, eastern sounds, all the way to Arabic rhythms but always remain faithful to the Jewish Sephardic feel. The band's new album, Sefarad, is selling in Germany, Austria, Switzerland and the United States through Galileo Music distributor. The Sephardic music, sung in Ladino (Judeo-Spanish), has been passed orally down generations, gathering along the way the influences, rhythms, dialects and musical characteristics of the countries to which the Jews fled from Spain in 1492 and Portugal in 1496. Even later, after settling in Greece, Morocco, Algeria, Turkey and places beyond, the Sephardic songs have remained full of passion, joy, celebration, sorrow, love and life. The album also has a traditional Jewish song and a Moro-Cristiano poem.

**Evening Concert:** Feb 1 at 8 pm

**Day Time Workshop:** Feb 2 at 1 pm

### **Monsieur Doumani / Cyprus**

Monsieur Doumani of Nicosia in Cyprus was formed in 2011 by Antonis Antoniou (tzouras), Angelos Ionas (guitar) and Demetris Yiasemides (trombone, flute). Influenced by Cypriot's traditions at various levels, the band composes Cypriot songs inspired by contemporary society and its shaky condition. The team's identity is determined by an adaptation of traditional Cypriot pieces but it has a style that is distinctly its own. Monsieur Doumani's performances across Europe are loved and appreciated by diverse audiences and their music is presented on radio stations around the globe, including BBC, NPR, Radio France, Sveriges Radio, and PBS FM Melbourne. Monsieur Doumani has three albums. The first one, Grippy Grappa, released in May 2013, won nomination for Best Newcomer in Songlines Music Awards 2014. The second album, Sikoses, released in March 2015, won nominations in Songlines Music Awards 2016 in two categories. Their third one, Angathin (meaning 'thorn'), released in 2018, evoked great interest at international level and received the prestigious German Records Critics Award in World Music category and was given the Top of the World album title by Songlines.

**Evening Concert:** Feb 2 at 7 pm

**Day Time Workshop:** Feb 3 at 11 am

### **Mawlawyah / Egypt**

Mawlawyah was established in 1994 by singer Amer Eltony to safeguard Egypt's Mevlevi heritage. The idea is to create an artistic, spiritual ambience inspired by Egyptian heritage and the provision of an audio-visual alternative to spiritual meditative monologues. The reason for the whirling ecstasy is the transformation of non-existence into existence. The audio visual spectacle created by the Mawlawyah has enchanted audiences across the world, including India, Greece, Cyprus, France, Spain, Cuba and USA. Mawlawyah performed in Sur Jahan in 2011, 2013 and 2015.

**Evening Concert:** Feb 2 at 8 pm

**Day Time Workshop:** Feb 3 at 12 noon

### **Babra / Hungary**

Babra breathes a fresh, new life into the musical heritage of South Slavs. The band was formed in 2014 in Budapest, at the eastern intersection of Western and Eastern Europe, a perennial melting pot of traditional and innovative urban cultures. The five-member team is rooted in the music of South Slavs settled along the banks of the Danube and inspired by Balkan culture and a family flair for the music of Southern Slavs. The team creates new music with unique sounds and styles, while conserving the authenticity and spirit of South Slavic music. The band's personality is determined by the unity of the tamburas and the harmony of the clarinet and the accordion. The mission is simple: to embody their rich musical heritage with youthful energy and add value to its unique interpretations. It has performed at Bela Bartok National Concert Hall in MÜPA Palace of Arts and played at Hungarian Showcase Day, which was part of WOMEX 2015, in Budapest.

**Evening Concert:** Feb 1 at 7 pm

**Day Time Workshop:** Feb 2 at 11 am

## Folks of Bengal / India

Folks of Bengal is an initiative of banglanatak dot com MusiCal for promoting the folk traditions of Bengal through creating opportunities for traditional folk artists/ musicians. The band led by Debalina Bhowmick will present different genre of folk music and will take the audience on a journey through the traditional music stream of Bengal, celebrating the diversity and richness of Bengal's folk culture. The other members on stage are Dipannita Acharya, Deepmoy Das, Pranes Som, Amanat Fakir in Vocals and will be supported by Arpan Thakur Chakraborty in Dotara, Tarun Chowdhury in Flute, Sajib Sarkar & Sandip Ganguly in Dhol/ Khol/ Tabla and Tanmoy Pan in Percussion.

**Evening Concert:** Feb 2 at 6 pm

**Day Time Workshop:** Feb 3 at 1 pm

## Baul / India

Baul is a philosophy and Baul is a music. The philosophy gets passed on from 'Guru' to his disciples. Baul music is the soul of Bengal and is essentially the music of self searching. Its about 500 years old. Lalan Fakir, who used to live at Kushtia in Bangladesh and he may be called as the father of Baul music. Living the life of an esoteric, denouncing the material world, they urge people to rise above the narrow divides created by caste, creed and religion to find love, peace and harmony. Do not look for God anywhere, look for Him in the human body. Only then will you get Him, feel Him and be able to know your own self too.

Bhajan Das Bairagya, Gupi Khyapa & Chandan Sil of Bardhaman, Mallika Akar & Nemai Khyapa of Murshidabad and Sadhu Das Baul & Kangal Khyapa of Joydev Kenduli will be in Vocals, supported by Khokan Das & Ajoy Das in Dhol/ Khol/ Tabla, Mohan Tati in Flute and Mamata Bharui in Percussion.

**Evening Concert:** Feb 3 at 6 pm

**Day Time Workshop:** Feb 3 at 1 pm