

## CONCERT

From 17.00

### **I Part: Ensemble Marâghi**

#### **Itineraries in Ottoman Sufi Music**

Giovanni De Zorzi (*ney* flute, voice); Giovanni Tufano (short necked lute '*ud*'); Francesco Clera (frame drum *bendir*; goblet drum *zarb*).

### **II Part: Ensemble Navrous**

#### **Music of Central Asia: from tents to palaces**

Razia Sultanova (voice, long necked lute *dutâr*, frame drum *doira*); Sardor Mirzahojaev (lute *rubab*, long necked lute *dutâr*, frame drum *doira*).

#### **Scientific committee**

Giovanni Giuriati (Giorgio Cini Foundation, University of Rome "La Sapienza"), Giovanni De Zorzi (State Music Conservatory 'A. Pedrollo', Vicenza); Razia Sultanova (Central Asia Forum, University of Cambridge).

#### **Organizing committee**

Intercultural Institute for Comparative Music Studies, Giorgio Cini Foundation.

In collaboration with the Department of Art History and Conservation of the Artistic Heritage, Ca' Foscari University of Venice and with the Faculty of Music, University of Cambridge.

#### **Contacts:**

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# From Shamanism to Sufism Music and Spiritual Practices in Central Asia

One-day seminar and concert  
by Giovanni De Zorzi and Razia Sultanova

**2 December 2009**

Auditorium Santa Margherita, Venice

## Presentation

The event is the result of collaboration between the Intercultural Institute for Comparative Music Studies (IISMC) of the Giorgio Cini Foundation, the Department of History and Preservation of Arts of the Ca' Foscari University of Venice, and the Central Asia Forum, University of Cambridge.

The organisers of this interdisciplinary conference-workshop anticipate that participants will contribute from particular viewpoints in which music and spirituality interact. Thus the study-day will consist of different approaches from anthropology, ethnomusicology, linguistics, history of literature and music.

The criterion of 'Sound' adopted by the curators seems to be a productive way to examine the relationship and differences in the vast geo-cultural Central Asian area which spans from the Caspian Sea in the west to the Tian Shan mountains and the Gobi desert in the east, from the Siberian steppes in the north to the mountains of Tibet in the south, the area where Turkmens, Tajiks, Uzbeks, Qaraqalpaks, Kazakhs, Kirghiz, Uyghurs, other Turkic people, Russians and new immigrants live together.

This area is inhabited by peoples speaking Turko-Altaiic and Indo-European languages. Two ways of life, sedentary and nomadic, exist side by side. As for culture, the settled population concentrated in urban centres is of a court nature and has been influenced by the Islamic concept of Sufism. Poetry of Sufi origin and the particular Sufi spiritual practices use the power of sound in such spiritual practices as *samâ* ('listening, audition, spiritual concert') and *zikr* ('remembrance, repetition').

The culture and music of nomadic people tends to be of a Shamanic nature, where the use of Sound and poetry in its meaning of enchantment (*carmen/charme*) intertwined from the beginning: in Central Asia one can describe a Shaman (*shaman, qam, yumoz, böge, bakhsi*) as an articulate figure that through an ecstatic experience considers him/herself a magician, healer, musician and poet, connected to another world.

This one-day Conference will thus explore ways in which an interdisciplinary study of how esoteric knowledge, spiritual power and ecstatic experience interact with music can shed light on issues of the unique importance of art in human history.

## TITLES AND PARTICIPANTS

**9:15 Introduction, greetings and salutations by Giovanni Giuriati**

**Chair: Giovanni Giuriati**

**09:30-10:15**

**Romano Mastromattei, University of Rome**

*A Sherpa Shamanic Ritual in Helambu* ( with the projection of documentary excerpts)

**10:15-10:40**

**Galina B. Sychenko, Novosibirsk State Music Conservatoire "Glinka"**

*Music as a tool for Spiritual Practices in Shamanism and Sufism: Some Common Features*

**10:40-11.05**

**Razia Sultanova, University of Cambridge**

*Shamanism and Sufism: Symbols of Protection in Uzbek Wedding Songs and in Female Craftsmanship*

**Break**

**Chair: Razia Sultanova**

**11:20-11:45**

**Giampiero Bellingeri, University of Venice**

*From the Reed Thicket to the Čay-khâna: Sounds and Verses of the Steppes*

**11:45-12:10**

**Giovanni De Zorzi, State Music Conservatory "Arrigo Pedrollo", Vicenza**

*The vocal zikr (zikr jāhri) Sufi Ceremonies in Central Asian Area and their Analogies with Shamanic Concepts and Practices*

**12:10-12:35**

**Gianroberto Scarcia, University of Venice**

*The Rhythm of the Persian Quatrain between Impressionism and Expressionism*

**12:35-13:00**

**Federico Spinetti, University of Alberta**

*The Voice of Destiny: Memory, Mysticism and Cosmology in the Mountain Music of Tajikistan*

**13:00 Final discussion, coordinated by Giovanni De Zorzi and Razia Sultanova**