

November 6, 2008



Subject: Letter of Recommendation for
Sangeet School of World Music, Arohi & Lian Ensembles

To Whom It May Concern:

The Arohi and the Lian Ensemble have offered the World Festival of Sacred Music – Los Angeles with unique concerts of high artistic and aesthetic quality since 1999. Presenting Persian & American artists in collaboration, their events in the festivals were valuable representatives of traditional Persian and Indian performing arts. As an indication of our respect for their work, the Lian Ensemble was showcased at our 2008 World Festival of Sacred Music Opening gala concert at UCLA's Royce Hall and Paul Livingstone has been invited to be in the festival three of our four festivals.

We are well aware of their success in developing new audiences here in Los Angeles, nationally and their track record of successful performances around the US, Mexico, Canada as well as in Europe and the Middle East. They have consistently conducted themselves with great professionalism as musicians and composers in their traditional field as well as creative collaborators working directly with performers from Africa, South East Asia & Latin America as well artists in jazz and popular music genres. Finally let me comment on their commitment to the community. They are ensembles of enormous energy and vision. Their work as artist, teacher, and arts facilitator is key to their mission of who they are--each as a person and creative artist.

I have been pleased to know the two ensembles over these past several years. Each is unique in so many ways and has so much to offer to other artists and the public. Each has a solid foundation in their craft and technique, as well as a complete openness both intellectually and creatively to cross-cultural concepts. Let me close by saying the two ensembles deserve recognition and opportunities. We were pleased about their professionalism, talent and ability to bring together diverse musical styles and audiences. We recommend the Sangeet School, Arohi and the Lian Ensemble for future performances in which highly creative and dynamic music ensembles are appreciated.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judy Mitoma". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of each name being significantly larger and more decorative.

Judy Mitoma
Director, UCLA Center for Intercultural Performance
Director, World Festival of Sacred Music-Los Angeles
Professor of Dance, Dept. of World Arts and Cultures
Phone: 310 206 2776: Fax: 310 825 5152

120 Westwood Plaza – Suite 188 ♦ Box 957173 ♦ Los Angeles, CA 90095-7173 ♦ USA
Phone: +1 (310) 206 1335 ♦ Fax: +1 (310) 825 5152
E-mail: cip@arts.ucla.edu ♦ Website: www.wac.ucla.edu/cip