

Ahmad Reza Yousefbeigi
Daf & Tonbak Percussionist
ahmadrysb@yahoo.com
206-303-7275
www.kurdishdrum.com www.kamand.org

BIO

Ahmad Yousefbeigi is an inspired and sought-after Kurdish Iranian percussionist. Born in Sanandaj, Iran, his passion for rhythm was fostered by the musical nature of Kurdish community life and his brother's guidance. At the age of twelve he began formal study of Tonbak and Daf.

Since moving to Seattle in 1998, Ahmad has captivated audiences in the Pacific Northwest with the energetic, nomadic folk songs of his native Kurdistan and the delicate, lyrical rhythms of Persian classical music and poetry.

In 2003 Ahmad formed **Kamand**, a traditional Persian classical and Kurdish folk ensemble. In Kamand, he was the lead singer and percussionist. For 3 years—2006, 2008 and 2009—he produced, organized and performed with Kamand and other guest artists to create a 2 hour music and dance concert called Norooz—a celebration commemorating the Iranian New Year and the first day of Spring—at Town Hall Seattle.

Ahmad's versatility, love of cultural exchange and collaboration has since led him to perform with many musicians and bands outside of traditional Iranian and Kurdish music.

In 2011, Ahmad joined the Seattle Balkan band, **Kafana Republik**, which faithfully recreates the music of Eastern Europe from Macedonia, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Serbia and Croatia. Their repertoire highlights the songs, ballads and dance music that forms the heart beat and the soul of these cultures. The kafana has a place of honor in the Balkans- typically a cafe or a coffee house; a place where the community gathers to share food, drink, ideas, songs, passion and experiences.

In September of 2010 Ahmad along with composer and multi-instrumentalist Bill Wolford and bass player Jerry Schroeder founded **YESOD**, an acoustic, ambient, improvisational ensemble.

In 2010 Ahmad joined local Middle-Eastern band, **Shoruk**.

From 2007-2008 Ahmad was a founding member of another pan-Middle Eastern music ensemble, **Mashriq**.

He has performed multiple times as a guest percussionist playing Daf with the **Seattle Peace Choir**—in an interpretation of Mozart's Requiem and Beethoven's Ode to Joy.

Ahmad is a former member of **Sin Fronteras**, a South American folk band in which he played Argentine Bombo, Arabic Darabuka and Charchas.

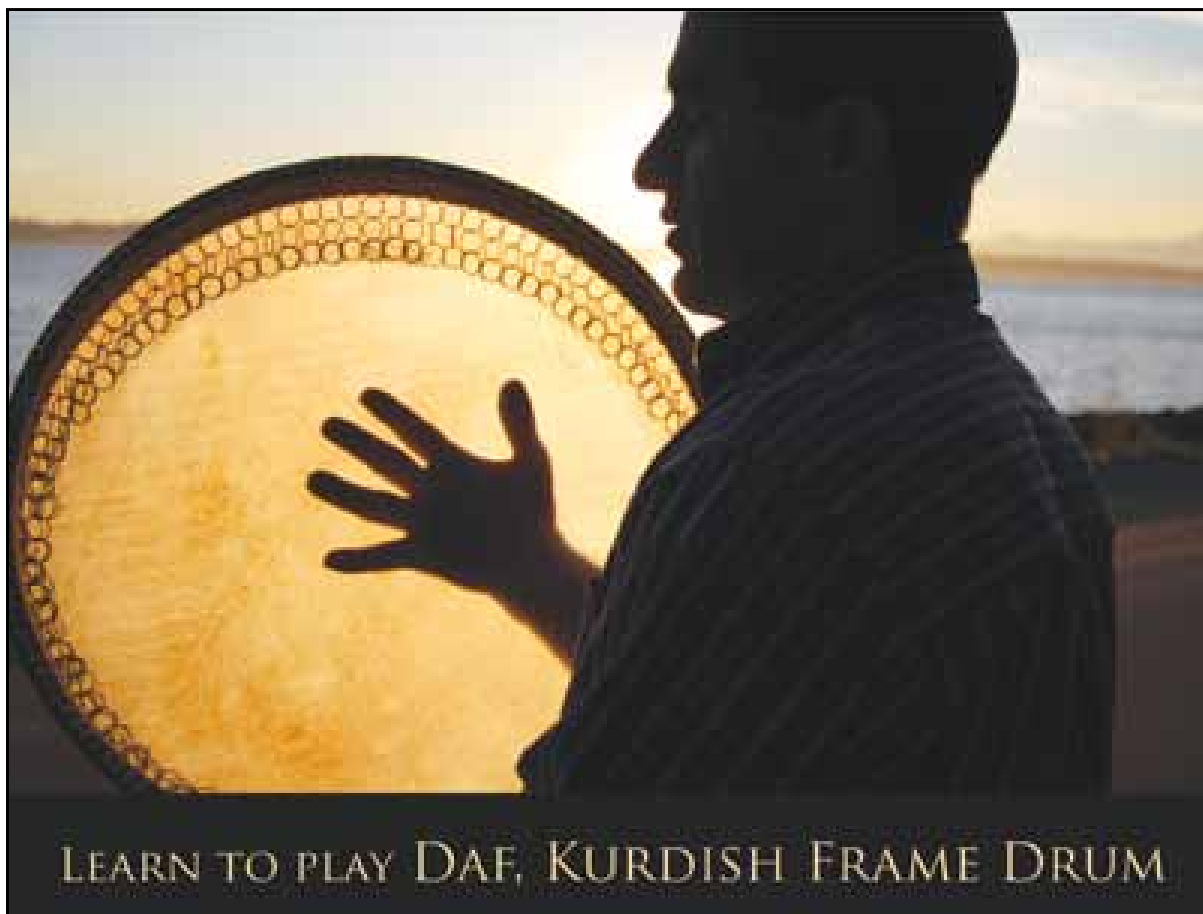
In 2011, Ahmad was privileged to be invited to perform as a guest artist with **Araz Ensemble**, an Azeri band on tour from Iran.

Other performance highlights include appearances on Seattle Public Radio Stations **KUOW** and **KBCS**; on **Big Night Out** on the Seattle Channel; at **Benaroya Hall**; **Seattle City Hall**; **Kirkland Performance Center**; **Bellevue Community College**; **South Seattle Community College**; **UW Meany Hall**, and **Classical Tuesdays** in Old Town Tacoma. Ahmad has also performed with Kamand for **Rick Steve's Iran: Yesterday and Today** presentation. He has performed and taught regularly at the **Northwest Folklife Festival** at the Seattle Center as well as Folklife in the School's K-12 music program. He has taught Kurdish folk songs and Daf at **Mendocino Middle Eastern Music and Dance Camp**. Ahmad teaches Daf, Tonbak, and Kurdish line dancing.

Ahmad has studied the Persian classical singing repertoire called Pish-Radif with Dr. Houssein Omoumi, master ney player. At Simon Shaheen's Arabic Music Retreat he was invited to join Simon Shaheen's ensemble in a performance.

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Ahmad has been playing Daf and persian
Tonbak since he was 12 years old.
He performs Kurdish and Persian music
with local Seattle band, Kamand.
For more info visit: www.kamand.org

LEARN TO PLAY DAF, KURDISH FRAME DRUM

The Daf is a large frame drum with
small metal rings on the inside rim.
Traditionally it is played in Kurdish Sufi
rituals. Today the Daf is also used in
popular folk and classical Persian music.

- ALL LEVELS WELCOME
- PRIVATE & GROUP LESSONS
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Call Ahmad: 206-303-7275
Email: kamandseattle@yahoo.com



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YESOD-Improvisations 2010
Percussion: Ahmad Yousefbeigi
Strings: Bill Wolford






Listen: <http://vividsoundrecordings.bandcamp.com/album/yesod-improvisations-2010>

YESOD Improvisations 2010

by VIVID SOUND RECORDINGS

 YESOD - Swamp Water 00:25/03:40 


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-  1. YESOD - Swamp Water 03:40 [Info](#)
-  2. Times Up 05:27
-  3. The Hear Can Take So Much 04:41
-  4. Mulungu 04:33
-  5. Carthoda 18:05


A collection of excerpts from improvised music sessions done over a 3 1/2 month period in the Fall of 2010



released 18 December 2010
Ahmad Yousefbeigi: Percussion
Bill Wolford: Strings
-Others as noted per track

tags: soundtracks electronics folk rock and roll world Seattle

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 Feeds for this album, the artist



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2009 Kamand at Classical Tuesdays in Old Town Tacoma



Fifth season of Classical Tuesdays in Old Town welcomes world music, local talent, community pride

By Matt Nagle
mnagle@tacomaweekly.com

Traditional and classical Persian music, accomplished violinists, masses of harps, a salute to Tacoma composers – this and more is on the season playbill for the fifth annual Classical Tuesdays in Old Town, a series of free chamber music concerts held on the second Tuesday of each month at Slavonian Hall beginning Oct. 13 and running through Feb. 9.

Presented by the Old Town Business and Professional Association, Classical Tuesdays in Old Town is under the artistic direction of Pamela Ryker, a flutist and lover of chamber music. She puts a lot of care into bringing together Tacoma musicians, mixed with a few surprises to keep things fresh each season. "We provide the unexpected," she said. "There's always something new for the ear."

And that's exactly what's on tap for the series' opening night Oct. 13 when Kamand Ensemble takes the stage for an evening of Persian classical and traditional music. Already known to audiences at the Northwest Folklife Festival in Seattle, Kamand Ensemble is comprised of musicians Ahmad (an Iranian Kurd), Milad and Ali (both of Tehran) performing on the barbat and setar (Persian lutes), and daf and tonbak (percussion instruments). These men have studied with the great masters of traditional Persian music and state that they "dedicate every performance to increasing multicultural awareness and building relationships of respect and appreciation within the community."

"I think we all want to become more familiar with the fine traditions of Middle Eastern culture," Ryker said. "(Kamand Ensemble) plays wonderful music that we're not very familiar with, so I thought it was something to celebrate, these fabulous musicians and very great people."

In the coming months, there are many outstanding local performers to see and hear:

- Nov. 10 – "A Few of Our Favorite Strings" featuring returning violinists Maria Sampen and Timothy Christie, on faculty at University of Puget Sound.

- Dec. 8 – A special event to benefit Classical Tuesdays in Old Town with Tangoheart Quartet, to be held at John Connelly Law Offices in Old Town. Tickets: \$25.

- Jan. 12 – Chamber pieces by Tacoma composers Greg Youtz, Deborah Anderson, Clem Reid and more.

- Feb. 9 – An evening with the Puget Sound Strings Harp Ensemble made up of harpists of all ages from University of Puget Sound Community Music Department.

With four successful seasons of Classical Tuesdays in Old Town already past, looking back Ryker noted the important social aspect of the concert series that people seem to enjoy so much. Musicians mingle with the audience, audience members reunite and meet newcomers and everyone gets to enjoy a bit of informal Old Town hospitality.

"This series has created a nice sense of community for the musicians and the audience," Ryker said, which is particularly welcome during the winter months when Tuesday nights in Old Town are normally

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2009 Norooz Music & Dance Concert, Town Hall Seattle



CELEBRATING
THE PERSIAN
NEW YEAR

NOROOZ 2009 CONCERT

Music: Kamand
Members of Shabava
Christos Govetas
Saba Choir
and other guest artists

Dance: Delshodeh
Dance Ensemble
Karavans
Dance Troupe

Saturday, March 21st
7:30 pm
Doors open 6:45 pm

TOWN HALL
1119 EIGHTH AVE.
SEATTLE 98101

Tickets & Information:
www.brownpapertickets.com/event/52319
Tickets also available at local Persian groceries & restaurants.

1.800.838.3006
www.kamand.org/Norooz

General	\$18
Students	\$10
Seniors	\$10
Family	\$40
<small>2 adults + 4 kids under 18</small>	



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2008 Norooz Music & Dance Concert, Town Hall Seattle

Kamand

Classical & Folk Music of Iran

Ahmad, percussion, voice | Paymon, oud, barbat, voice
Anahita, santoor, voice | Kavoos, ney, voice
Paria, tar, voice | Ashley, tar, voice.

featuring guest artists:

Bobak Salehi on Kamancheh, Violin and Setar
Mojdeh Hooshmand, Voice | Taraneh Mohajeri, Voice
Helene Eriksen's International Dance Theater
Karavans Dance Troupe, Directed by Mish Mish

www.kamand.org

Norooz

Music & Dance

An Inter-cultural Celebration of Spring Renewal & the Persian New Year

Saturday March 15, 2008 @ 7:30 PM

Doors will open at 6:45 PM

Town Hall Seattle

PANGÉO

Music of Greece and the Balkans

Christos Govetas, clarinet, voice | Ruth Hunter, accordion, voice
Kane Mathis, guitar | Will Dowd, doumbek, defi, daouli

featuring guest artists:

St. Demetrios' Church
of Seattle "Akrites" Dancers
directed by Vassili Dikeakos

www.kyklosmusic.com

Kamand

Classical & Folk Music of Iran

Ahmad, percussion, voice | Paymon, oud, barbat, voice
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Mojdeh Hooshmand, Voice | Taraneh Mohajeri, Voice
Helene Eriksen's International Dance Theater
Karavans Dance Troupe, Directed by Mish Mish
www.kamand.org



Information line 1-800-838-3006

Tickets: www.brownpapertickets.com/event/26005

\$18 General Admission | \$10 Student, Seniors, Low Income | \$40 Family (2 adult & 4 youth under 18)

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2006 Norooz Music & Dance Concert, Town Hall Seattle



March 19th, 2006 at 7pm

Norooz

Town Hall
Concert

A Celebration of Spring!

Kamand

persian music ensemble

& Sin Fronteras

pan american music ensemble

It's time for a good spring cleaning!

Traditional Iranian musical ensemble, KAMAND, and local Pan-American music group, SIN FRONTERAS, in association with La Casa de Artes, invite you to celebrate the ancient Iranian tradition of Norooz -- a New Year festival that coincides with the earth's cycle of springtime renewal, rebirth, and rejuvenation. In Iran, Norooz is celebrated by cleaning the home, gathering with family and friends, making peace with the troubles and challenges of the past year, and starting anew with celebratory music, dance, and community gatherings. The universal themes of Norooz -- forgiveness, renewal, unity -- are celebrated in many cultures around the world, in a multitude of ways.

Please join us for a very special evening of Persian and Latin American music and dance, in recognition and celebration of our common connection to the earth's cycles and to each other.



A Celebration of Spring!

Norooz

CONCERT

An Intercultural Dedication to the Iranian New Year

Kamand & Sin Fronteras

persian music ensemble *pan-american music ensemble*

Sunday, March 19th, 2006 at 7pm
Town Hall • 1119 8th Avenue • Seattle, WA 98101

Order Tickets Online:
www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3087
\$10 Students/Seniors/Low-Income
\$18 General Advance
\$40 Family (2 adults & 4 youth under 18)

Info Line:
1-800-838-3006

Contact:
www.kamand.org
sinfronteras2002@hotmail.com

Sponsored by La Casa de Artes

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2006 Norooz Music & Dance Concert Town Hall Seattle - Sin Fronteras & Kamand

Sin Fronteras

pan american music ensemble



Diego Coy: *bongos, quena, quenacho, zampoñas*
Pamela Emerson: *charango, vocals*
Patricia Mazuela: *charango, cuatro, guitar, vocals*
Arthur Santora: *lead guitar*
Ahmad Yousefbeigi: *bombo, darabukka, hooves*

Sin Fronteras ("Without Borders") is a six-member, Seattle-based, Pan-American music ensemble that interprets songs from across Central & South America and the Caribbean. They draw heavily from the Nueva Cancion movement with an emphasis on Andean instrumentation, vocal harmony, Chilean composers, and a fusion of Middle Eastern percussion traditions. They are committed to unity among all peoples of the Americas and beyond..

Kamand

persian music ensemble



Ashley Biria: *tar, vocals*
Heather Carman: *ney, violin, vocals*
Paymon Elahi: *oud, vocals*
Ahmad Yousefbeigi: *daf, dohol, tombak, vocals*

From the meditative grooves of classical Persian music to the pulsing rhythms of Kurdistan, Kamand takes the listener on a journey to the heart of Iran. As Seattle's only traditional Iranian ensemble, Kamand seeks to represent, musically, many of Iran's diverse regions. The sheer joy of music energizes the group members' collaboration and a passion for promoting intercultural appreciation drives their commitment. Please visit www.kamand.org for more information.

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2008 Mashriq at South Seattle Community College



Māshriq
middle eastern
music

8pm
Saturday
December 6, 2008

Olympic Hall
South Seattle Community College
6000 16th Ave SW, Seattle WA 98106

For Online Tickets:
www.brownpapertickets.com/event/48935

Or call Brown Paper Tickets:
1.800.838.3006

Omar Haggag
oud, vocals

Ahmad Yousefbeigi
percussion, vocals

with special guest

David McGrath
arabic nay

www.mashriqseattle.com