

Tamarind Society is proud to present
Mehr Ali and Sher Ali Faridi Qawwaals

in a memorable concert on
Sunday, May 4th, 2008 at 5:00 PM

PB Arts Center, 230 Vine Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106. Phone: 215.925.9914



Qawwali is a universal invitation to all living beings to share in the powerful emotion of pure love, the pain of separation and the joy of union. Mehr and Sher Ali are qawwaals who have achieved the rare combination of both musical quality and authentic text rendition. Sher is known for his ability to understand the importance of rhythm (*lai-kari*) and render classical modes in a strong voice, while Mehr's heart-rending high-pitched voice strikes the heart (*zarb-ul-qalb*) when the poetry contains words of entreaty or sorrow.

Mehr and Sher Ali were born in the Pakistani border-town of Kasur in the early 1950s and received their earlier training in classical music from their father who was a classical singer at the court of the Sikh principality of Patiala (now in India). Their father then became the disciple of Fateh Ali Khan, the father of the famous Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan. Young Sher Ali became the student of Bakhshi Salamat Ali Qawwal. Mehr Ali and Sher Ali thus acknowledge that the family of Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan is their "Ustad Gharana", a term imbued with veneration among musician circles in Pakistan and North India. Mehr Ali was also taught by Muhammad Ali Fareedi, an ordained Sufi qawwal of the shrine of the 13th century Sufi, Baba Farid.

Their qawwali brings harmony and peace to the soul and projects the message of love and unity for all. Be prepared to go into a trance during their performance, so moved will you be by the heady mix of Sufi poetry and music.

Tickets: \$70. Ticket includes a special Tamarind post-concert reception with the musicians.

Seats for this event are very limited. So please register **immediately** to avoid disappointment by contacting Azfar at azfarkaleem@gmail.com or 609.410.4541 and send in your personal checks made out to "Tamarind Society" to:

Tamarind Society
c/o Azfar Kaleem
121 John James Audubon Way
Marlton NJ 08053

Your tickets will be mailed to you.

Tamarind is a not-for-profit cultural society that promotes and fosters an appreciation of the wonderfully vibrant South Asian performing arts in the Tri-state region of New Jersey, Pennsylvania and New York, through the enactment of concerts, seminars and exhibitions. More information at www.tamarindlive.com.