

Artist Site:

Described by the Huffington Post as “an evolutionary force in contemporary Middle Eastern music, NIYAZ has created a 21st century global trance tradition by seamlessly blending medieval Sufi poetry and folk songs from their native Iran and its surrounding countries in the Persian Gulf, with rich acoustic instrumentation and state-of-the-art modern electronics.

Based in Montreal, NIYAZ was founded in 2004 by captivating vocalist/ composer and two-time JUNO Award nominee Azam Ali, and multi-instrumentalist/ composer and JUNO Award nominee Loga Ramin Torkian. Today with three best selling and critically acclaimed albums released on Six Degrees Records, all of which have debuted at #1 on iTunes and garnered the band an incredible amount of media attention including features on NPR and PRI, Niyaz continues to tour internationally and build on its impressive and loyal fan base worldwide. Since 2005 Niyaz has performed in the United States, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Singapore, Spain, Turkey, India, Russia, Poland, Dubai, Mexico, Finland, Slovenia, Italy, Portugal, Croatia, Morocco, Tunisia, and Austria. Their music has also been featured in several major film and television scores, which include, True Blood, Nip Tuck and Crossing Over.

In March 2015, Niyaz released their fourth full-length studio album entitled “The Fourth Light,” a tribute to the first female Sufi mystic and poet Rabia Al Basri who was born in the 8th century in Iraq. She is recognized as a saint as she was the one who set forth the doctrine of Divine Love and non-duality, which today lie at the heart of Sufi mysticism. Though her role continues to be diminished in value because she was a woman, it bears great significance in today’s modern world where women are still relentlessly striving in every aspect of life, to rise above the status of inferiority placed on them by patriarchal societies and laws. “The Fourth Light” has received rave reviews and features on The BBC World Service, Huffington Post, NPR, PRI’s The World and MTV Iggy. Niyaz is currently touring the new album internationally.

Niyaz is committed to creating music with a deep social message aimed at uniting people from different cultural and religious backgrounds through our shared humanity. Guided by the mystical poetry of legendary Sufi poets and the ancient wisdom of traditional folk songs that impart the beauty of ethnic and religious minority groups in Iran and its surrounding regions in Middle East, Niyaz steps into a future that is ancient, inviting listeners to embark upon a philosophical quest into the human depths with a message of hope against injustice and oppression, a universal tribute to beauty, cultural and spiritual diversity, freedom and dignity for all.

From the Agency:

Described by the Huffington Post as, “an evolutionary force in contemporary Middle Eastern music”, NIYAZ has created a 21st century global trance tradition, seamlessly blending poetry and folk songs from their native Iran and surrounding countries, with rich, acoustic instrumentation and state-of-the-art, modern electronics. A sublime, ever-evolving message is delivered through music that is uplifting and metamorphic. Niyaz is led by front woman, AZAM ALI , whose Iranian heritage and Indian upbringing have formed a bewitching singer of richly textured proportions. Still, with all the mysticism and allure of their native lands, Niyaz is not limited by tradition. Their far-reaching repertoire defies most standards of “world music”, making a bold statement, tearing down cultural boundaries, and offering listeners a bridge between the East and the West- a sanctuary in our modern world of polarized ideologies. It restores a severed bond between the past and the present.

By masterfully blending acoustic and electronic music, Niyaz appeals to fans of fantasy, global electronica, Middle Eastern music, sacred music and alternative world music.

Their ground-breaking new show THE FOURTH LIGHT PROJECT evolves from their latest release of the same name into a cutting-edge immersive & multi-sensory experience. In collaboration with interactive designer/visual artist Jerome Delapierre, Niyaz present a live musical and sacred dance performance with interactive technologies and advanced projection/body-mapping techniques that respond to sound and movement in real time. The end result creates a new kind of Digital Scenography and live musical experience, one in which virtual and real space merge to create an illusionistic three-dimensional environment that eliminates the distance between the audience and performers. This seamless synthesis of sound, space, image and light, actually invites the audience inside the art to share in a unique narrative and multi-sensory experience.

---

The artists’ four best selling, critically-acclaimed albums (released on Six Degrees Records), all debuted at #1 on iTunes and garnered the band media attention, including features on NPR, PRI, BBC World and The Huffington Post. Their music has been featured in several major Hollywood film and television scores, which include, “The Matrix,” “Prince of Persia,” “Thor-The Dark World,” “Body of Lies,” “True Blood,” “Nip Tuck,” “Bones” , “Alias,” “Prison Break,” and “Crossing Over”. Niyaz reaches an impressive and loyal fan base worldwide.