

Summary

Born in Tehran, Iran, Shahkar discovered a love of poetry and music at the age of 15. He learned to play the guitar, piano, and drums without formal instruction. He was the youngest student accepted into any doctorate program in Iran and received his doctorate in Human Geography (Urban Planning) with highest honors. While at university, he began to produce albums of music and collections of poetry, which achieved great success.

Shahkar immigrated to the United States in 2012. The U.S. granted him an Einstein visa, recognizing him as a person of extraordinary ability due to his many accomplishments as an artist and academic. Shahkar has brought his unique, anti-regime view of Iranian culture to the U.S. by continuing to compose music and poetry. He and his 200-piece orchestra have sold out concerts all over the world. Shahkar has collaborated with many renowned artists, including Andrea Bocelli.

Concerts and Performances *Performed concerts with a full symphony orchestra in the following prestigious venues worldwide:*

- Los Angeles - Microsoft Theater. November 30, 2019.
- Vienna - Stadthalle. October 5, 2019.
- Stockholm - Konserthuset. September 27, 2019.
- Rotterdam - De Doelen. September 21, 2019.
- Toronto - Toronto Center for the Arts. May 25, 2019.
- Montreal - Rialto Theater. April 27, 2019.
- Düsseldorf - Tonhalle. November 10, 2018.
- Vancouver - Centennial Theater. October 28, 2018
- Sydney - Recital Hall. October 20, 2018.
- Los Angeles - Dolby Theater with Andrea Bocelli. May 20, 2017.
- Hamburg - Hamburg Philharmonie. May 28, 2016.
- London - Logan Hall. May 21, 2016.
- Cologne - Tanzbrunnen Theater. May 7, 2016.
- Chicago - Copernicus Center. April 2, 2016.

- New York City - The Space Theater. February 6, 2016.
- San Francisco - Palace of Fine Arts. January 30, 2016.
- Toronto - Queen Elizabeth Theater. December 12, 2015.
- Dallas - Eisemann Center. November 20, 2015.
- Atlanta - Ferst Center for the Arts. November 14, 2015.
- Houston - Baptist University Theater. November 7, 2015.
- Boston - Berklee Performance Center. October 10, 2015.
- Los Angeles - Dolby Theater. March 28, 2015.
- Vancouver - Chan Shun Concert Hall. February 28, 2015.
- London - Central Hall. November 22, 2014.
- New York City - Queens College Theater. October 18, 2014.
- Toronto - Roy Thomson Hall. September 28, 2014.
- Washington, D.C. - Warner Theater. September 20, 2014.
- San Jose - Cupertino Theater. April 12, 2014.
- Los Angeles - Nokia Theater. February 28, 2014.
- Los Angeles - Nokia Theater. January 26, 2013.
- Kiev - Opera House. April 17, 2012.

Education

- Ph.D. Azad University of Tehran, Iran. Human Geography - Urban Planning. 2002.
- M.S. Azad University of Tehran, Iran. Human Geography – Urban, Rural, Tribal. 1997.
- B.S. Azad University of Tehran, Iran. Human and Economic Geography. 1995.

Teaching Experience

- Urban Planning at Tehran University 2010-2011
 - banned from teaching due to anti-regime political and religious standpoints

Books and Albums Authored

- “Kiss Me,” seminal Farsi jazz album published. 2021
- “Mashti,” album published. 2018
- “Be To Che,” album published. 2014
- “A Cup of Coffee,” a collection of poetry. 2012
- “The Mood of Love,” album published. 2011
- “Sleep By My Side,” album published. 2008
- “The Human Lineage,” a collection of poetry. 2006
- “Literature of Another Ilk,” album published.
- “Your Majesty,” album published. 2005
- “I Am Not Politicized,” a collection of poetry.
- “Mr. Prime Minister,” a translation of selected Bertolt Brecht poems.
- “The Eternity of a Kiss,” a Farsi translation of selected poems by Pablo Neruda. 2004
- “The Idiotland,” a collection of poetry.
- “The Nadere Café,” a collection of poetry. 2003
- “Eskenas” seminal Farsi rap album released. 2000
- “I Do Love Your Hands,” a collection of poetry. 1999

Philanthropy

- ACLU - donated all proceeds from LA 2017 concert (\$70,000)
- Mothers Against Poverty - active supporter and donator
- Pars Equality Center - active supporter and donator
- Unique Zan -member and activer supporter
- UCLA Iranian Music Minor Program - donator (\$35,000)