

Davod Azad is a prominent master of Iranian music who is based in Tehran, Iran. A vocalist, composer & instrumental musician, he is a virtuoso in playing Tar, Setar, Tanbour, Oud, Daf & Robab. Davod was born in Orumieh, Iran in 1963. He began playing music at the age of 19 & began performing & teaching at 21. His first CD was released when he was 25 years old & this CD called "Maktabe Tar Tabriz" became a classic & a standard for Tar playing. His musical source is the classical Iranian model system (Dastgah) & the Tradition (regional) Maqam musical form. He is admired for his unique singing style, which integrates classical & modern spiritual elements, and for his improvisation, which brings a contemporary sensibility to a traditional musical format. For the last 30 years Davod has performed in Sufi gatherings around the world, and his compositions to the poems of Rumi are known for their healing & uplifting effect. Few musicians from Iran have traveled & played before such diverse audiences as Davod. He has performed extensively over the last two decades in Europe, North America, the Caribbean, Australia, India, Japan & recently in Bhutan, as well as throughout Iran with over 300 performances worldwide. He has performed at international festivals, including the Istanbul International Music Festival, BBC Proms, Music Village (Sacred Voices), Sir John Taverner's festival, the folk festival of Hungary, World in Nord festival in Norway, Art In Action festival in Oxford, England, The Edinburgh Spiritual festival Scotland and the Institut de Monde Arabe festival in France. Davod is the first Iranian lecturer invited to Oxford University to lecture about Iranian music & its forms. His "The Divan of Rumi & Bach" album is the first Iranian fusion with Western classical music. The music was performed at many international venues & was played on many radio stations in Europe, Kulturhaus in Vienna, Austria. Davod has also performed for BBC television & for TV network in India & Bhutan. Davod adds his contemporary vision to the classic Persian musical format to spread a message of human unity, harmony & peace among nations. His music is universal & appeals to people of all religions & backgrounds.