

TARANA 2017



Photo Credit : Nathan West

Ravish Momin: Drums, Electronics; **Rick Parker:** Trombone, Electronics;

Tarana was formed in 2003 by Ravish Momin, an Indian-born versatile percussionist/composer/electronic musician/educator currently residing in New York City. Ravish has worked with artists as diverse as pop-star Shakira as well as legendary saxophonist Kalaparush Maurice McIntyre of the Association for the Creative Advancement of Creative Musicians (AACM.) Inspired by the music of the AACM, Ravish has continued to draw inspiration from various world music genres to produce his own shape-shifting world/jazz/electronic group.

In its present line-up, Tarana is an exciting and ground-breaking Trombone/synth (**Rick Parker**) & Drums/electronics (**Ravish Momin**) DUO that blurs the boundaries between the electronic and the acoustic, while blending a vast array of influences, ranging from Jazz to Indian Music to various Electronic Music genres. They layer loops, melodies, textures and sounds on top of their tight-knit acoustic instruments to create a symphonic sound that also explores deep-grooving rhythms from across the world.

Of their latest full-length release entitled, 'A Fire of Flowers Grows Around US' (Wondermachine), Mike Greenblatt of Classicalite wrote: *"If you had to put a spin on post-rock band Sigur Ros from Reykjavik, Iceland, Jamaican trombone player Vin Gordon (one of reggae's original rude boys) and the tragic Midwestern electronica pioneer DJ Rashad, it might wind up sounding just like Tarana does on A Fire Of Flowers Grows Around Us. Not that Tarana actually sounds like them. The point is; they sound like nobody. Still, elements of the aforementioned pop up like weeds between city sidewalks. It's alive. It throbs with static electricity. You can't stop listening to it."*

They have performed at major festivals and venues across the world; amongst their highlights, they have performed at The Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage (2016), New Music & Sound Summit, Austin, TX (2016), Festival Alfonsino, Monterrey, Mexico (2016), Rough Trade, NYC (2015), MOD7: Encuentros de Musica Electronica Viva, Mexico City (2015), Columbia University, NYC (2014), The Mexico City Sound Encounter (Mexico, 2013), Kaunas Jazz Festival (Lithuania, 2012), The San Servolo Jazz Festival (Italy, 2010), The Calgary Jazz Festival (Canada, 2009), Jazz Lent (Maribor, Slovenia, 2009), Cultural Festival Zacatecas (Mexico 2009), Jazz Ao Centro Festival (Coimbra, Portugal, 2008), The Yardbird Suite Jazz Club (Edmonton, Canada, 2007), Detroit Institute of Art (US, 2006), Mediawave Festival (Hungary, 2006), the Jazzin' Tondela (Portugal, 2005), the Smithsonian Institution's Freer Gallery (Washington, DC, 2005), the New Music Circle (St. Louis, MO, 2005), 9th Annual Asian American Jazz Festival (Chicago, IL, 2004) and the Taipei Arts Festival (Taiwan, 2004.) They have also toured widely in the UK, Europe and China. In New York City, they've performed at Columbia University, the Rubin Museum of Asian Art, Knitting Factory, The Stone, and various music venues across Brooklyn and

Manhattan, They have also been featured in The Pittsburgh Post–Gazette, Chicago Reader, TimeOUT Magazines (London, Lisbon, HongKong and Chicago), ‘Village Voice’ (New York), Redstar Magazine (China) and various other domestic and international publications.

BIOS

Ravish Momin (composition, percussion, voice, laptop) is the leader of the ensemble. He has toured internationally and recorded with saxophonists Kalaparush Maurice McIntyre (AACM), Sabir Mateen, and Peter Epstein, guitarist Brad Shepik, bassists Wilber Morris and William Parker, Violinists Billy Bang, Jason Kao Hwang, percussionists Susie Ibarra, Kenny Wolleson & Jim Black, trumpeters Roy Campbell and Raphe Malik, and Pianist Ursel Schlicht’s Ex Tempore. He has also worked with Hip–Hop artist Dalek, toured with the up–and–coming rock band Fulton Lights, and recorded for the CleanFeed, Delmark, NuBop, CIMP, Plasma Torus, Entropy Stereo, BlueRegard & Wondermachine Record Labels.

Rick Parker (trombone, electronics)

Combining jazz, experimental, electronic and rock, Rick Parker casts a broad net with his trombone playing augmented by electronics and synthesizers. His music is “an expressive new–breed fusion, informed by a few generations of downtown experimentation.” Nate Chinen, [New York Times](#), and his sound described as “a seductive, burnished tone that’s animated by conversational improvisations.” John Murph, Downbeat Magazine.

Parker has resided in New York City since 2001 when he began studies for a masters in jazz performance and composition at NYU. He has worked with a large cross section of notable musicians and groups including Tim Berne, Mingus Big Band, Darcy James Argue Secret Society, Charli Persip, Frank Lacy, Super Hi-Fi, Tim Kuhl, Beninghove’s Hangmen, Cage the Elephant, hip hop legends the Wu Tang Clan and DMC and mexican pop stars Ximena Sariñana and Natalia LaFourcade. Since 2012 he has been a member of Ravish Momin’s Tarana, performing at festivals, universities and major concerts in USA, Mexico and Europe. Parker’s innovative use of electronics with the trombone have allowed him to cross through many musical genres and even garnered the attention of manufacturers Electroharmonix and Eventide with whom he has consulted on the development of new pedals and effects.

NEW PRESS

Pittsburgh City Paper *Critics Pick* Staff (Aug 25–31, 2016)

“Tarana’s music flows with an artful connection despite mixing everything from ambient, flowing loops to catchy Bollywood melodies and beats. Highly recommended viewing.”

AllaboutJazz Dave Wayne (Nov 8, 2015)

“The influence of iconoclastic visionaries such as Brian Eno, Lee “Scratch” Perry, Bill Laswell, and Nils Petter Molvaer loom large here. Like Molvaer’s electronica– infused trance music, Tarana’s music moves the body as it tickles the mind.”

The Big Takeover Chuck Foster (Sept 16, 2015)

“Blips and beeps dance over a percussive plane of sonic haze. It’s the same head–scratching genius of Miles Davis’ Bitches Brew, only updated for the technological age.”

FACTmag (Music Video Premiere) (Sept 2, 2015)

“The duo Tarana nestles into a fascinating space between jazz, electronica, and the Bollywood and Indian folk music of project founder Ravish Momin’s childhood home. They explore it in length on their upcoming album A Fire Of Flowers Grows Around Us due September 18 via Wondermachine Records, but for now, watch the video by Alexandra Momin for ‘Myvatn’ which uses visual distortion as warped and fluid as the music behind it.”

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