

Jake Charkey

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PROFILE

Jake Charkey is an acclaimed cellist with a strong background in both Western classical music and Hindustani music. He is also an eclectic improviser, drawing from eastern and western musical traditions, jazz, reggae, hiphop, and his roving imagination. He is a sought after studio recording artist in the film, television and music industry in both India and the USA. He is one of the few cellists in the world performing Indian music on the cello.

EDUCATION

Private Study, Mumbai, India – 2010 to 2013

Disciple of Padmabhushan Dr. N. Rajam. Intensive advanced studies in Gayaki Ang style Hindustani music applied to cello.

MFA, California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA – 2006 to 2008

MFA completed with focus in Hindustani music at CalArts, studies with Aashish Khan, Swapan Chaudhuri, and studies in improvised music with Vinny Golia, Wadada Leo Smith, Charlie Haden, and others.

Private Studies in Hindustani Music, L.A., CA – 2005 to 2010

Intensive private studies with Shri Jagan Ramamoorthy, Hindustani violinist and vocalist, L.A., CA – 2007-2010 and Sarangi maestro Aruna Narayan (Kalle), Toronto, Canada – 2005

Bachelor of Music, Rice University, Shepherd School of Music, Houston TX - 1997 to 2001

B.M. completed in Cello Performance under the guidance of Norman Fischer.

Early Private Studies - 1989 to 1997

Private study in cello under Leopold Teraspulsky N. Hadley MA-1996, Chamber music studies with Robbie Merfeld Westmoreland NH-1993-1997, Private study in cello under Paul Cohen Putney VT-1989-1996

AWARDS/HONORS

2010-2012

Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute Arts Fellowship, Mumbai, India

2007-2008

Ahmanson Foundation Grant (CalArts)

1997-2001

Rice University Shepherd Society Award

MUSIC TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2004-present

Private cello students in Toronto, Montreal. CANADA LA, California, Boston, Marlboro, VT, Mumbai. INDIA
Graduate cello instructor at CalArts.

2015

Guest Speaker at 'Music Tech Sundays', speaking on "Western classical music and the development and evolution of written music" The Hive, Mumbai. INDIA

2014

Panelist, CAPA conference "Sound and Silence in Cinema" Whistling Woods International, Mumbai. INDIA

2013

Speaker at TED Talks: TedXMSRIT presentation on Western, Hindustani, and Electric Cello, Bangalore. INDIA

2011

Guest Lecturer at Whistling Woods International Film School, Mumbai. INDIA

2009

Workshop and private instruction in Hindustani Raga at Marlboro College, Marlboro VT

2007-2008

Graduate Assistant to Professor Wanda Bryant, music cultures course at CalArts (classroom teaching)

OTHER RECENT EXPERIENCE

2016

Transcriptions for indie recording artist Suman Sridhar "Black Mamba Tour"

2016

Co-founder Upstart Audio, a video game scoring startup

2016

Arranged and produced strings for Grammy award winner Jai Uttal's Roots, Rock Rama album

2016

Contracted horns and produced remote recording session for Sanchit Balhara's score for Bajaj Auto's Sons of Vikrant documentary (Part of 2016 Cannes Lions award-winning ad film campaign)

2015

Founder of Rose Productions LLC, music contracting and production. Contracted and managed a 30 piece Orchestra for Arijit Singh with Orchestra Tour of USA (New York, Orlando, Houston, Oakland, LA, Dallas, Chicago)

OTHER MUSICAL SKILLS

- Composition, Arrangement, Transcription
- Music Production, Programming, Film scoring (Logic and Ableton)
- Copyist (Sibelius)
- Live looping with Ableton
- Brazilian percussion (berimbau)

LANGUAGES

- French (Native or bilingual proficiency)
- Italian (Professional working proficiency)
- Spanish (Conversant)
- Hindi (Conversant)

OTHER SKILLS

- Capoeira Angola instructor (Brazilian Dance/Martial Arts), Mumbai. India
- Shop/woodworking skills (Supershop Assistant CalArts 2007-2008)

PERFORMANCES

2016

- Springfield Symphony Orchestra Opening Night Gala, section cello, Springfield MA
- Bandra Base with Mazz Swift, Sanjay Divecha, and Suphala, (jazz, original music), Mumbai. INDIA
- Appeared at The National Center for Performing Arts - NCPA Mumbai with Shirish Malhotra, Young Performer of the year, Mumbai. INDIA

2015-2016

- World Tour with Bollywood Singer Arijit Singh. Dates include New York, Orlando, Houston, Oakland, LA, Dallas, Chicago, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Kolkata, Dubai, and others

2015

- Lakme Fashion Week & Indian Derby with Monica Dogra, Mumbai. INDIA
- Nehru Centre with Shankar Tucker, Amit Mishra and Max Clouth, Mumbai. INDIA
- Bandra Base with Aki Ueda (sitar), Carl Clements, Amit Mishra. Mumbai. INDIA
- Nomadic Trio with Matan Rubinstein and Ziya Tabassian, Montréal. CANADA

2014

- Lavasa Festival, India with string quartet, accordion, vocals. Original arrangements of Beck from Song Book, Astor Piazzola. Lavasa. INDIA
- Tribute to Alla Rakha. A performance with Fazal Qureshi (tabla), string quartet, accordion, Louis Banks trio. Bandra, Mumbai. INDIA
- Performance at Shankar Math, "Moods of the Wind". Indian Classical, Persian Classical, Pop. Organized by Muralivana Heritage for the Culture. Siddapur Karnataka, INDIA
- High Spirits Festival and Bacardi NH7 Weekender Delhi & Pune with Monica Dogra, Mumbai. INDIA
- Fashion Event with Shaa'ir + Func, Mumbai. INDIA

2013

- Indian Tour with Shankar Tucker ("the Shruti Box"). Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore. INDIA
- "Do Doniya". Persian Classical and Indian Classical with Kiran Hegde, Amir Amiri, and Ziya Tabassian. Montreal, QC. CANADA
- Indian Classical Jugalbandi with Kiran Hegde, Shawn Mativetsky in Toronto, CANADA.
- Neel Murgai ensemble. Shows at Bandra Base, Mumbai and Anjuna, Goa. INDIA
- Performances with Noush Like Sploush, Dubai. (indie folk/pop, looping, electric cello, performance art). Dubai, UAE
- Guest appearance with Whirling Kalapas, (folk, pop) Blue Frog, Mumbai, INDIA

2012

- Jugalbandi with Kiran Hegde (Bansuri), Siddapur, Karnataka, Mulavana Heritage for the Culture Siddapur Karnataka. INDIA
- Indian Tour with Shankar Tucker and Maatibani. Delhi, Bangalore, Mumbai. INDIA
- Breaking Barriers, Building Bridges: We Remember 26/11 Memorial Concert, The National Center for Performing Arts - NCPA, Mumbai, INDIA

2009-2010

- Founder of Friday Night Allstars Klezmer band. Performances in Montreal QC. CANADA

2009

- Solo cello recitals of Hindustani Music in Montreal QC, CANADA
- Cello, bass and percussion for tUnEzArDs. Performances in Montreal QC and Brooklyn, NYC

2007-2008

- Bass for I-Trinity Roots Reggae Band (touring, recording, festivals) L.A. CA

2007

- Performances with Imiuswi Aboriginal and the Libraproject Hiphop bands, bass and cello. L.A. CA
- Go! Organic Orchestra with Adam Rudolph, Venice, CA

2006

- Co-founder, co-organizer, and performer, Parkdale People's Concerts concert series, Toronto, CANADA

2004-2005

- Performances with Culture Reject (indie rock) Toronto. CANADA

2003-2004

- Symphony in the Barn Music Festival, Durham ON. CANADA

2004

- Batignano Opera Festival Orchestra. Batignano. ITALY
- Aradia Ensemble, Toronto ON CANADA

2001-2005

- Freelance with Orchestra of St. Lukes, New York NY

2001

- Performance with David Berkeley, New York NY

1999-2003

- Wild Ginger Philharmonic. Principal cello 2001-2003
- 2002 Soloist, Haydn Cello Concerto, Wild Ginger Philharmonic, Colburn School of Music

DANCE ACCOMPANIMENT

2016

- Drive East Festival with Parul Shah, contemporary Kathak dance, NYC
- Musical collaborator and accompanist for Kathak Sangha Goa Retreat. Kathak Intensive retreat conducted by Joanna de Souza from M-DO Kathak Toronto.

2015

- Recording for contemporary Odissi Dance Performance by Daksha Mashruwala presented at the National Center for Performing Arts - NCPA with Hindol Deb. Mumbai, INDIA
- Performance along with Natya Nectar Dance Company, Mumbai. INDIA
- Indian Classical Music & Dance for a 360 Degree Film, virtual reality medium, Auroville. INDIA

2014

- Accompaniment to Kathak/ Odissi and Peruvian Dance by Veronica Simas de Souza and Maria Laura Valdez. Closing Ceremony at International Kolkata Book Fair. Hosted by the Peruvian Embassy, Kolkatta, INDIA.

2013

- Kathak performance by Smt. Gauri Sharma, Mumbai. INDIA.
- Recording for Contemporary Dance Piece "Marlene Mix" with Matan Rubenstein (Experimental, improvisation, electronica), Marlboro, VT, US.

2012

- Experimental Kathak Performance by Joanna D'Souza. With bass percussion, electronica. The Art Chamber, Calangute, Goa. INDIA

2009

- Musical collaborator in Crossroads Project a production of Kathak and Odissi dance with Sudeshna Maulik and Enakshi Sinha, performances at Salle Gesu, Montreal, QC, CANADA.

TELEVISION APPEARANCES

2016

- MTV Unplugged, Royal Stag Presents with Jeet Gangully, Mumbai. INDIA
- MTV Unplugged, Royal Stag Presents with Pritam, Mumbai. INDIA
- Pepsi MTV Indies, Music video with Nirmika Singh for songs "Kilhaaney" and "Joothe", Mumbai. INDIA

2015

- MTV India "The Dewarists" Season 4, "O Megh" with Shantanu Moitra and Papon, Mumbai. INDIA

2014

- Pepsi MTV Indies music video with Vasuda Sharma "Accha Hain" (hindi pop)

2012

- MTV Coke Studio, Season 2 with Clinton Cerejo. Cello solo in "Chaddh De", Section cello in "Mauje Naina" Mumbai. INDIA
- Malayalam Manorama's Josco Indian Voice with Stephen Devassy Band, 4 episodes. Kochi, Kerala. INDIA
- Super Singer Jr. with Stephen Devassy. Chennai, Tamil Nadu. INDIA
- Jai Hind TV Film Awards with Stephen Devassy. Kochi, Kerala. INDIA

RECORDING (SELECTION)

FILM

2016

- Yash Raj Bollywood song "Afeemi" for upcoming film "Meri Pyari Bindu"
- Independent Hindi film "Avichi"
- Independent Hindi film "Trapped"
- Background Score for Bollywood hit film "Airlift"
- Bollywood top chart song "Teri Yaad" for film "Fever"
- Independent Hindi film song "Jo Bhi Ho" for film "Dear Dad"
- Tamil film "Nishabdham"

2015

- Background Score for "Walk With Me" Documentary film, Marlboro. VT
- Fox Star Production Hindi Film "Neerja" for the song "Aisa Kyun Maa"
- Recorded with Bollywood Singer Arijit Singh, various films
- Armaan Malik Bollywood song "Khwaishein" for the film "Calendar Girls"
- Ad Film for Tanisq Timeless with Deepika Padukone
- Cannes Festival Selection "Jet Lag". A 360 degrees film for virtual reality medium.
Best live action award at the Kaleidoscope VR festival
- Independent Hindi Film "Barefoot to Goa" for the song Do Naina with Legendary Yesudas
- BBC Documentary Film "In Rajasthan"
- Ad Film for Anouk Ethnic Wear

2014

- Bollywood song "Albeliya" by Kailash Kher for film "Desi Kattey"
- Recorded for Sai Baba Telefilms

2013

- Theme song instrumental for Bollywood hit horror film "Aatma"

2012

- Bollywood film "Inkaar" backing score and theme song

ALBUMS/SINGLES

2015

- Rolling Stones recording and appearance in song "Disarray" video with Lima Yanger
- Strings arrangement for Dhruv Ghanekar album, "Journey" (hindi pop, folk) Gima award winner.
- "Hazir 2" with Hariharan and Grammy Award Winner Zakir Hussein (modern Ghazal)
- Echantation-Arunachal Tribal Music Experiment (Tribal music, jazz, electronica, pop)
- Recorded and appeared in music video with Symphony Novel. "Ethereal Ash" (prog-rock, metal, hindustani)

2013

- Recording and string arrangements for Noush like Sploush upcoming album (indie rock)
- Recording and string arrangement for Mynah Marie album (indie pop, folk, rock)
- "Arghovan" album with Persian Santoorist Amir Amiri (Hindustani, Persian and Contemporary)

2012

- "Bring Me Rain", STD album by Sridhar/Thayil

2008

- Culture Reject album song "Down by the Cinema" (indie)
- Go! Organic Orchestra with Adam Rudolph (improvised, experimental)

2002

- Recorded for David Berkeley album "the Confluence" (folk)

STUDENT PERFORMANCES

2008

- Graduate Recital in Hindustani Music, CalArts, Valencia CA
- Performances with Wadada Leo Smith small ensemble, CalArts, Valencia CA

2007-2008

- CalArts North Indian Ensemble
- Vinny Golia Large Ensemble, CalArts
- CalArts Symphony

1997-2001

- Shepherd School of Music Symphony and Chamber Orchestra

1993-1997

- Greater Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra, Principal Cello 1995-1997