



Trilok started playing tabla at six years old, encouraged by his mother in the Mumbai family home which was full of music and musicians; she was a very famous multi award winning Thumri singer.

Today he is a band leader and respected as one of the most knowledgeable and virtuosic rhythm players in the world. He has established audiences worldwide and is the only Indian born musician that has embraced western pop/jazz/classical/world to the extent that he

freely moves between them all. It is this talent, referred to by **BBC Radio 3** as that of a “**Serial Collaborator**”, that most accurately describes his true uniqueness; one must remember that it is only his deep musical skills that allow him to accomplish this to such a level.

*“You never know quite what you'll get with Indian percussionist Trilok Gurtu. Of course, there are fabulous sounds and rhythms, but the context is always new.”*

**theguardian**

His stage presence is extremely entertaining as he likes to converse and joke with his audiences, display his rhythmic magic and take you on a musical journey with many twists and turns.

In the early years when he first came to the West, times were hard for him, so working within **Oregon** and **Don Cherry's** group were very welcome. It was only when he joined **John McLaughlin** that his real performing self began to emerge and after the nurturing he had received from his previous exploits, he was ready to fully engage with a career as a band leader ....and the recordings and tours flowed.

The list of collaborators has been phenomenal, mainly it was his burning sense of rhythm that attracted other band leaders to play with him, often on Trilok's own recordings: **Joe Zawinul, Pharoah Sanders, Pat Metheny, Jan Garbarek, Dave Holland** and **Bill Evans**. Today's world music scene quickly became involved with **Oumou Sangare, Angelique Kidjo, Salif Keita, Gilberto Gil** and **Frederick Galliano**.

He has also worked with the glitterati of Indian musical society – his mother, **Shobha Gurtu, Zakir Hussain, L. Shankar, Shankar Mahadevan, Hariprasad Chaurasia, Misra Brothers** and **Sultan Khan** and is a mentor to the British Asians **Nitin Sawhney** and **Talvin Singh**.

Even pop singers became involved like **Sting, Annie Lennox, Steve Lukather, Gary Moore** and **Neneh Cherry** as well as classical players like **Yo Yo Ma** and the **Labeque sisters**.

**MINTAKA MUSIC LTD**

**Furze Hill, Kilcoe, Nr. Skibbereen, Co. Cork, Ireland**

**00 353 28 38822 / [info@mintakamusic.com](mailto:info@mintakamusic.com)**

These collaborations and intensive touring during 1996–2006 all helped to establish Trilok with concert audiences and cd buyers worldwide and enabled him to move up to another level of a fully fledged Master Musician; capable of being “chef d’orchestre” for a performance on a floating stage at sunset in Copenhagen Harbour, combining **Huun Huur Tu’s** overtone singing with **Samul Nori’s** Korean percussion and that Gurtu Indian magic

Ever since 2006 he has continued to add ever more and more musical adventures to his career.....

With **Omara Portuondo** he won a Grammy; at Celtic Connections he performed with **Jan Garbarek** and **Shankar Mahadevan**; at the opening ceremony of Perth Concert Halls he contrived an extravaganza with Scottish bagpipes, Scottish singers and elements of both Indian and African music. At the Etnosur Festival in Spain he also invited Jan Garbarek but added a Spanish flamenco dancer and guitarist.

In 2009 he formed a trio with **Paolo Fresu** and **Omar Sosa**; toured a wonderful combination with **Oumou Sangare** and **Jan Garbarek** guesting with his group.

*“Trilok Gurtu’s revolutionary combinations put La Salle Pleyel on fire India and Africa united by the grace of music.”* 

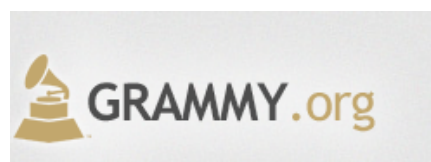
He also formed the **Trilok Gurtu Orchestra** (a small orchestra of seven classical players) with a performance at **Sadlers Wells, London** combining his own compositions seamlessly with those of **Bartok, Bach, Philip Glass** and **Takemitsu**. This amazing event continues through 2011 with performances in Deidesheim Germany and Gdansk Poland where he will be with special guest **Marcus Miller**.

His recorded output continues apace with a group recording entitled **Massical** in 2010 and **21 Spices** in 2011 which is a collaborative and retrospective set of Trilok’s compositions with the NDR Big Band. More new live performances to come!

At Montreux Jazz in 2011 he appears in a duet with Armenian piano prodigy **Tigran Hamasyan**. Another Armenian adventure carrying on from his work with a 26 person Armenian Choir at Eglise St Eustache in Paris in November 2010. Within so many different settings one person shines through with a blinding musical talent.....



**3 time Best Artist Asia/Pacific nominee  
BBC World Music Awards**



**5 time Winner Best Percussionist  
DownBeat’s Critics Poll**

**MINTAKA MUSIC LTD**  
Furze Hill, Kilcoe, Nr. Skibbereen, Co. Cork, Ireland  
00 353 28 38822 / [info@mintakamusic.com](mailto:info@mintakamusic.com)