



PASKARAN SREEKARAM
TOP FUSION PERCUSSIONIST (ARTS MAGAZINE)
RHYTHM MASALA - SINGAPORE
50HRS NON-STOP DRUMMING MARATHON
GUINNESS WORLD RECORD HOLDER

Paskaran is one of the most versatile multi-percussionists currently in Singapore, having immersed himself in percussion and drums from every part of the globe. The wide range of artists he's worked with reflects the diversity of his playing. He has performed with:

Ben Baddoo, Rokia Traore, Dr L Subramaniam, Louis Banks, Sivamani, Prof T N Krishnan, Leigh Saunter, Bill Speckart, Dr N Ramani, The Late Dr ML Vasanthakumari, Group Makota, Shangai Drummers, Xtreme, Nakata, Ziung Ji Brothers and many other renowned musicians and drummers around the world.

An array of instruments covered by Paska includes the following:

Middle Eastern percussion: Darabuka, Dumbek, Bendir, Frame-Drums

Cuban/Brazilian percussion: Congas, Bongos, Timbales, Berimbau, Rebolos, Pandeiros

Asian percussion: Lion Drums, Malay Kompang, Indonesian Gamelan

North/South Indian percussion: Mridangam, Kanjira, Ghatam, Morsing, Thavil, Vocal percussion, Tabala, Dholak, Bhangra, Dhol

Also Srilankan Drums, African Djembe, Japanese Taiko, Australian Didjeridoo, Western Drums and many creative and wonderful percussion effects such as water phones and spring drums, along with many strange percussive objects built and customized by Paska.

Paska had his initial training on the Mridangam-The King of South Indian Drums (South Indian double-ended) at the tender age of eight from the Mridangam Maestro Guru Sri Karaikudi R Krishnamurthy. Paska's Teacher hails from a family who has played Carnatic music and drums for eight generations and his ancestors were court musicians to the Maharajah of Pudukkottai. Paska was very fortunate to learn extensively on the Rhythmic Calculations (Thala) and intricate rhythm compositions from his Teacher. Paska's first public performance was at the age of 10 and since then he has accompanied and performed in numerous concerts in Singapore and abroad.

Performing more than 2 decades in our Island Republic and abroad Paska was selected by the Ministry of Community Development and Sports Singapore to lead a 30 member troupe to represent Singapore in a cultural Exchange Programme in the USA, Denver Sister Cities International, Inc. in 1987. His accomplishments were once again recognised via an outstanding percussionist award in 1995 for fusion drumming from Professor S Jayakumar, the Minister of Law and Foreign Affairs of Singapore. Dedicated to the arts this man has performed remarkably well in many musical, dance concerts and percussion ensembles with considerable number of renowned percussionist and musician from the international arena and local ones alike.

Paska has worked in virtually every field of music conceivable, both live and in the studio. Much of this passion was nourished whilst he was under the tutelage of his guru. From pop and rock, to free jazz and the classical avant garde. From traditional Carnatic and Hindustani music of North and South India to traditional Japanese taiko drumming. Straight blues, funk and rock drumming to collaborations with classical, folk, ethnic and experimental musicians. One of Paska's main calling cards is his ability to play traditional instruments out of their normal cultural sting and make them sit within the music comfortably. TV and advertising credits which are too numerous to mention. Paska regularly conducts workshops and gives lectures all over Singapore.

Paskaran is the founder & principal drummer of the top fusion percussion group in Singapore, "Rhythm Masala" which is regularly touring the world. This group has performed on more than 40 International Drums Non-stop Drumming Marathon for 50 hours at the Awesome Africa Music Festival, Durban, In the Zulu Kingdom – South Africa for the Guinness Book of World Records 2004.