

Anwar Khurshid



Anwar Khurshid studied the sitar with Ustad Nasiruddin in Pakistan, and continued his training in India and Canada, for 25 years. He later added tabla as well as 12 years of vocal studies under Qazi Zahoorul Haq. His interest in Indian classical music, transcribing recordings by masters, and analyzing and deciphering their myriad nuances, has stimulated his interest in the integration of world music with Indian classical music and, starting in 2003, he began composing music inspired by the great masters in odd meters. One of Anwar's aims is to collaborate with as many diverse artists as possible. In 2016, one of his songs recorded with Sultans of Strings won the second prize in a World Music competition from among 18,000 entries. In the same year he also composed music for the film *What it Takes to be Extraordinary* and recorded an album, *Subcontinental Drift*, with Sultans of String, which was nominated for the World Music Album of the Year by Canadian Folk Music Awards as well as for a Juno Award. He has been the Director of the Sitar School of Toronto since November 1999 and has played sitar on film scores of *Life of Pi*, *Love Guru*, and *Kama Sutra*.