ANNUAL REPORT FY18

PRESENTING THE BEST IN MUSIC AND DANCE FROM AROUND THE WORLD
TABLE OF CONTENTS

Mission Statement
Letter from the Executive Director
Media and Press
2017-2018 Season by the Numbers
Cultures Represented in the 2017-18 Program
2017-18 Program
WMI Plus Experiences
Venue Partners
Funding
World Citizen Membership Program
Board of Directors
Advisory Board & Honorary Board
WMI Team
Financial Reporting
History of World Music Institute

www.worldmusicinstitute.org
#wmimanychargetsoneworld
Mission Statement:

WMI is committed to presenting the finest in traditional and contemporary music and dance from around the world with the goal of inspiring wonder for world cultures through music and dance. WMI aims to enrich the lives of people living in New York by promoting awareness of other cultures and their traditions. WMI collaborates with community organizations and academic institutions in fostering a greater understanding and appreciation of the world’s cultural traditions.

WMI presents at venues throughout the city and depends on public and private funding to accomplish its mission.
A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

Providing New York City audiences with memorable, meaningful cultural experiences that entertain while also fostering an appreciation of the rich diversity of the world's cultures and traditions drives our thinking and efforts every day. We are delighted and inspired by the enthusiastic response to this year's programming - 4 sold-out performances and close to 20,000 audience members served.

Thank you for sharing our passion for and commitment to high-caliber world music and dance artists who enrich our lives.

Best Wishes,

Gaby Sappington
Executive Director
MEDI A AND PRESS

The World Music Institute will bring **acclaimed musicians from across the globe** to New York for more than 40 performances next season. This nonprofit organization’s new programming includes mini-festivals dedicated to music from Mali and India, and from contemporary Jewish culture. - *The New York Times*

With one of the most diverse artist rosters and audiences, WMI plays an important role in **presenting under-recognized dance and music traditions** from more than 100 countries and ethnic minorities from around the world. WMI **celebrates the culture of the many immigrant communities in New York**, while exposing New Yorkers to musical traditions that include Afro-Peruvian, New York flamenco, soul music from Mali and Indian dancers. - *Scripps "NYC Essentials"*

This weekend, a group of monks who live at a remote island monastery in Assam will perform an evening of Sattriya at the **Dancing the Gods Festival** at Symphony Space, part of the World Music Institute’s performance series. - *The New York Times*

The **sixth annual Africa Now!** concert --presented by the World Music Institute and the Apollo Theater -- took a new turn this year. The theme was Afro-futurism, much in the air in the era of Black Panther...there was plenty of **fine musicianship**, and the overall package clearly hit the spot for **a near-sellout crowd**. - *Afropop Worldwide*
WMI's 2017-18 Season by the Numbers

40 Performances with

4 Sold-out shows representing

27 Cultures and traditions, serving a total audience of

19,347 Members of our community
Cultures Represented in the 2017-2018 Program

WMI Program in FY18 featured performers from:

- Algeria
- Brazil
- Canada
- Chile
- China
- Colombia
- Cuba
- India
- Israel
- Jordan
- Korea
- Lebanon
- Mali
- Morocco
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Pakistan
- Portugal
- Russia
- Senegal
- South Africa
- Spain
- Sudan
- Tunisia
- Ukraine
- Venezuela
- United States
2017-2018 PROGRAM

Themed concert series

Multi-day festivals

Pre-show lec/dems and Q&A sessions with the artists

Immersive WMI PLUS experiences
NINE CONCERT SERIES

TOP: Masters of African Music, Masters of Indian Music, Contemporary Jewish, Voces de las Mujeres, Desert Blues

BOTTOM: Collaborations, Counterpoint, Global/Local, Origins
PRE-PERFORMANCE LEC-DEMS AND ARTIST Q&A SESSIONS
MODERATED BY CULTURAL EXPERTS, FOLKLORISTS, AND ETHNOMUSICOLOGISTS

Ustad Nishat Khan with WKCR host and Brooklyn Raga Massive member David Ellenbogen

The Paco de Lucía Project with Grammy Award winning artist and producer Javier Limón

Yasmin Levy with ethnomusicologist Samuel R. Thomas, Ph.D

The Sacha ensemble "Songs of Lahore" with folklorist Naomi Sturm

The Klezmatics with folklorist Hanna Griff-Sleven, Ph.D

Pre-performance lec-dem by Dancing the Gods festival co-curator, Rajika Puri

Soo Yeon Lyuh with Hyo Han, Director of Performing Arts at the Korean Cultural Center
WMI PLUS EXPERIENCES

WMI PLUS events offer experiences that go beyond the presentation of performances yet are aligned with our mission of promoting awareness and appreciation of the world's cultures and traditions, fostering greater understanding and cross-cultural dialogue.

Our 2018 Events (clockwise):
- Ethiopian Brunch
- Screening - "Oulaya's Wedding"
- Screening - "I Am Satyabhama"
- Griot Tradition

WMI PLUS Experiences are supported by a grant from Con Edison.
Our venue partners range from intimate settings and clubs to concert halls and public spaces.

92nd Street Y
Apollo Theater
BAM Howard Gilman Opera House
Brooklyn Bowl
David Rubenstein Atrium at Lincoln Center
(le) poisson rouge
Littlefield

The Metropolitan Museum of Art
Merkin Concert Hall at Kaufman Music Center
New York Society for Ethical Culture
Peter Norton Symphony Space
Pioneer Works
Skirball Center for the Performing Arts
The Town Hall
FY18 FUNDING

WMI programs are made possible, in part, by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.

$25,000+
Andrew & Emily Faulkner
Howard Bayne Fund
Howard Gilman Foundation
New York State Council on the Arts
NYC Department of Cultural Affairs
Paul Palmer
Daisy & David Paradis
Phaedrus Foundation / Thomas & Kamala Buckner
Anupam & Rajika Puri

$2,500 - $9,999
Anonymous
Andy Ayres
Credit Suisse
Zette Emmons
Raman & Aditya Kaul
Jinghong Li
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, LLP

$1,000 - $2,499
Café Un, Deux, Trois
Mariana Hallock
Mary Lou Houston
Lauren Merkel
Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation
NYC & Company Foundation
Kamakshi Rao
Haricharan Reddy
Kellie C. Specter
Christopher Stewart

$250 - $999
Adobe
Erin Ardleigh
Franklin Carmel
Center for Vascular Disorders
Pedro Cordero
Angela Dulce de Lara
Moez Doraid
Martha Fleischman
Hal Freedman
Edward Haber
Marina Livanos-Colettis
Delrosa Marshall
Ray Mortenson & Jean Wardle
Jay Patrick
Michael Piston
Jason Stone
Devera Witkin
David Wyckoff

And the support of many friends and members of WMI. We are grateful for all contributions to our mission.
WORLD CITIZEN MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

STUDENT/SENIOR - $70
10% discount on a pair of tickets for up to four eligible performances per year
Free access to member events
$58 is tax-deductible

INDIVIDUAL - $100
10% discount on a pair of tickets for ALL eligible performances per year
Special CD gift
Free access to member events
$60 is tax-deductible

PATRON - $500
All of the benefits of the Supporter level PLUS waived ticketing and processing fees for tickets purchased via the WMI website and/or box office phone line
Autographed item from a WMI performing artist
$330 is tax-deductible

ARTIST CIRCLE - $1,000
All of the above PLUS Access to priority seating (tickets must be purchased no later than 10 days prior to show)
Two (2) free tickets for two (2) eligible performances per year
$650 is tax-deductible

SUPPORTER - $300
All of the above PLUS Name listed on funding page on WMI website
Name listed in the annual program calendar
$260 is tax-deductible

WORLD CLASS - $5,000
All of the above PLUS Name listed as co-sponsor of a concert
$4,650 is tax-deductible
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In the 2017-2018 Season, eight professionals who are passionate about world music and dance served in the important role of Board of Directors. They contributed leadership and expertise in the areas of fiduciary oversight and legal advice, as well as aspects of WMI's mission and vision. Board Members provide financial support, generously share their resources, and promote WMI performances and events within their networks.

Paul Palmer (Board Chair), Daisy Paradis, Zette Emmons, Kate Winn, Andrew Faulkner
Missing from photo: Moez Doraid, Jinhong Li and Cynthia McVay
WMI TEAM

Gaby Sappington
Executive Director

Par Neiburger
Artistic Director

Iris Maenza
Manager, Marketing
and Events Promotion

Michael Griffin
Manager, Finance
and Administration

Sruly Lazaros
Production Manager

Aleba & Co.
Publicity
FY18 Financial Reporting

Share of Revenue

- Earned Revenue:
  - Ticket Sales
  - Membership Sales
  - Co-Production Fees
  - Booking Fees
  - Ticket Handling Fees
  - Fundraising Income
  - Merchandise Sales
- Unearned Revenue:
  - Individual Donations
  - Corporate Donations
  - Foundation Grants
  - Government Grants

Share of Expenses

- Program 89%
- G&A 9%
- Fundraising 2%

G&A = General & Administrative Expense

Audited financials available upon request.
HISTORY OF WORLD MUSIC INSTITUTE

Founded in 1985, WMI grew out of a concert series at the Alternative Museum in NYC in the mid 1980s by founders Robert and Helene Browning that provided a showcase for a richly diverse mix of world music styles in an intimate, accessible setting, which also provided a platform for many young American experimental artists to share their music with the world.

WMI went on to introduce an American audience to a vast array of music that at the time was difficult to access, including artists from Cuba, the Middle East and Central Asia. In the late 1990s when, for a short while, Cuban musicians were able to visit the United States, WMI was able to provide a platform for some of the island’s foremost traditional musicians including Orchestra Aragon, Muñequitos de Matanzas, AfroCuba de Matanzas, and Pancho Quinto. In our 30th Anniversary season, we were privileged to feature the “Adios” Tour of the beloved Buena Vista Social Club - their final ever performance in the continental United States; Chucho Valdés, performing the music of his ground-breaking group Irakere in honor of their 40th anniversary; and Arturo Sandoval, the Cuban Jazz giant who also was originally a member of Irakere prior to his leaving Cuba to live in the United States.

WMI was a pioneer in promoting music from the world of Islam at a time when Americans had little exposure to Islamic culture. In 1993/94 and 1995/96, we presented The Musical World of Islam which featured artists from the Middle East and Central Asia.

Artists from Africa and the African diaspora have included Mbongwana Star (DRC), Mulatu Astatke (Ethiopia), Salif Keita (Mali), Tony Allen (Nigeria), and Mokoomba (Zimbabwe). In addition, for the past six years, WMI has partnered with the Apollo Theater in presenting Africa Now!, a festival spotlighting emerging and established artists of today’s African music scene.

In 2011, we introduced our annual Dancing the Gods Indian dance festival, co-curated by Rajika Puri, which over the years has presented a number of award-winning dancers and choreographers across various disciplines of Indian dance including bharatanatyam, kathak, kuchipudi, and odissi.

After the retirement of the Founding Director of 26 years in 2011, WMI entered an era of transition with some management and personnel changes until 2015, when under new leadership a small, committed team continued and expanded on the original vision of WMI’s founders. Aside from expanding the artistic repertoire to include contemporary as well as traditional world music performers, WMI PLUS Experiences, and ancillary events such as artist Q&As, pre-show expert talks and demonstrations, as well as after-show meet and greets have been added and aim to provide additional opportunities for learning about and engaging with each presented culture.

Since its inception, WMI has presented the best in music and dance from more than 100 countries at venues throughout NYC and beyond.