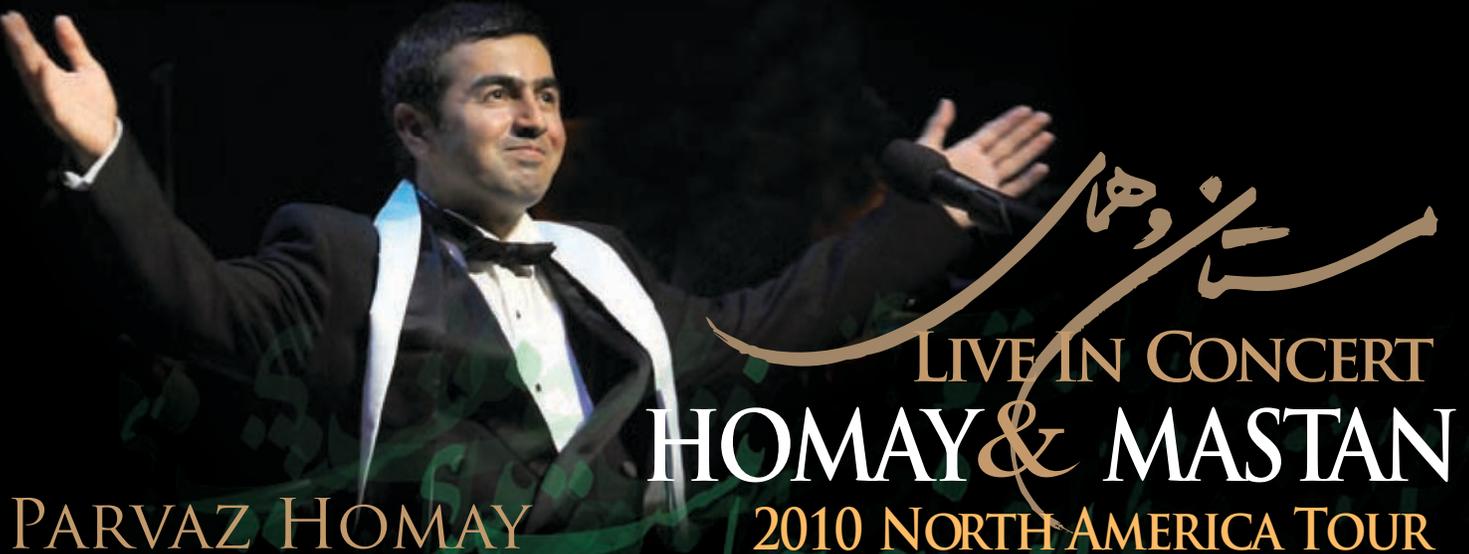


Homay & The Mastan Ensemble Returning to the United States

With **Sarbazan / The Soldiers**

Having presented "Moses and the Shepherd" operetta, followed by sold out performances throughout the U.S. to enthusiastic audiences in 2009, Homay & Mastan return to North America this summer with "The Soldiers" U.S. Tour, armed with new and soul stirring messages of transformation, aimed to raise awareness and compassion. The tour is scheduled to kickoff in Los Angeles on August 15th at the Walt Disney Concert Hall.



Parvaz Homay was born on February 9, 1980 into a farming family in a remote village called Ahmad-Sar-Goorabi, in the province of Gilan, Iran. He, along with his brothers helped his father in farming, while attending the local school.

He showed interest in drawing and painting from the early age of 8, and his father, recognizing his son's artistic talent, continuously encouraged him to pursue his talent. At age 10, Homay started reciting poems. His singing efforts were initiated when he and his brothers, following a long held tradition in Iran to usher in the Persian New Year, began to sing "Nowruz" (Persian New Year) songs in their neighborhood and were rewarded with some money for their singing.

There was no opportunity to pursue arts in his birth place; however his passion for arts lead him to gather his friends at school and perform various theatrical pieces, which he penned and directed.

At the age of 15, he enrolled into a conservatory in the nearby city of Rasht, in order that seriously polish his artistic abilities. It was at the conservatory that he was able to receive instructions in music and singing. Since his father unable to support him financially to pursue his studies, Homay headed to the capital on his own and was accepted into the university where he studied both music and literature at the hands of renowned instructors in both fields. He supported himself throughout his studies and paid for his tuition by taking on odd jobs.

At times he sold his drawings on the street, did some construction work, sold trinkets on street corners and at times earned his livelihood by transporting people in the city on a motorcycle. Some nights he slept at friends' homes and some he spent on park benches. But nothing would stop him from reaching his goal. He would take his setar with him to gatherings of art and poetry, where he would compose his poems to song, all the while learning from each experience.

At the age of 24, he founded the Mastan Ensemble and began singing his songs for the people of Iran, instantly winning them over and enchanting many hearts with his work.

It continues to be his ardent wish to bring his music to the entire world. On July 3, 2008, he embarked on his first U.S. tour starting at the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles. He produced 3 CDs simultaneously entitled "Molaghat ba Doozakh-ian" (Meeting with the Inmates of Hades)", "In Cheh Jahanist" (What a world is this) and "Sarzamin e Bikaran" (Vast Motherland).

He has continued his tours throughout the U.S., Canada and Europe and is currently in the process of preparing for an exceptional concert around the theme of protecting wildlife and the environment, in which he will be performing alongside some of the greatest International artists.



Having experienced enthusiastic reception during Spring 2010 in numerous European cities such as: Hamburg, Köln, Oslo, Stockholm, Gutenberg, Malmo, Berlin, Zürich, Frankfurt, Brussels, Copenhagen, Paris, Munich, Vienna, London and Manchester, the ensemble is wrapping up their European tour in the Netherlands on June 26

U.S. TOUR 2010:

- 1- Los Angeles, Sunday, Aug. 15
- 2- San Francisco, Saturday, Aug 21
- 3- San Diego, Saturday, Aug. 28
- 4- Houston, Saturday, Sept. 04
- 5- Dallas, Sunday, Sept. 05
- 6- Miami, Friday, Sept. 10
- 7- Orlando, Sunday, Sept. 12
- 8- Atlanta, Saturday, Sept. 18
- 9- Washington DC, Sunday, Sept. 19
- 10- New York, Friday, Sept. 24
- 11- Chicago, Sunday, Sept. 26

CANADA TOUR 2010:

- 1- Toronto, Sunday, Oct. 03
- 2- Montreal, Friday, Oct. 08
- 3- Vancouver, Saturday, Oct. 16

Homay and Mastan will be performing at Walt Disney Concert Hall, Los Angeles on August 15th.



"These were mesmerizing performances that produced a euphoric goodwill in the listener, a feeling that lingered long after departure from the concert hall." *Los Angeles Times*

