

PRESS RELEASE

Global Rhythms World Music Festival

The Family Weekend at Miami University will feature the Global Rhythms World Music Festival spreading over two nights - Friday October 3rd and Saturday October 4th, at Hall Auditorium. The artists and shows on both nights are different from one another, allowing the products to be governed by the power of diverse cultures from across the world.

Over 200 artists will be coming together for the shows titled "**Too Hot to Handle (Friday) and Too Cool to Ignore (Saturday)**". The shows will be held at 8.00 PM on both nights and tickets will be available at the Miami University Box Office.

Ten leading guest artists from quite different backgrounds have been brought in to produce extraordinary moments of collective awakening and they include Valerie Naranjo (appearing Friday night only) from the Saturday Night Live Band, Paschal Younge (Saturday night only) from Ghana, Sunaina and Shilpa who are dancers from India, two drumlines led by Broadway artist Jeff Queen and James Sparling, frame drum virtuoso Ganesh Kumar, and for the first time, Miami University's Wind Ensemble led by Gary Speck, Mens Glee Club led by Ethan Sperry and Klezmer Ensemble led by Will Cicola will also be part of the entertainment in addition to the regular members of Global Rhythms Ensemble. Music from traditions of the Middle East, Latin America, Eastern Europe and Asia will be featured by these ensembles. A live Batucada showcasing the energy within Brazilian rhythms led by Jason Koontz, a Balinese Gamelan ensemble led by Bill Albin and several soloists including Andrea Ridilla (oboe), Jim Lentini (guitar), Vishal Sapuram (chitraveena - ancient harp), Pansy Chang (cello), and Joe Galvin (steel pan) will engage their imagination in music written and scored by virtuosos including Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, AR Rahman, Sergio Mendez, thus alinging their energies for a compelling experience. Other guests including Leon Enneking ensemble (gyle), New Basics Brass Band (featuring New Orleans Jazz), and Scott Padden's All Stars Drumline will allow for the audience to access and appreciate music from across the globe over the two nights of performance. The shows will be directed by Miami Alum **Srinivas Krishnan**, who is founder and artistic director of Global Rhythms World Music Ensemble.

The sponsors of the event include Center for American & World Cultures, Parents Fund, Dr Smitha and Mahendra Patel, Dr. Paulomi and Amar Desai, Miami University Student Org, Havighurst Center, and the Honors Program.