

# Ustad Kadar Khan



Ustad Kadar Khan was born into a family of professional musicians. His ancestors, for generations, served as royal court musicians for the rulers of India. Kadar Khan began his musical training at age seven under the strict tutelage of his father and guru, Ustad Rehem Khan. He has mastered the styles of four “gharanas” meaning schools of Delhi, Lucknow, Ajarada and Farukhabad.

Ustad Kadar Khan carries on these traditional styles in their most authentic forms while also creating new works and compositions rooted in the time-honored techniques and performance conventions of Tabla playing. Ustad Kadar Khan is one of the most charismatic performers of Indian classical music today, who within his music creates complex rhythmic structures and improvisations with an energy and style rarely seen in a traditional musician.

Throughout his career, he has accompanied artists such as Pundit Hari Prasad Chaurasia (Flute), Pundit Brij Bhushan Kabra (Guitar), Pundit Vishwa Mohan Bhatt (Guitar), Ustad Sultan Khan (Sarangi), Ustad Shahid Parvez Khan (Sitar), Smt. Lakshmi Shankar (Vocal) and many others. Since 1988, he is living in New York and is the founder and director of the Kalavant center of Music and dance.