

American Raga Band

Founded by vocalist and composer Seema Kasthuri

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About the Ensemble

American Raga Band artfully blends the rich traditions of Indian classical music with the dynamism of jazz improvisation, creating a unique and engaging musical experience. The ensemble delves into the intricate nuances of Indian ragas and rhythms, crafting sounds that captivate and transport audiences.

American Raga Band is a pioneering Indo-American fusion ensemble led by vocalist and composer Seema Kasthuri. The ensemble seamlessly bridges Indian classical traditions (Carnatic & Hindustani) with contemporary American jazz, crafting immersive musical experiences rooted in raga, rhythm, and spontaneous improvisation.

Their repertoire features a diverse mix, including Bollywood-inspired tunes, spiritually uplifting devotional ragas, and subtly influenced reminiscences of Norah Jones, soulful music. Adding to their versatility, the band brings their own interpretations of beloved classics from The Beatles and Bollywood, infusing each piece with a creative, boundary-pushing flair.

Seema Kasthuri and her band featuring Todd Mosby on guitar, Premik Russell Tubbs on winds, and Prasanna Kasthuri on Indian percussion continue to push musical boundaries, offering performances that resonate with both authenticity and innovation.

MUSIC GENRE

Contemporary Acoustic Instrumental Contemporary World

SOUNDS LIKE

Dead Can Dance John McLaughlin Norah Jones Michael Hedges

Band Members



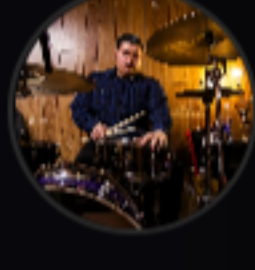
Seema Kasthuri
Lead Vocalist & Composer



Todd Mosby
Acoustic / Electric Guitar, Composer



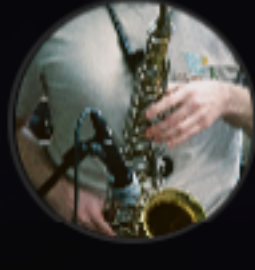
Prasanna Kasthuri
Mridangam & Indian Percussion



Steve Davis
Drums



Ben Coon
Keys



Premik Russell Tubbs
Winds & Electronic Textures



Additional Artists
Tabla, Sitar/Esraj, Backup Vocalists

Lineup

- **Seema Kasthuri** — vocals
- **Prasanna Kasthuri** — mridangam
- **Ben Coon** — keys
- **Additional** — keyboards, tabla, backup singers
- **Todd Mosby** — floor guitar
- **Steve Davis** — drums
- **Premik Russell Tubbs** — winds
- **And More** — sitar, esraj, backing vocals

Educational Outreach

- > Language of Improvisation
- > Define Your Sound
- > Acoustic Guitar Techniques
- > Comparative Analysis: East-West Improvisational Styles

Technical Overview

- Downstage Center — Lead Vocal (1 mic + monitor)
- Downstage Right — Mridangam (2 microphones – right & left hand + personal monitor)
- Additional Mix — 1 Backup Vocal microphone
- Stage Left — Keys GTR
- Upstage Left — Bass (Amp + DI)
- Upstage Right — Drum Kit (kick, snare, overheads)
- Mid Stage — Guitar & Sitar/Esraj positions

Pictures



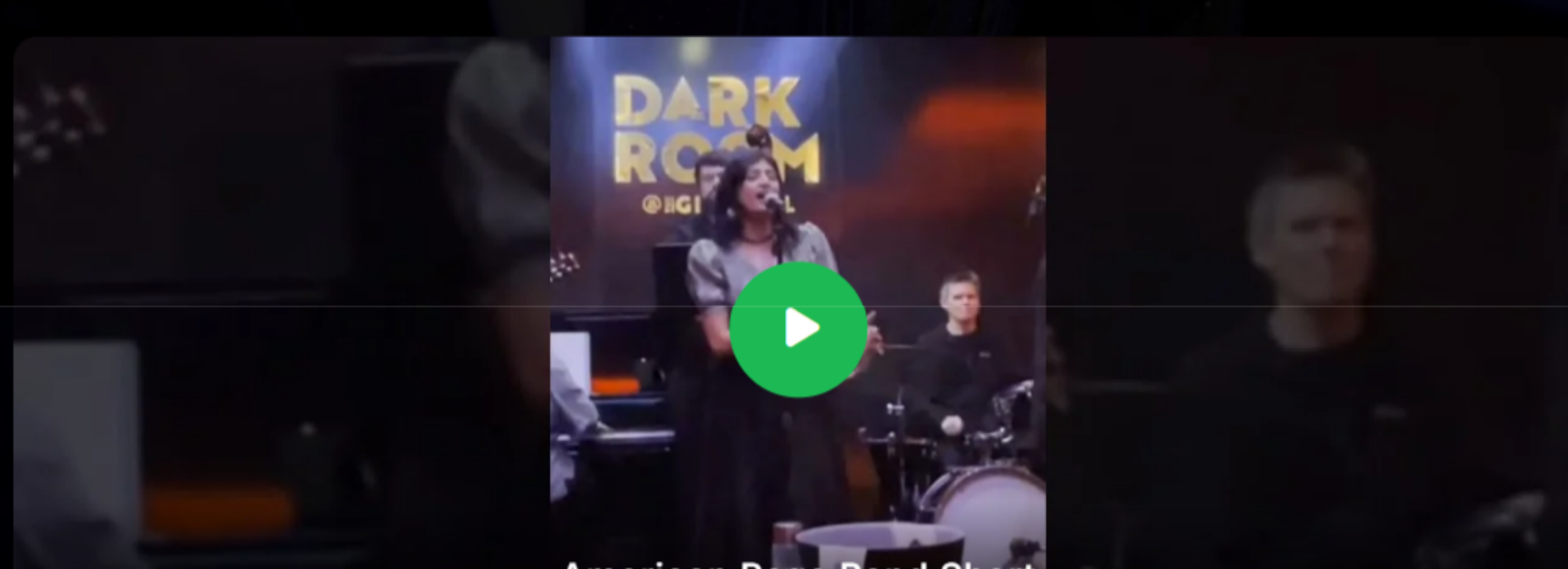
Videos



American Raga Band Performance



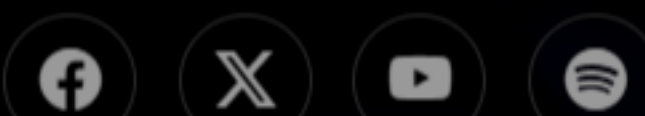
American Raga Band Live



American Raga Band Short

Seema Kasthuri

Fusion of East & West. Authentic ragas blended with contemporary melodies, creating timeless musical experiences.



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CONTACT

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