

## \*Theosophy and Music Have Much in Common

\*Theosophical ideas from the pamphlet: "What is Theosophy?"

- 1) Unity of all Life: Everything is musical to the core: the universe is fundamentally vibrational.
- 2) The existence of worlds of experience beyond those we are consciously aware of (much of the affect of sound/vibration we are not so physically or consciously aware of still affects our subtle bodies)
- 3) The presence of life and consciousness in all matter –serious musicians have always believed in the profundity of a single note/ Indian musicians believe literally that each note is its own entity
- 4) The possibility of our conscious participation in evolution (by guarding against harmful vibrations and by practicing with spiritual music, one can grow spiritually.) Many believe even that listening to spiritual music is the key meditative practice. As well, spiritual listening is a skill which can/must be developed with conscious practice.
- 5) The duty of altruism, a concern for the welfare of others. Music cannot be played in groups without attention and concern for the other musicians. Spiritual music tends to promote a natural feeling of altruism and connectedness to others. The language of music, like the language of mystics, seems to effortlessly cross cultural bias and boundaries.
- 6) The evolution of spirit and intelligence as well of physical matter (consciousness = vibration) music can help us change and work with our levels of vibration (consciousness)
- 7) Reincarnation. There is no literal equivalent in music to the concept of Reincarnation other than the Artist Formerly Known as Phenomenon. However the similar and more general concept of the pervasiveness of cycles at all levels of evolution does have a parallel in music in the form of repeating themes. Jazz, Western and Eastern Classical music all focus on repeating melodic themes.
- 8) The ultimate perfection of human nature, society, and life  
Hazrat Inayat Khan believes music is THE path to enlightenment