

Parizad

Parizad is a unique band consisting of five women, five brilliant musicians from different countries and different music traditions, who play Persian, Bulgarian and Swedish folk music with boundless joy and delight!

Traditional and newly composed songs with influences from wildly contrasting music traditions and musical heritages are woven together to take you on an unforgettable musical journey to Persian deserts, Bulgarian mountains and Swedish forests. A magical a cappella duet with quarter tones in Persian and Bulgarian, a wonderful mixture of swinging folk music and stunning instrumental excursions. This is a musical journey that brings together the best of East and West, reaching heart and soul and leaving no one unmoved!

Parizad was one of three finalists to be nominated for the “Best Female World Music Band” competition arranged by the Swedish National Association of Folk Music (RfoD) 2013.

Photo: Tony Bjurman

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Pari Isazadeh



Karolina Weber Ekdahl



Miriam Oldenburg



Sonya Georgieva



Isabel Blommé

Pari Isazadeh, world-renowned Persian singer/songwriter. Pari has been schooled in the rich tradition of classical Persian music and composes music in a style that is uniquely her own. Pari's album *From Dezful to Dalarna*, released in 2013, has been the subject of tremendous international attention, and the Grappa Record Company has included one of Pari's songs on its latest album *Iranian Woman* together with other world-leading Persian female singers. This CD has won the 2014 "Preis der deutschen Schallplattenkritik" ('German Record Critics' Award') for Best World Music CD! Pari has received great acclaim for her concerts, including a concert with the Royal Stockholm Philharmonic Orchestra in the Stockholm Concert Hall.

Sonya Georgieva, an active, productive, open and creative Bulgarian folk singer and tapan player (the tapan is a Bulgarian drum). Sonya trained at the Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts in Plovdiv, Bulgaria. These days she plays in a number of Swedish and international groups, including *Trio Leva*, *Vaya Quartet* and *Finno-Balkan Voices*. Sonya is also a teacher for a number of groups within the rich domain of Bulgarian choir singing.

Miriam Oldenburg, accordionist, pianist and freelance musician, primarily in various klezmer bands, folk- and world music and cabaret. Miriam has also worked as a theatre and circus musician in twenty or so shows, including productions with *Cirque du Soleil*, at the Stockholm City Theatre, *Scenkonst Sörmland* (Performing Arts Sörmland) and *SR's Radioteatern* (Radio Theatre on Swedish National Radio).

Karolina Weber Ekdahl, classical violinist with classical training at the Malmö Academy of Music, the Utrecht School of the Arts in Holland and the Royal College of Music at Edsberg Castle in Stockholm. Karolina has been a member of the *Indra String Quartet* for the past 15 years, in addition to which she regularly plays in various chamber and symphony orchestras. Karolina has a passion for musical drama, folk and world music and has taken part in a number of chamber operas as a project employee at the Stockholm City Theatre.

Isabel Blommé, cellist who practices her music in forms of chamber music, folk and world music. She has been a member of the *Stahlhammer Klezmer Classic Trio* (together with Miriam Oldenburg) since 2009, and member of the renowned *Indra String Quartet* (together with Karolina Weber Ekdahl) since 2003; two groups with whom she regularly plays concerts and tours internationally, as well as occasional performances on SVT (Swedish National Television) and SR (Swedish National Radio). In 2011 the *Stahlhammer Klezmer Classic Trio* received grants from the Ingmar Bergman Foundation.