

# RED BARAAT

## BHANGRA BOOM TOUR



UC San Diego  
ARTPOWER



Dear ArtPower Friends,

For two decades, ArtPower at UC San Diego has been a leader in arts and culture, enriching the lives of countless individuals through diverse and captivating programming. ArtPower's 20th anniversary season provides us with the opportunity to reflect on the organization's remarkable journey and its enduring commitment to bringing world-class performing arts to our community.

Founded in 2003, ArtPower was conceived with a simple yet profound mission: to engage, energize, and transform the diverse cultural life of UC San Diego and the greater region through the performing and media arts. Over the years, ArtPower has consistently delivered a diverse array of performances that span genres with the goal of developing more empathetic students and community members who are better prepared to engage in the world around them.

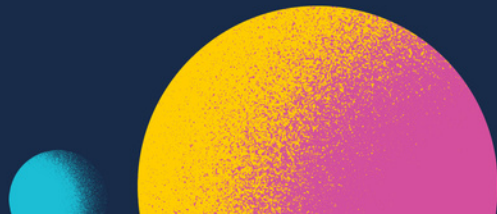
Red Baraat is a Brooklyn-based band known for its vibrant fusion of Bhangra, funk, jazz, and hip-hop. Founded by dhol player Sunny Jain, we're thrilled to bring the the band's infectious energy and eclectic sound to the Epstein Family Amphitheater. Their performances are characterized by dynamic rhythms, blazing horns, and an irresistible groove that transcends cultural boundaries. Red Baraat's music celebrates diversity and brings people together through its lively and engaging performances, making them a unique and cherished presence in the global music scene. See you on the dance-floor.

As we continue this milestone season, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to those who have invested their time, talent, and treasure into ArtPower at UC San Diego. Thank you for being part of the ArtPower legacy.

Cheers,

*Colleen*

Colleen Kollar Smith  
Executive Director  
Campus Performances and Events Office



Global Music/India/USA

## **Red Baraat**

March 23, 2024 at 7:30 pm

Epstein Family Amphitheater

## **About the Artist**

Sunny Jain + Dhol Drums

Red Baraat is a pioneering band from Brooklyn, New York. Conceived by dhol player Sunny Jain, the group has drawn worldwide praise for its singular sound, a merging of hard driving North Indian bhangra with elements of hip-hop, jazz and raw punk energy. Created with no less a purposeful agenda than manifesting joy and unity in all people, Red Baraat's spirit is worn brightly on its sweaty and hard-worked sleeve.

"Their infectious rhythms roll over the audience like a hurricane and let the audience breathe only in a short ballad pause."

— RHEIN MAIN PRESS (GERMANY)

Reemerging in 2021 with a renewed focus, energy and sound, Red Baraat headlined the Wolf Trap Performing Arts Center with master percussionist, Zakir Hussain, performed at the Dubai World Expo, and toured its 11th annual Red Baraat Festival of Colors.

The band's 2018 album release, "Sound The People", hit the top 10 on the World Music Charts Europe and was heralded in the US as the anthem soundtrack for the South Asian diaspora by US hipster, indie-rock magazine, Stereogum:

“The album is full of moments that hit with the force of a spiritual awakening...The funk, ska-punk, and other American forms that make their way into the music are layered intricately within the same threadwork as the ragas on which these songs are pulled from. Each piece is a gesture of cultural harmony, rendering not only genre irrelevant, but the geographic placement of those sounds.” – STEREOGUM

2018 also saw the band touring Kazakhstan, United Arab Emirates, US, Canada and Europe. They headlined the renowned WOMAD Festival in Cáceres, Spain in front of 10,000 people, performed the Vienna Konzerthaus (Philharmonie) in Austria and had the crowd jumping at Rudolstadt Festival in Germany. The release of Red Baraat's 2nd album in 2013, Shruggy Ji, debuted at #1 on the Billboard World Music charts in the USA and propelled the band on a world tour that has yet to stop. They've performed at Bonnaroo, Austin City Limits, globalFEST, Lincoln Center, New Orleans Jazz Fest, and Colours of Ostrava, just to name a few. Along the way they sold out rooms as diverse as the Luxembourg Philharmonic and the New York City's legendary rock club Bowery Ballroom, and performed at the request of The White House (Obama), TED and Olympic Games.

“This year's ‘discovery’ [WOMAD UK Festival], though, was Red Baraat, a cacophonous bhangra funk band from Brooklyn. Think Punjabi weddings, Delhi street brass bands, modern jazz and rock.” – THE TELEGRAPH (UK)

But even as it's clear that Red Baraat has built a startling history of performances in iconic settings, the band's bread and butter remains the sweaty clubs, festivals, packed performing arts centers, and college auditoriums that keeps the band on the road all over the world the last several years. It's here where Red Baraat does what it does best - communing with their audience in a joyful, near hedonistic celebration of music and dance which, tellingly, draws a crowd even more diverse than the players on stage. The universality of what Red Baraat does is undeniable. And this is no happy accident.

It is the product of intention and design. Says Jain, “The band... our songs...are addressing the multiplicity of viewpoints,” says Jain. “There’s ‘Zindabad,’ which means ‘Long Live’ in Hindi. In that song, we’re saying that we celebrate life, we celebrate devotion — but we also celebrate agitation and revolution. If we can unite people of all backgrounds and ethnicities to partake in the exuberance of life through the universal language of music, then life is that much sweeter.”

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# EXPLORE OUR UPCOMING EVENTS

BECAUSE YOU'RE MINE:  
THE MUSIC OF JUNE CARTER  
AND JOHNNY CASH  
march 22 at 7:30 pm\*

RED BARAAT  
march 23 at 7:30 pm\*

SONIA DE LOS SANTOS  
march 29 at 6:30 pm<sup>∞</sup>

THE LITTLE MERMEN  
march 30 at 6:30 pm\*

BOARTE PIANO TRIO  
april 5 at 7:30 pm+

CONTRA-TIEMPO ACTIVIST  
DANCE THEATER  
april 11 at 7:30 pm\*

ANTONIO SÁNCHEZ  
BIRDMAN LIVE  
april 18 at 8 pm\*

ANIMANIACS LIVE  
april 20 at 7:30 pm\*

THE BEAT GOES ON: STARRING  
LISA MCCLOWRY AS CHER  
april 26 at 7:30 pm\*

MARK GUILIANA  
april 26 at 8 pm^

QUEEN NATION  
april 27 at 7:30 pm\*

JACK QUARTET + ART OF ELAN  
may 6 at 8 pm^

AN EVENING WITH  
DAVID SEDARIS  
may 9 at 8 pm<sup>°</sup>

AN EVENING WITH THE  
ST. LAWRENCE  
may 10 at 7:30 pm+

YÄCHTLEY CRËW  
may 31 at 8 pm\*

\* epstein family amphitheater  
+ dept. of music's conrad prebys concert hall ^  
the loft  
∞ new children's museum  
° balboa theatre

Visit our website for more  
info and tickets:  
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