

# HIMALAYA SONG

Named one of 'The Ten Best Music Films At Sundance 2012' by Rolling Stone



## SYNOPSIS

HIMALAYA SONG is a 45 minute multimedia performance that incorporates live storytelling, music and film to examine the Himalayas as they undergo major environmental and ecological change. It had its world premiere at the 2012 Sundance Film Festival with sold out performances. It was chosen as one of the Top 10 Music Films by Rolling Stone Magazine.



HIMALAYA SONG includes narration and video by Mridu Chandra and musical performances by Gingger Shankar (vocals and double violin) and Dave Liang (keyboards) of the electronic group The Shanghai Restoration Project.

## We think of HIMALAYA SONG as an 'ode' to the Himalayas.

### STORY

The story engages audiences through a fictional character Anya living in the near future. She goes on a search for her mother in her homeland of the Himalayan mountains and comes across various intersections of climate science and Hindu and Buddhist approaches to nature. Everything that she does and everything that happens to her is based on factual research from current events and news about climate change in the Himalayas. As such, our project changes and transforms as we perform it over time.

### STRUCTURE

The structure of the performance alternates between original musical compositions and live storytelling segments, with accompanying video for the entire duration.

### MUSIC

The music transports audiences to the Himalayas, exploring the intersection of modern sounds and ancient Indian and Chinese instruments.

### VIDEO

The projected video is crafted from materials created by traditional artists (painters/illustrators), computer artists, scholars, NGOs, climate scientists, travelers, and people who think about the Himalayas all over the world.



## ABOUT THE CREATORS



**DAVE LIANG** is the creator of The Shanghai Restoration Project, a music group that blends Chinese culture with hip-hop and electronica.

**MRIDU CHANDRA** is a filmmaker, writer, and a producer of award-winning independent films, including 'Brother Outsider,' 'Let The Church Say Amen,' and 'Poundcake.'

**GINGGER SHANKAR** is a singer, double violinist and composer. Her credits include co-composing music for the 'Passion of the Christ' and touring with the Smashing Pumpkins.

## QUOTES

'an enchanting and cautionary mixed-media journey'

Micol Hebron  
Chief Curator, Utah Museum Contemporary Art  
Assistant Professor, Chapman University

'Everyone should see this.'

Philip Cowan  
Executive Director, Grand Cinema

'Mridu, Dave, and Ginger send an innovative message that will help turn people's heads—and hearts—where they're needed most.'

Joni Cooper  
Programming Director  
Banff Mountain Film & Book Festival

'Absolutely breathtaking'

Rory Murphy  
Sundance Utah Advisory Board member



## QUOTES

'the appeal of Himalaya Song is that it can attract audiences interested in either a concert, a film screening, or both'

Jason Sanders  
Filmmaker Magazine

'The show made me want to go visit (or at the very least help take care of) this amazing part of the world.'

Amy McGee  
Alumni Relations  
Sundance Institute

'A hauntingly powerful performance ... that both teaches about the culture of the Himalayas and the dangers that are posed to it by climate change.'

Caitlin Burns  
Transmedia Producer, NYC

'It is intensely personal, yet global. It is gentle, yet powerful. It is beautiful.'

Christopher P. Dunn, PhD  
Director, Lyon Arboretum  
University of Hawai'i





## PRINCIPAL CREDITS

### CREATED AND PRODUCED

Mridu Chandra  
Gingger Shankar  
David Liang

### STORY AND FILM

Mridu Chandra

### MUSIC

Gingger Shankar  
The Shanghai Restoration Project

## CONTACT

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## ADDITIONAL INFO

[www.himalayasong.com](http://www.himalayasong.com)