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Giller Prize novel's real-life heroine inspires concert piece
90-year-old composer honours legendary family with symphonique works

(Vancouver, BC) Noor-un-nissa Inayat-Khan, the real-life World War II heroine who inspired Shauna Singh Baldwin's Giller Prize finalist novel, *The Tiger Claw*, is also the inspiration for a requiem by her brother, 90-year-old composer Hidayat Inayat-Khan, which will be performed at the upcoming *Mysticism of Sound* Concert.

Inayat-Khan's sister, who was captured and shot by the Nazis, was awarded the George Cross, Croix de Guerre, and a Member of the British Empire for her heroism as an undercover agent in France during World War II. The composer pays tribute to her in *La Monotonia, Suite Symphonique, Op. 7*.

The composer will make an appearance and give a short address on stage at this concert which will also feature the North American premiere of his symphony, *The Royal Legend Symphonique Poem, Op. 46*, inspired by another family member, the composer's ancestor Indian ruler Tipu Sultan, the Tiger of Mysore. *Poeme en Fa, Op. 5* is dedicated to the composer's father, renowned Sufi musician, mystic and teacher Hazrat Inayat-Khan.

Andreas Pascal Heinzmann of Munich will conduct members of the Vancouver Opera Orchestra. The concert will open with solos and duets performed by Talia Toni Marcus, viola and violin, and Jelaluddin Gary Sill, piano, highlighting *Song to the Madzub* by Noor-un-nissa Inayat-Khan.

Inayat-Khan received training in eastern music from his father, Hazrat Inayat-Khan, who is credited with introducing eastern music to the west. He carried on that tradition by respecting western harmonic structures while expressing the inspiring flavour of eastern ragas.

Inayat-Khan may be best known for his *Gandhi Symphony*, composed for the birth centenary of Mahatma Gandhi and premiered in 1969 in Holland at a special concert organized by UNESCO.

Inayat-Khan was raised on the philosophical Sufi teachings of his father which centre on the goal of universal sisterhood/brotherhood, the inspiration of love, harmony, and beauty, and the unity of religious ideals. His father founded the Sufi Movement International and lectured throughout North America and Europe until his untimely death in India in 1927.

The *Mysticism of Sound* Concert takes place Oct. 26 at North Shore Centennial Theatre at 8 p.m. Tickets are available from Centennial Theatre box office, 604.984.4484 or Banyen Books and Sound, 604.737.8858.

This concert is the highlight of an international Sufi event, the *Mysticism of Sound* Conference, which will be held at the Best Western Chateau Granville and SFU Harbour Centre, Oct. 24 to 28.

For more information on the concert and conference, go to: www.mysticismofsound.com.

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