



Press Release

NADAKA & KESHAVA IN CANDESCENCE

"An East–West fusion of transcendence and graceful virtuosity."

Tracks:

- 1 - In Candescence 2 - Ananda Lucia 3 Raga Blue (Feat. Gopika)
4 - Arabika 5 – L’Air du Printemp

Auroville, India — Oct 2025 — Renowned world music artist **Nadaka** and gifted percussionist **Keshava** announce the release of their much-anticipated new album, ***In Candescence***. The title evokes a radiant inner flame, and it is also the name of the opening track—an invitation into a journey where sound becomes illumination.

With his **Geet Taar**, **Nadaka**’s unique 24-string creation blending the soul of Indian instruments with the versatility of the guitar, and **Keshava**’s deeply intuitive mastery of **tabla and percussion**, the duo weaves an intricate dialogue of East and West. Their music is at once soulful and captivating Contemporary yet steeped in tradition.

The album highlights a series of luminous, guitar-driven compositions that move seamlessly from Indian inspirations to progressive jazz, Latin-Spanish resonances and Middle Eastern modes, with masterfully layered percussion—tabla, frame drums and subtle hand percussion by **Keshava**—creating an atmosphere at once transcending and exhilarating.

What makes *In Candescence* truly remarkable is the incredible synchronicity between **Nadaka** and **Keshava**, a musical unity that could only emerge from years of performing and creating together. Their interplay feels effortless yet profound, each phrase and rhythm answering the other with intuitive precision. Immersive, expansive, and uplifting. This album offers not just a listening experience but a joyful journey into rhythm, and resonance.

***In Candescence* is now available on major streaming platforms and in CD format**

www.ragamantra.com

[Youtube RagaMantra](#)

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About Nadaka

*"Happily, in the rousing world of East-West 'fusion,' there continues to be pioneering artists who experiment and successfully concoct their own worldly amalgams. The Beatles, John McLaughlin-Shakti, L. Subramaniam, Ravi Shankars ground-breaking works, Curandero, Trilok Gurtu, and Prasanna are among the top echelon of these fusionistic forerunners. To that esteemed roster one may rightfully add the Quebec-born guitarist/multi-instrumentalist, **Nadaka**."*

Robert Kaye/ abstractlogix,



Nadaka was born and raised in Québec City and began his musical journey on the guitar at a very young age. At 16, drawn to Eastern philosophies and seeking adventure, he embarked on a solo journey by sea and overland, ultimately arriving in India, the country he now calls home. Nadaka was one of the early inhabitants and pioneers of Auroville, the international township in South India, which has been his residence for 50 years. His love and passion for Indian culture inspired him to study its music, particularly vocals and Indian string instruments such as the Veena and Sarod. Naturally, his life and art became a seamless fusion of East and West. During his travels across South India, Nadaka was profoundly influenced by his regular encounters with Indian musicians such as Ramji of Trichy, a renowned Veena and Tanpura maker and an esteemed scholar of Tamil culture and musicology. This inspired him to embark on a lifelong project: crafting a unique acoustic guitar that gradually evolved into a 24-string instrument capable of capturing the nuanced tones of Indian music. He aptly named this one-of-a-kind instrument the

"Geet-Taar," derived from the Sanskrit words for "Singing Strings." This innovative creation combines elements of the Veena, Swaramandal, Tanpura, and guitar into a single instrument. Over time, he further enhanced the Geet-Taar with integrated electronics, enabling him to create rich, live orchestral soundscapes. Nadaka is known for his virtuosity and his signature contemplative sound, which blends traditional Indian music with contemporary styles. With more than 100 K monthly listeners on Spotify and numerous acclaimed albums to his name, he has collaborated with many distinguished Indian musicians, including composer A.R. Rahman and star performers such as Ganesh Rajagopalan, Vikku Vinayakram, and Selvaganesh of SHAKTI group fame. He has toured extensively, presenting concerts and workshops, and now shares the stage with his partner, Gopika, a vocalist, and her son, Keshava, on tabla and percussion.

[Nadaka and the Geet-Taar](#)

About Keshava



Keshava is a highly gifted young musician with an innate talent for rhythm and improvisation. He first played the tabla at the age of two and began performing publicly soon after. A defining moment in his early career came at the Opening Ceremony of the 2010 Commonwealth Games in New Delhi, where, at just seven years old, he performed center stage amid more than a thousand percussionists from across India. This worldwide broadcast captivated audiences with his joyful energy and artistry. A natural performer, Keshava has since shared the stage with numerous artists in India and abroad. Growing up, he regularly performed alongside Nadaka and his mother Gopika. From an early age, he was immersed in contemporary music, East–West fusion, and South Indian rhythms through daily practice and creative exploration with Nadaka. His classical tabla training is under the renowned maestro Pandit Yogesh Samsi.

Another major influence has been his special connection with Ustad Zakir Hussain. Meeting the legendary tabla maestro as a child and attending his masterclasses in the USA gave Keshava not only deep insights into rhythm and performance but also personal encouragement to expand his horizons. Zakir’s inspiration led him to explore a wider world of percussion styles and techniques, shaping him into the multifaceted artist he is today.

Keshava is currently studying Ethnic Percussion & Improvisation at the Department of Jazz & Popular Music at the Friedrich Gulda School of Music (Conservatory) in Vienna.

[keshava-tabla](#)