



BANGALORE  
INTERNATIONAL  
CENTRE



International Music  
& Arts Society



NITA MUKESH AMBANI  
CULTURAL CENTRE

SONY MUSIC GLOBAL SCHOLAR

# ISHAAN LEONARD RAO

## AROUND THE WORLD ON 88 KEYS

*A journey through Ishaan's musical world*

(music by Chopin, Debussy, Albéniz, Chick Corea and Dave Brubeck, as well as his own compositions and Indian classical)

- 29 JUNE: BANGALORE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE
- 1 JULY: INDIA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE, NEW DELHI
- 5 JULY: DEPOT 48, NEW DELHI (FEATURING GUEST ARTISTS)
- 11 JULY: NATIONAL CENTRE FOR PERFORMING ARTS, MUMBAI
- 6 JULY: NEETA MUKESH AMBANI CULTURAL CENTRE WITH RAO TRIO (PT SHUBHENDRA RAO AND MAESTRO SASKIA RAO DE HAAS)





### *Ishaan receives outstanding achievement award at Berklee College of Music*

Young Indian pianist and composer Ishaan Leonard Rao is an emerging prodigious talent in the world of music. 18-year-old Ishaan was recently chosen as a SONY MUSIC GROUP GLOBAL SCHOLAR as the only Indian recipient to be chosen from over 70 countries. This prestigious scholarship is awarded to young artists who make a difference in the global musical landscape.

India's leading daily, Indian News Express, featured him as 'one of the 5 game-changers in their year-ending cultural roundup article "Yearender 2021-Music to the ears". He currently studies at Berklee College of Music.

For Ishaan, there are no boundaries in music, bridging traditional and contemporary genres from around the world with deep roots in Indian classical music and classical piano repertoire. He sees music as a unifying force that brings people together, regardless of their background, as the one universal form of expression. Like the ancient saying, Ishaan is trying to create a world he can live in!

Ishaan Leonard Rao will take his audience around the world with his 88 keys displaying his versatility, virtuosity, and creativity as a pianist and composer.

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





Ishaan started learning the sitar and the cello at the age of 3, and the piano at the age of 6. Ishaan has learned from pianists Justin McCarthy, Raj Bhimani, Svetlana Radashkevich and Dimitris Lambrianos. He has followed multiple master classes by Polish pianist Raphael Lustchevsky, French pianist Martine Dellenbach and Dutch pianist Marianne Boer. Ishaan also learned South Indian rhythm from master percussionist Vidwan B.C. Manjunath.

Ishaan is currently studying piano under Georgian pianist Giorgi Mikadze with majors in Piano Performance as well as Contemporary Writing and Production at Berklee College of Music in Boston where, in his first year itself, he received the prestigious certificate for 'outstanding achievement' by the piano department.

Ishaan is the son of world-renowned musicians, Pandit Shubhendra Rao and Dutch cellist Saskia Rao-de Haas. Growing up in an environment steeped in music, he went on to be the youngest Indian ever to finish his ABRSM Grade 8 exam as well as the youngest to be awarded the ARSM performance diploma at the age of 12. Since a very early age, Ishaan has performed with his parents as the Rao Trio, interpreting music from different cultures and exploring the unifying links between them.

Ishaan made his New York concert debut at age 14 when he performed at the prestigious Chhandayan All Night Concert at the Society for Ethical Cultures. By this time, he had already performed to raving reviews in India, France and Australia.

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