



NE - ON - ONE



DILVOG HOTH

He was selected by 'Musician Magazine USA,' as one of North America's top 10 unsigned artists; he boasts of working with some big names like Nickleback, Jan Arden, Matthew Good Band and Mae Moore. Despite his regular job as a journalist, Dilvog Hothi took up his childhood passion of Singing and Composing. He combined Bhangra beats with Indian musical Instruments in an effort to bring the Indian culture to the world. Winner of numerous awards today, he says his music is Bhangra with a twist, which listeners would have never heard. Recently, Dilvog released his fourth CD titled, 'Indian Groove'.

Tell us about Indian Groove.

There are fourteen tracks in the CD and each one of them stands on its own merit and all the songs are based on heavy Indian rhythm instrumentation.

When you planned this CD, what aim did you have in mind?

The message was basically that Indian rhythms can be and should be accessible to the world and not be limited within our Indian culture. We are already seeing that with some of the biggest musicians in the world; use Sitar or Tabla to their music but rarely anyone uses the Dhol, the Dholak and the Tumbi because the mainstream musicians do not know about these instruments. There are artists like Ritchie Rich from UK who have incorporated some of these instruments into the mainstream, which is great. But, I think we need to take it to a broader level and that is what I have tried to do. I have recorded the CD

with a goal to take the beats from instruments to the mainstream. However, I am also looking for a support from the community as that is really crucial then I can expand from there.

Which is your favourite track from CD?

I think this is one of the hardest quest all fourteen of them. Well, perhaps song I like is "I Promise You," and probably one of my most favorites. I included three different versions that English, Hindi and a Club Mix of the song in the CD.

Tell us about your first Album?

My first Album was, 'Beat the Rhythm' which was my first Indian CD as well and it was a phenomenal success. It was very successful all across the world; there were many hit songs in it.

Tell us something about your new Album?

Actually, I have already started working on it and like my previous music; it will be about fun, enjoying life, girls and relationships. Akin to my earlier work there would be at least one song that touches on a social issue. In my Album 'The New World,' I had two songs, one talked about how the youth get caught up in the two different cultures and knowing where they fit properly; that song actually won the award. The other was about why there are no celebrations when daughters are born?

How do you see yourself ten years down the road?

I see myself very successful in the music industry and leading the way for many other Indians into the mainstream.

Any messages for the struggling artists?

Truly believe in yourself and keep doing what you are and you will surely succeed.

Background

I have been playing music for a while; this is my latest CD...its come out already. I have a music video that is called...Kabhi Kabhie that is from the traditional movie Kabhie-Kabhie; I have done it my way, with my own music and threw in bit of English lyrics as well. Basically, I was the first Indian person in Canada to be on mainstream Music and the first Indian Artist to appear on main stream Radio Stations. I have won many awards, in Canada and abroad. I was the runner up to Best new artist at the Asia Pop Awards in UK. ■

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