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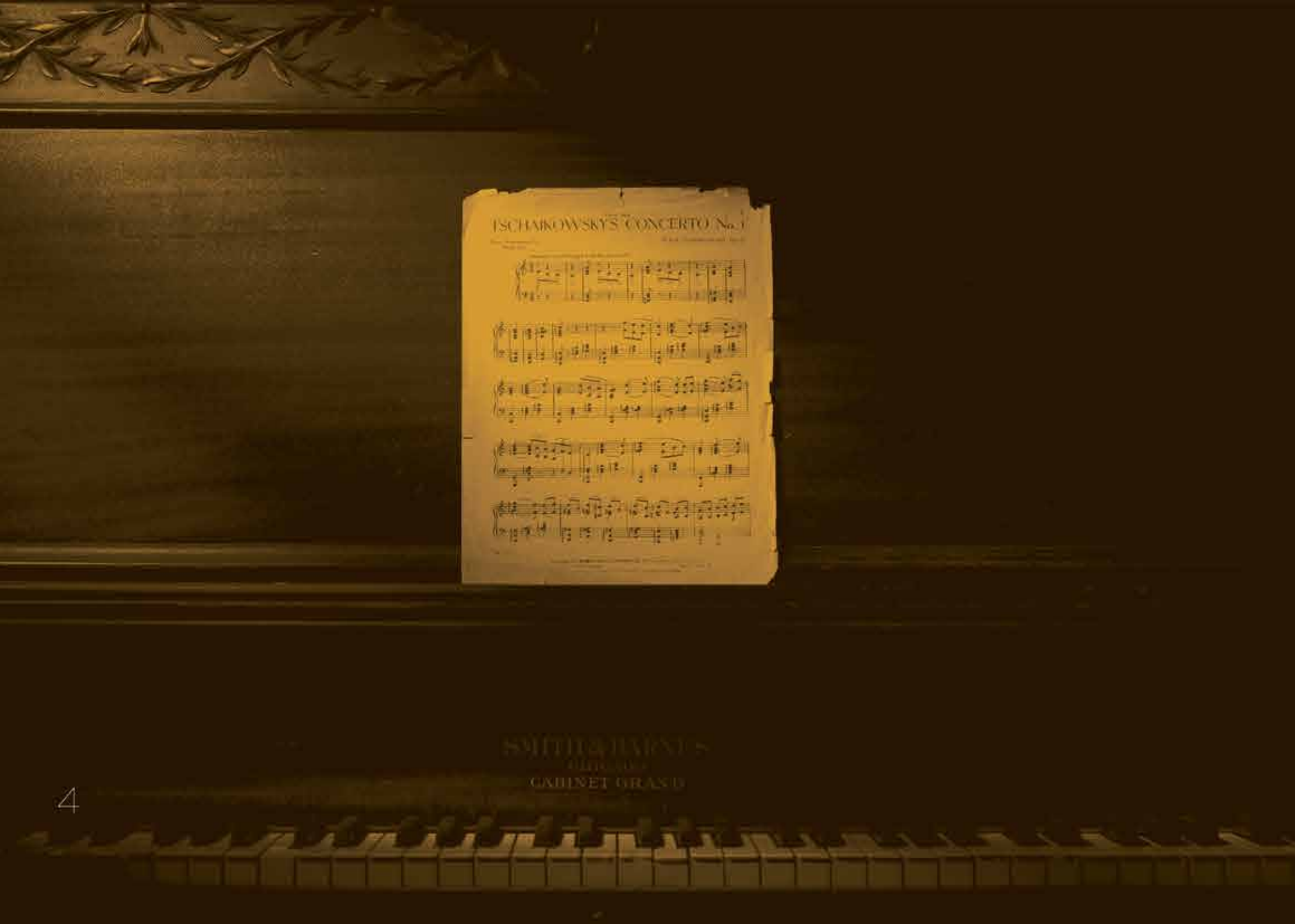
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## THE BEGINNING OF HARMONY

Istgah orchestra was founded in 2010 by consistent efforts of Mahdi Norouzi and a group of graduate students in music and singing in Tehran. Initially, it consisted of a few members who had to manage multiple roles at the same time. The very first idea to establish the Istgah orchestra was based on the filling the need of the music market to a private, independent and professional orchestra in Iran. The years of assiduous efforts as well as taking advantage of the opportunities led into the emergence of Istgah orchestra in 2011 as a private institution. Ever since, Istgah has been significantly growing as it collaborated with national and international music legends such as Naser Cheshmazar and Richard Clayderman. Also, by taking part in musical theaters of Mary Poppins and The Corpse Bride, the Istgah orchestra has been able to introduce itself successfully to the community of music and performance art.

Currently, Istgah has gained a superior status in the field of Iranian music and art through participating in various closing ceremonies, and film and art festivals, as well as musical theaters. This elite group is now consisted of more than 150 members including Iranian and international singers, musicians and composers.



## MARY POPPINS MUSICAL THEATER

The musical theater of Mary Poppins, starring Behnoush Tabatabaie, Mehrave Sharifinia, and Ehsan Karami, with participation of more than 110 performers, singers and dancers, and directed by Ahmad Soleimani, was adapted from the 1964 American musical film of Mary Poppins produced by Walt Disney company. This film brought several awards and honors for the film crew. Istgah went on stage under the leadership of one of the legends of classical music in Iran, Manouchehr Sahbai, and created one of the most impressive plays in Iran. The combination of performing arts and music dates back to several thousand years ago, however, this composite art has considerably taken attention over last recent years and audiences have shown a great interest in musical theaters.







The Mary Poppins theater was held for 50 nights at Vahdat Hall and was praised by theater critics. The great orchestra of Istgah has been able to attract the approval of experts and added another successful project to its records.

Mary Poppins will be reminded by art lovers as an achievement which was able to present a successful cinematic masterpiece elaborately in a musical theatrical medium. One of the attributes of this performance is its numerous and professional dancers which are the pioneers in their field.

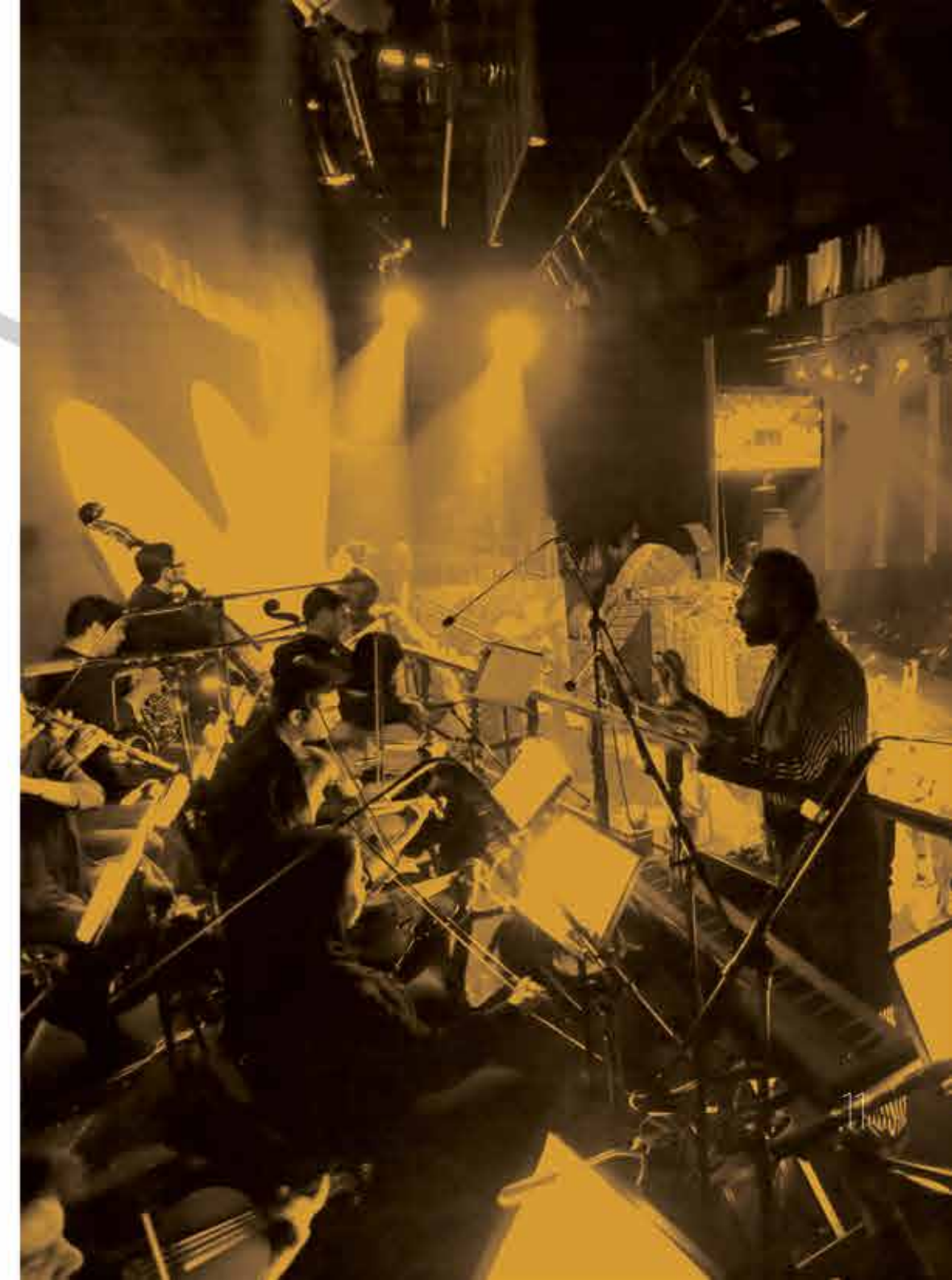




## CORPSE BRIDE MUSICAL THEATER



The musical theater of “The Corpse Bride”, starring Niki Karimi, Milad Keymaram, Amir Jafari, Nazanin Bayati, Linda Kiani, Shaghayegh Dehghan, and Mehran Ahmadi, with participation of 70 singers and performers, was performed in May 2019 at Royal Hall Espinas Palace. This musical performance is an adaptation from the well-known “The Corpse Bride” animation, directed by Tim Burton and produced in 2005 by Warner Bros. company. Omidreza Sepehri is the director of The Corpse Bride theater. This theater follows the path of theaters such as “Oliver Twist” and “The Miserables”, the paramount musical theaters that are produced with high investments which amaze the audiences with intricate make-up and scenery.








The Corpse Bride is one of the greatest musical fantasy performances in Iran in which the Istgah orchestra was selected as its music performer and its performance in duration of 20 nights attracted the praise of critics for its decent quality. The turning point of this theater was that the quality of musicians' performance was maintained during the effortful and long performances. The Corpse Bride is the point where Istgah joined the theater world and led to the subsequent collaboration of Istgah with musical theater sections.







## THE PRINCE OF THE PIANO



The performance of Clayderman in Iran astonished the fans of luxurious music. The selection of Istgah orchestra as a company and performer for 6 successive nights with more than 150 thousand audiences at the Conference Hall of Ministry of Interior Affairs shows the brilliance and capabilities of Istgah. In conclusion of his tour of Iran, Clayderman acknowledged the Istgah group and praised the professionalism and ingenuity of Iranian musicians. Istgah's policy is to perform together with international figures in a world-class quality and this performance confirms the approach





## NOSTALGIA CONCERT

Istgah orchestra performed together with the master Naser Cheshmazar at the Vahdat Hall in 2017. Naser Cheshmazar as one of the most prominent musicians in the contemporary Iranian music era, will be reminded in the history of Iranian music with his excellent songs. Collaboration of Istgah orchestra with the master, paved the road toward an extraordinary success and public affability. The series of concerts of Naser Cheshmazar accompanied by Istgah orchestra involving 80 musicians, also known as "The Nostalgia Concert", demonstrated the high quality of Istgah orchestra as the biggest private orchestra in Iran. These concerts were held with participation of guest singers such as Ashkan Khatibi.





## THE TONE OF THE CHORUS

Formation of a chorus and singing in a choir is not a common phenomenon in the communities of Iranian arts. Although the first Iranian choir was formed more than 70 years ago, there are not many professional choirs in Tehran and other cities of Iran. With all the obstacles in the way, Istgah orchestra has been able to establish its choir in 2017 with 45 members. This group has been able to introduce itself as a dynamic choir by executing successful concerts and has been flourishing in the community of Iranian arts. Moreover, it attracted the approval of critics by performing repertoires from famous classical music pieces such as works of Beethoven, Mozart and Haydn.



## MUSIC THE MESSENGER OF PEACE

Istgah orchestra has been honored to stand by the international organizations such as the United Nations (UN) in order to deliver the message of peace and friendship of Iranians to the world in the language of art. We look forward to becoming a decent representative of Iranian arts across the world and we insist on it. The peace ambassador of Istgah is recognized as one of the most dynamic artistic groups collaborating with the UN office in Iran by holding several concerts and festivals in line with the goals of UN. The international project of Istgah on the international day of peace in collaboration with musicians from all over the world, turned to a great cultural political event on an international art level.







## THE ETERNAL LEGENDS

### NASER CHESHMAZAR

Naser Cheshmazar is immortalized in the history of Iranian pop music by the memories which he made for everybody. This artist integrated the music intelligence with pure love and life, something that is rare nowadays. He started his professional career in pop music as a player of accordion, piano and keyboard for recording music pieces and with his brilliant talent and efforts, he reached a high status in the history of Iranian music. He was awarded several times at the various reputable festivals.

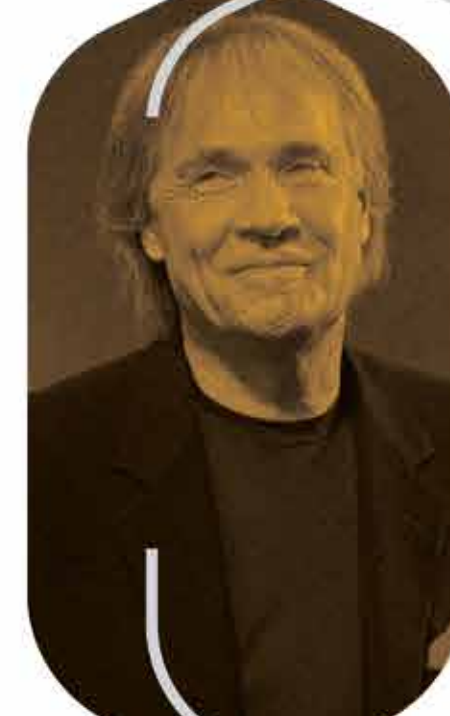


### MANUCHEHR SAHBAEE

He is a Ph.D. graduate of musicology, the solo oboist at Tehran Symphony Orchestra in 1970s, and a lecturer in the music department of Austria. He was the conductor of the orchestra of Amriswil, in Switzerland and in 1987, he took part in the orchestra conducting competition and won the first prize and received a gold medal from the ministry of culture of Belgium. He has been introducing several pieces of Iranian symphonic composers in recent years and performed many of them as well as compositions of the world greatest composers.

### RICHARD CLAYDERMAN

Richard Clayderman as a professional piano player achieved a fame and status that seems inaccessible for most of the French musicians so far. He has played piano for years and is recognized as an international figure through his remarkable albums and concerts. He has produced more than 800 albums in duration of his career and sold an outstanding 90 million albums.







## THE FOUNDER

Mahdi Norouzi is a graduate from the international conservatory of music with several years of experience as a lecturer in the music department of Tehran. He is also experienced in composing, arranging and playing music. In 2011, Norouzi established Istgah orchestra together with his peers from music department. Interested in cinema and music, he started his career with performing repertoires of nostalgic film scores. Currently, he is the manager of the Istgah peace ambassador institute of culture and arts and works in the field of music and musical performances.



## ISTGAH'S CONSTITUTION

Considering the universal attitude toward music and due to the emergence and development of mass media and its role in promoting music in the current era, music is now a different cultural concept than what it was in the past. One should know that world is constantly evolving and so does music. If we do not acquire a scientific and practical attitude toward music, we will not be able to keep pace with world's evolution. If music performers do not acquaint themselves with the legitimate and scientific music, they will not be able to successfully promote and correctly transfer it and considering the developments that have taken place, their performance will not be standard and pleasant as well.



## THE VISION OF INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCE

Istgah with a universal approach has been striving to proclaim the globalization of Iranian musicians by using the mutual language of music. Istgah aims to recover Iran's prestige in the music world and to fulfill the need to a professional team in this regard.

Discovering talents among Iranian musicians has been the priority of Istgah for many years. Accordingly, we have been able to become one of the leading Iranian orchestras by attracting more than 150 music players.

Istgah tries to introduce itself to the world beside the greatest symphonic orchestras and choirs and to take advantage of this fame in a philanthropic way. We believe that music as a mutual language among nations is able to bring souls closer and eliminate the conflicts. So far, Istgah has held several projects together with international organizations by which Istgah was able to publicize the international peace message. Introducing Iranian myths by execution of projects such as "Women of Shahname" leads to spread of Iranian culture internationally which is our ultimate goal. We at Istgah will keep working until delivering the voice of peace and liberalism of Iran to all the people throughout the world.







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