



music

THAT MADE HER

laboration to be part of a Mani Ratnam film (*Yu-va*) with *Dol Dol*.

Spirituality never left me... and that is why I recorded *Light At The End of The Tunnel* with innovation. As an artist, it's one of the best spiritual songs I have recorded and written after my pilgrimage. The song inspired many across the globe and the dramatic video images are emotional, yet edgy. They have deep thoughts acting as a guide and giving hope for those searching. It's about keeping morals intact and having a great vision for change without creating chaos.

I had health issues and my comeback album... was *Laila*. It had eclectic songs by some amazing producers including multi-Grammy nominated producer Fraser T Smith, who has worked with Adele and Britney Spears.



Another collaboration that I am immensely proud of... is *Hayati* with Jah Wobble and *Temple of Sound* from the album *Shout At The Devil*. I was thrilled when they got in touch with me to work on his dub production. When you work with great artists like this, you can only but learn.

I returned to my Middle Eastern roots with... *Ommah Oum* by Kaya Project. It was such a pleasure to work with film/TV composer/producer Seb Taylor. The composition adds a dusty tribal groove. I loved the monkey remix too.

I've had my work featured on various films... including British feature *Magnificent 11*. It was wonderful to work with amazing TV/film composer Phil Lawrence on a full-blown orchestral composition, which mixed up cowboy western grooves with Indian music.

My music took me to the Far East... with *Mystic Fire* by Gio Makyo. One of Japan's top producers delivered a mystical, ambient, tribal and spacious sound on the record. It is one of my favourites and one I was happy to be part of.

Another of my dance records that took everyone by surprise... was *Take It* by Irish EDM band Noise Control. It had cross-thumping beats with atmospheric guitars and created a wonderful production. They were hand-picked by The Prodigy from a long list of competing bands for support in Ireland and created hysteria.

I loved working on the trance track... *Delusional* by DJ Bobina, who is the number one Russian trance DJ. I was thankful that I worked on a great track with a wonderful DJ with his finger on the pulse.

My Latest song is... *Thesali Noir*, which is a collaboration with the wonderful Romanian twins Gemini Brothers. The single is out on successful UK dance label Skint Records. It was an honour when the director of the record company Matt came looking for me to collaborate with them. Also look out for my single *Is It Love*, which is out now.

Log onto www.shahinbadar.com for more...



Introducing Anika: A star of the future

by PRIYA MULJI

MORE independent artists than ever before are showcasing their talent online by uploading videos of themselves. Sixteen-year-old singer Anika has done exactly that and is slowly getting noticed for her great singing ability. Currently studying music at college, the youngster has a big talent and even bigger dreams. *Eastern Eye* caught up with the Harrow-based singer/songwriter to find out more...



Who first discovered your talent?

I have always had a passion for singing for as long as I can remember, but my mum encouraged me to follow my dreams.

What has been the highlight of your short singing journey?

During my time in high school, I was fortunate enough to have met multiple artists who came to perform for the music course students. A highlight of mine was when I got the chance to sing to Nathan Sykes.

Who are your big musical influences?

Justin Bieber has had a massive impact on my music. I really feel as if I can relate to his musical journey. Jay Sean has also been a huge inspiration and I love his dedication to music.

Which is your favourite cover version to sing?

One of my most favourite covers to sing would have to be *Can't Help Falling In Love* by Elvis Presley or *Say You Won't Let Go* by James Arthur.

Where do you hope to be in five years in terms of your singing?

In five years time, I hope to be working on an album. I also hope to be signed to a label, where I can collaborate with artists like Justin Bieber and Zack Knight.

Who would you love to sing a duet with?

I would love to do a duet with Zack Knight, Justin Bieber, Jay Sean, John Legend, 5 Seconds Of Summer and Arjun. They would all be great artists to collaborate with.

Which of your own songs do you love?

I am currently working on a few songs and it is so hard to pick one as they are all so different.

Have you made a masterplan?

My plan today, tomorrow and masterplan are all the same; to pursue my dream and achieve my goals to become an artist. I am prepared to work one hundred per cent and more to achieve this. My mum often says to me if your dreams don't scare you, your dreams aren't big enough, which does scare me. It makes me want to work much harder as the industry is so tough to get into, as there are so many talented artists.

If you could ask any famous singer a question, who would it be?

I would ask Justin Bieber where he draws his inspiration from when writing songs. And if you could be an opening act for any other artist, who would it be?

Why do you love music?

I love music because it makes me happy. It makes me feel special. I want my music to give the same feeling I get when I listen/sing. You don't need to speak when music is involved, just let it take over. There is something truly magical in music. You can sing a song in any language and most people, even if they don't understand it, will get what it is about. That's music.