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Global Arts Live presents

Sanlıkol

featuring Dave Liebman

October 16, 8pm
Berklee Performance Center

Global Arts Live: 617.876.4275
globalartslive.org

“*An Elegant Ritual* is a fascinating fusion of Turkish music with contemporary jazz language.”
[JAZZIZ](#) July, 2021

Boston, MA — Global Arts Live presents [Sanlıkol](#) featuring Dave Liebman on Saturday October 16 at 8pm at the [Berklee Performance Center](#), 136 Massachusetts Ave., Boston. Tickets are \$128-\$42 reserved seating. For tickets and information call Global Arts Live at 617.876.4275 or buy online at globalartslive.org.

GRAMMY®-nominated composer Mehmet Ali Sanlıkol presents ground-breaking jazz orchestra and trio music steeped in Middle Eastern cadences that draw from Turkish, mystical Sufi rituals, Sephardic Jewish musical elements, and more. In this double album release event, first Sanlıkol and his trio will perform *An Elegant Ritual* followed by *The Rise Up*, an extended epic composition for jazz orchestra commissioned by NEA Jazz Master saxophonist Dave Liebman. While *An Elegant Ritual* is structured after the Turkish (whirling dervish) Sufi rituals and John Coltrane’s *A Love Supreme*, *The Rise Up* features jazz icon Dave Liebman along with traditional Turkish instruments and Greek Orthodox cantors. The 25-piece orchestra will be conducted by Ken Schaphorst, chair of the Jazz department at New England Conservatory.

Sanlıkol pairs Turkish instruments such as zurna (double reed wind), ney (end-blown flute), kös (large kettledrums) and nekkare (small kettledrums) with the jazz orchestra/combo to perform his Turkish music-influenced compositions, in which Turkish makam (mode) and usul (rhythmic cycles) are intertwined with modern jazz as well as specifically film noir influenced music.

Originally from Cyprus and Turkey, Mehmet Ali Sanlıkol is a jazz pianist, a multi-instrumentalist, a singer, an ethnomusicologist as well as a full-time faculty member at New England Conservatory. He studied western classical piano with his mother and started giving

piano recitals as early as age five. He studied with the internationally acclaimed Turkish composer/pianist Aydin Esen and won a scholarship to Berklee College of Music, where he got his doctorate in 2004. Sanlikol was a CMES Harvard University fellow (2013-15) and made his Carnegie Hall debut in April 2016, premiering his commissioned piece *Harabat/The Intoxicated* with the American Composers Orchestra. Other recent works have been heard at Tanglewood's Ozawa Hall and on A Far Cry string orchestra's recording *Dreams and Prayers*. He was *DownBeat Magazine's* September 2016 Editor's pick, *JAZZIZ's* Top 10 Critics' Choice 2014 pick. His most recent recording was chosen as *JAZZIZ's* 10 Albums You Need to Know in July 2021. Currently, Sanlikol is the director of New England Conservatory's Intercultural Institute.

Sanlikol has been the recipient of numerous awards including The Aaron Copland Fund for Music Grant twice in 2016 and 2020, as well as the New Music USA Project Grant in 2020. His "coffeehouse opera," entitled *Othello in the Seraglio: The Tragedy of Sümbül The Black Eunuch*, was the recipient of the Paul R. Judy Center grant at Eastman School of Music in 2015. He has been praised by critics all over the world for his unique, pluralist, multicultural and energetic musical voice. The *Boston Globe* noted that Sanlikol's "music is colorful, fanciful, full of rhythmic life, and full of feeling. The multiculturalism is not touristy, but rather sophisticated, informed, internalized; Sanlikol is a citizen of the world. . . and he is another who could play decisive role in music's future in the world."

A musical polymath, Mehmet Ali Sanlikol has composed for, performed and toured with international stars and ensembles such as Dave Liebman, Bob Brookmeyer, Billy Cobham, Esperanza Spalding, Gil Goldstein, Antonio Sanchez, Anat Cohen, Tiger Okoshi, The Boston Camerata, The Boston Cello Quartet, A Far Cry string orchestra, American Composers Orchestra, Okay Temiz, Erkan Oğur, and Birol Yayla.

Please note: Masks will be required indoors for all patrons, and staff. All must present either [proof of vaccination or negative COVID test](#) in order to enter the venue. For details see globalartslive.org/covid-safety-protocols

For more information: sanlikol.com
High resolution images [here](#).

Global Arts Live is a nonprofit organization that brings inspiring music and dance from all corners of the world to stages across greater Boston. By putting the spotlight on exceptional artists and reflecting the diverse and vibrant community that is Boston, we aspire to transcend borders, cultivate community, and enrich lives. A trusted curator for almost 30 years, Global Arts Live has made live, international music, and dance a vital part of Boston's cultural scene by featuring more than 800 artists from 70+ countries in over 1,500 performances attended by more than one million people. To be as inclusive as possible, foster experimentation, and support a diverse community of artists, Global Arts Live is not bound by walls. Instead, it brings outstanding artists to the most appropriate setting—from intimate 200-seat clubs to 2,500-seat theaters and everything in between. Each year, it presents over 60 concerts in more than 15 different venues across the city.

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