

Media release

Muscat, 22 February 2010

Sarasin-Alpen and Alpen Capital will showcase talents of Omani musician at their third Global Fusion event in Muscat.

Sarasin Alpen Co LLC, Oman, a subsidiary of the Swiss private bank, Bank Sarasin-Alpen (ME) Ltd, Dubai together with its investment banking associate Alpen Capital LLC is hosting its third annual Global Fusion concert on March 4, 2010 in Muscat, Oman. The Global Fusion is the companies' flagship event and was first introduced to mark the launch of their Dubai Operations back in 2005.

This year in addition to providing a platform to musicians from across the world, one of the key highlights of the Fusion concert would be the Omani musician – Hilal bin Soud Al-Balushi on the violin. This year's concert will be led by the world famous saxophonist - George Brooks who would be accompanied by master musicians such as Vikku Vinayakram, Zoltan Lantos, Steve Smith, Niladri Kumar, Larry Coryell, Sivamani, Ensemble Shanbehzadeh, Kai Eckhardt and Isha Sharvani.

The Oman Operations of Sarasin Alpen and Alpen Capital started in 2008. While Sarasin Alpen provides a complete range of private banking advisory services and is the first Swiss origin private banking advisory presence and activity in Oman, Alpen Capital offers investment banking advisory services on debt, equity and mergers & acquisitions. Both organizations, regulated by the Capital Markets Authority, Oman complement each other by providing value added services. In addition to Oman, Sarasin Alpen and Alpen Capital have a presence in UAE, Qatar and India.

Rohit Walia, Executive Vice Chairman & CEO, Sarasin Alpen and Alpen Capital

"We have a strong culture of supporting the Arts and Music and we are happy that Global Fusion provides a unified platform to musicians from across the world. The event is organized in each of our locations and is attended by famous personalities from across the GCC."

Atul Rao, Senior Executive Officer, Sarasin Alpen Co LLC, Oman

"We are glad that Global Fusion is becoming one of the most sought after events in Muscat's social calendar. This year in particular, we are glad that we would use the Global Fusion platform to support and highlight Omani talent".

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About the artists:

- **George Brooks**, the world renowned saxophonist leading the concert
- **Vikku Vinayakram**- the Grammy award winning master percussionist on the ghatam;
- **Hilal bin Soud Al- Balushi** – the renowned Omani violinist from the Royal Oman Orchestra;
- **Zoltan Lantos** - a classical violinist from Budapest who has been internationally recognized as a world jazz musician ;
- **Steve Smith** - one of the top twenty five drummers of all time;
- **Niladri Kumar** - the prodigious sitar virtuoso, who has modernized the Indian ‘sitar’, into an electronic one called the ‘zitar’;
- **Larry Coryell** - one of the worlds’ most acknowledged jazz-fusion guitar masters from the USA;
- **Sivamani** – percussionist from India who creates magic with his conventional drums & cymbals to the vastly unconventional shells and *timbale* ;
- **Ensemble Shanbehzadeh**- a father-son duo who dance, sing and play the traditional music of the Persian Gulf, specifically from the town of Boushehr
- **Kai Eckhardt** – famous bass player known for his ability to play lightening fast & for his unique combination of “funk” “jazz” & “ world music”.and
- **Isha Sharvani** - an Indian dancer and actress, who is at the forefront of contemporary Indian dance and is known for her stylistic and unique dance performances