

## **TOM SCHNABEL**

Program Director of World Music

Tom Schnabel began his tenure as program director of world music for the Hollywood Bowl in 1998. Since that time, he has directed programming for KCRW's World Festival, a series of world music concerts at the renowned venue, securing hundreds of world music artists for the Bowl's stage. These have included Altan, Carlinhos Brown, Buena Vista Social Club, Cesaria Evora, Gilberto Gil, Lauryn Hill, Femi Kuti, Mariza, Daniela Mercury, Youssou N'Dour, Bonnie Raitt, Ali Farka Touré, and many other top international musicians.

Schnabel expanded his role as program director of world music to include Walt Disney Concert Hall as the Los Angeles Philharmonic Association introduced a new world music series at the venue during the Hall's 2003/2004 inaugural season.

In addition to supporting the Los Angeles Philharmonic Association, Schnabel has produced countless radio shows for KCRW and still produces Café LA on Sundays from noon – 2 PM. After he joined the KCRW team in 1979, the radio station grew from an obscure college station to one of the largest public stations in the United States, serving as a "tastemaker" for new and unusual music. While at KCRW, Schnabel pioneered the use of the eclectic music format and introduced world music to public radio.

Schnabel left the post of music director at KCRW in 1990 to broaden his career as a record producer, music consultant, and teacher. While Schnabel has continued producing programs for KCRW, he also has taught world music and other courses at UCLA Extension and Southern California Institute of Architecture. In addition, he consults with the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (NARAS), as well as producing the Trance Planet series of world music cd's. He also has authored many articles for publications ranging from the *Los Angeles Times*, *Esquire*, *Downbeat*, and to *Jazz Magazine*. Schnabel has also worked as music supervisor and consultant for film and advertising. Among many other projects, Schnabel consulted for Disney's *Dinosaur* and was music supervisor of John Sayles' Spanish-language feature film, *Men with Guns*.

Schnabel is also the author of two books, *Stolen Moments: Conversations with Contemporary Musicians* (1988) and *Rhythm Planet: The Great World Music Makers* (1998).

In July 1998, Schnabel was honored by French Ministry of Culture with the prestigious French Medal of Arts, "Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et Des Lettres," for his work in furthering knowledge of world music in America. He has also received several citations from the city and county of Los Angeles.

Schnabel attended the University of Southern California, the Sorbonne in Paris, and UCLA. He later taught high school and college-level English courses in Los Angeles and Paris.