



**[PRESS RELEASE]**

**TIMELESS: DEVA PREMAL & MITEN**

**Neo-Soul superstar India Arie joins mantra music's foremost duo, on an album of hope and healing for our troubled times.**

Serene, sublime and imbued with spirit, TIMELESS is the new album from the beloved, Grammy-nominated mantra music couple, Deva Premal and Miten. Created amid the lush tropical tranquility of their remote jungle retreat in Costa Rica, it is a beautifully intimate recording. By continuing their 30 years exploration into the heart of Mantra and chant, Deva and Miten have forged a musical message of inspiration, hope and healing for our troubled planet.

They found many kindred spirits on their adventures, none more precious than the multi-platinum, four-time Grammy-winning singer/songwriter India Arie, who lends her incandescent voice to the lead track on TIMELESS, Tara Mangalartha Mantra.

Says Deva, "We had the idea to record a mantra together and dedicate it to the healing of Mother Earth, our beautiful planet. We especially chose the mantra invoking the 12<sup>th</sup> Tara, the Tibetan Buddhist goddess of compassion, who brings about natural balance in nature and also, to ease the increasing dangers of climate change. (All proceeds of this track go to 4ocean.com – an organisation who removes garbage from the oceans.)

It was such an honour to sing the powerful mantra with India. She has been a huge inspiration to both Miten and myself for years, with her amazingly insightful songs. And what a voice!"

Other key collaborators on TIMELESS include Grammy-nominated world devotional music icon Jai Uttal and the duo's longtime producer/multi-instrumentalist Joby Baker. The result is a beguiling set of tracks that encompass many phases of Deva and Miten's journey—uniting past, present and future in one TIMELESS musical experience of peace and meditation.

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## TRACK DESCRIPTIONS

**Tara Mangalartha Mantra Prayer (Climate Balance) – feat. India Arie:** Two iconic voices intertwine in close, sisterly harmony. Mantra queen Deva Premal and neo-soul avatar India Arie bring a sensual tenderness to this beautiful Tibetan Buddhist mantra, devoted to the deity, Tara. It had been recommended to Deva and Miten by their friend, Lama Tsultrim—a pioneering American female lama in the Tibetan tradition.

“This mantra invokes the 12th Tara,” Deva explains. “she invokes the restoration of natural balance, she is seen as the goddess for regulating the timing of the seasons, preventing natural disasters, such as fires and floods. India and I have yet to meet in person, but thanks to the technology we were able to sing together long distance, and it truly was a thrill.”

**I Just Close My Eyes:** A breezy, bossa groove underpins a hushed, heartfelt vocal performance by Miten. The sole English lyric on TIMELESS, this song dates from Miten's time, living in the ashram of the Indian mystic, Osho.

The ashram in Pune, India, is where the duo first met and began their journey into music and mantra.

“I Just Close My Eyes’ is composed by one of my fellow ‘Osho’ musicians – Swami Madhuro - and I’ve always loved it,” says Miten. “It’s a very simple chordal structure and the lyric is similar in form to a Zen haiku. Whenever Osho discoursed on the Zen masters, for devotees like me it would be a psychic dive into the deep waters of their teachings. Their wisdom would be reflected in our music.”

**Tara Sabari Mantra (Healing):** Deva's spellbinding voice brings many expressive shades to this simple mantra melody—guiding the listener/dancer through a phantasmagorically shifting musical soundscape that gains momentum as the mantra unfolds.

“This mantra invokes the 20th Tara,” Deva explains. “It is said that she is so powerful she can even dispel epidemics. This mantra accompanied Miten and I all through the lockdown period. It is beautiful because it lends itself to a round or a cannon and has this very driving, urgent feeling. We sang this a lot with our online community.”

**Shree Krishna Sharanam Mama (Refuge in Krishna):** An enthralling web of gentle, cloudlike layers of glorious vocal harmony enfolds the listener in the joyful energy of Krishna. “This is a traditional mantra from the Gokul area, one of the places in India where Krishna devotion is strongest,” Deva notes. “Our late friend Shyamdas,” who was a Krishna devotee, introduced it to us. And we were singing it for hours and hours there with him, while we were wandering through the mustard fields and taking naps along the banks of the Yamuna River.”

**Om Durga (Protection)—feat. Joby Baker:** An earthy, percussive-driven groove cascades into vocal splendor, imparted as a celebratory mantra of the Hindu deity Durga. Employing only percussion instruments and human voices, the track invokes the protective energy of the Universal Mother. Joby Baker features here, having arranged the piece to profound depths of sanctified soul.

“We borrowed the inspiration of the great Bobby McFerrin,” Miten explains. “He taught us that music can be fun, playful, and at the same time, deeply spiritual.”

**Gayatri Mantra Japa Celebration (Illumination):** “The Gayatri Mantra is deep in my blood,” says Deva. “This is how I would chant it at bedtime every night.”

While the duo’s 1998 recording of the Gayatri won great acclaim, Miten felt inspired to forge a new, more groove-centric setting for this ancient Vedic mantra. Shimmering textures and a hypnotic, cyclical tempo draw the listener into an 11-minute musical odyssey. Phantom orchestras and beguiling sonic landscapes materialize and fade like mystical visions.

“Osho is the only guru I know of who danced with his disciples,” Miten reflects. “This offering is a tribute to the Guru who loved to dance.

For many years I’ve planned to create a musical version of the Gayatri Mantra that would move our bodies. We can dance our prayers – and why not?!”

**White Tara Mantra (Longevity):** Languidly descending cadences and yearning guitar swells invoke the beauty and power of this pure and compassionate Tibetan deity.

“We have three Tara mantras on this album,” says Deva. “The celebration and acknowledgement of the sacred feminine came about naturally during the creation of this album. I have always trusted that the mantras come forward into our lives when we need them - when the time is right. Recorded in one of the worlds ‘Blue Zones’,” this mantra leads to healing and long life.”

**Campfire Sri Ram — feat. Jai Uttal:** This sweetly lilting waltz was written by world music polymath Jai Uttal and was first heard on his 2021 album *Let Me Burn*. He invited Deva and Miten to sing on that track. They returned the favor by featuring a remixed, remastered version on TIMELESS, with some beautiful new overdubs.

“We just had fun singing with Jai. It is a great honour to have his blessing on the album.”

**Tara Mangalartha Mantra (Climate Balance) – feat. India Arie:** This reprise of TIMELESS’s opening track boasts a more developed instrumental arrangement while still foregrounding the transcendent voices of two sisters in song.

“And then comes Tara again,” says Miten, “just to remind us of the journey we’ve been on. It feels like a really nice, beautiful completion. It’s like an extension of all the past two years for Deva and me, all evolved into that music.”

### **[SHORT DESCRIPTIVE COPY]**

TIMELESS is the new album from the beloved, Grammy-nominated mantra music duo, Deva Premal and Miten. Conceived and created amid the lush tropical tranquility of the couple’s remote jungle retreat in Costa Rica, TIMELESS is an album of inspiration, healing and hope for our troubled times. Soothing mantras, glimmering, gemlike musical soundscapes and the sublime voice of Deva Premal and her soulmate Miten take the listener to a blissful place of calm and serenity.

Grammy-winning singer-songwriter India Arie lends her own incandescent voice to the album's key track "Tara Mangalartha Mantra," a prayer for climate balance. All proceeds of this track are donated to 4ocean.com

Other collaborators include Grammy-nominated world devotional music pioneer Jai Uttal and the duo's longtime producer/multi-instrumentalist Joby Baker. The newest musical statement from mantra music's own divine couple is a beguiling set of tracks, encompassing many phases of Deva and Miten's journey—uniting past, present and future in one TIMELESS musical experience of wonder, infinite love and healing.

### **About Deva Premal & Miten**

Since first meeting and falling in love at an ashram in the '90s, Deva Premal and Miten have been traveling the world, leading enraptured audiences in devotional chanting and amassing a body of recorded work that has consistently topped New Age charts worldwide. Among the key originators of the contemporary mantra music genre, their work has long been at the forefront of the burgeoning yoga/meditation/higher consciousness community.

### **[SUPER-SHORT COPY]**

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### **TRACKLISTING**

1. Tara Mangalartha Mantra Prayer (Climate Balance) – feat. India Arie
2. I Just Close My Eyes
3. Tara Sabari Mantra (Healing)
4. Shree Krishna Sharanam Mama (Refuge in Krishna)
5. Om Durga (Protection)—feat. Joby Baker
6. Gayatri Mantra Japa Celebration (Illumination)
7. White Tara Mantra (Longevity)
8. Campfire Sri Krishna — feat. Jai Uttal
9. Tara Mangalartha Mantra (Climate Balance) – feat. India Arie