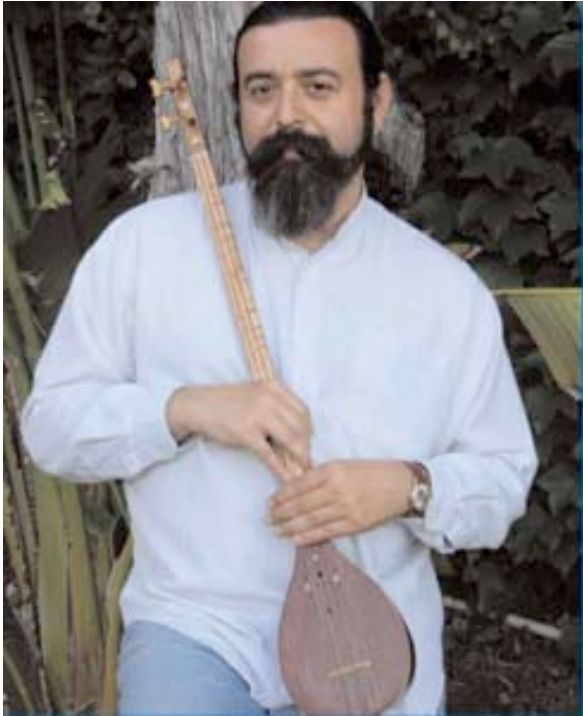




center for world music  
and Related Arts

## Ensemble-in-Residence



### SETAR ENSEMBLE Persian Classical Music

**Setar Ensemble** is an ongoing master apprentice performing project that is dedicated to Persian Classical music and *setar* in particular. The music that the Ensemble performs is a combination of classical compositions and improvisation based on the *radiff*, the repertoire of Persian classical music. The Ensemble is always joined by the apprentices of other master musicians who play other musical instruments than the *setar* to add more color and texture to the music at hand. The director, **Kourosh Taghavi**, was born in Gorgan, Iran in 1965. After his migration to the United States in 1984, he studied the *setar* and Persian classical music with two of the greatest master musicians of Iran today: Ostad Mohammad Reza Lotfi and Ostad Hossein Alizadeh. These continuing studies remain the source of his passionate approach to the classical music of Iran—the foundation of his many collaborations and recordings with numerous artists, performing both traditional and modern art Persian music. He has been teaching the setar throughout California to introduce and promote classical music of Iran. Lectures, composing original music for plays, compositions on the contemporary poetry of Iran, and passionate solo recordings are only a few of his accomplishments toward his goals of promoting Persian Classical Music.