

THE HUFFINGTON POST

"An evolutionary force in contemporary Middle Eastern music."

NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO

(Weekend Edition) "Their journey across oceans can be heard in their music...this is an interesting blend of modern electronica with traditional folk songs and Sufi mysticism...."

(NPR Music) "On their newest album, *The Fourth Light*, they continue to mine medieval Sufi Muslim poetry as well as instruments and songs from across the Middle East. With electronic beats, they create a swirling, whirling palette of colors fronted by Ali's rich and precise voice."

SONGLINES

"Makes so much else of what passes for contemporary world fusion sound clumsy in comparison."
"Ali's velvet vocals convey both sensuality and devotional ecstasy."

ROOTS

"A tightrope-walking balancing act of deep roots and digitalism and on *The Fourth Light* they have the combination of Middle Eastern instrumentation (oud, kanun, rahab, santour, riq, kopuz etc), Western guitar, bass and drums and electronic programming balanced to a tee."

"At the time of writing, this album is top-permost of the pop-permost in the World Music Charts Europe and it's not difficult to see why. With their striking lead singer and musical mix of ancient and modern, this Iranian-US trio tick all the right boxes for a 21st century world music sensation."

GLOBAL RHYTHM MAGAZINE

"A Flawless mix of past and present."

"...the success of Niyaz is immanent. The simple reason is they've already accomplished what so few do, transcending the boundaries of traditional styles in completing something entirely unto themselves."

BILLBOARD

"[Niyaz is] an alluring combination of medieval Persian exoticism and beats that are state of the art."

WORLD MUSIC CENTRAL

"The most immediately striking thing is Ali's voice: her angelic, ghostly tones are at their strongest here and it doesn't take long to realize how much of that strength is brought to the fore through a rich weave of string, percussion and wind instruments emboldened with cavernous modern production. It's marvelous stuff, seeming to yearn for something just out of reach and yet grabbing hold of a spiritual clarity that's alternately revving and calming... Highly recommended." -

SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

"[Their second] release continues Niyaz's important imprint on the still-growing canon of world music."

CONSCIOUS CHOICE

"The Persian world's most inventive and courageous band."

XLR8R

"Niyaz is the closest thing to organic digitalism imaginable: you never know where the mouse pad ends and the animal skin begins"

THE BEAT

"There's a lot of this sort of thing around but [Niyaz is] are among the best."

MTV IGGY

"Linking age-old wisdom to modern struggles through music that is both ancient and modern is central to Niyaz's DNA. With the release of *The Fourth Light*, success promises to be another unbroken line running through their work."