

JERRY TAYLOR

JERRY THE JUGGLER

FREEHUGS

THE BARAKA BAND

Biographical Summary

For the last twenty years, Jerry Taylor has performed around the world as a drummer, juggler, clown, and band leader. Specializing in Middle Eastern music, he directed Jerry Taylor's Middle Eastern Dance Festival (now called the Baraka Band), a troupe that includes five musicians and several dancers. This troupe has performed extensively around the southeastern United States. Drawing on his formal training in painting and other visual arts, Jerry's presentations emphasize colorful costumes and beautiful instruments. In addition to his passion for performing, Jerry has also enjoyed teaching Middle Eastern drumming and juggling.

People far from Jerry's home in the beautiful north Georgia mountains have been entertained by his shows. He has performed at foreign venues including the Golden Dragon in Suva, Fiji, the People in the Parks program in Auckland, New Zealand, and the Hotel Cosmopolitan in Cairo, Egypt. He has brought exotic music and dance to U.S. events such as the L.A. Gear Convention at the Georgia World Congress Center, the Annual American Red Cross benefit at the Henry Flagler Museum in Palm Beach, Florida, and a benefit for the Athens, GA botanical garden, where he was heard and warmly applauded by the Egyptian ambassador to the U.S. He has appeared on TNT's *Inside The NBA* and *Monday Nitro* as well as NBC's *The Today Show*.

In Atlanta, Jerry's professional home base, he has performed extensively as a solo act. He has done solo shows for such sponsors as Coca-Cola International, Turner Broadcasting, the International Jugglers' Festival at Atlanta Symphony Hall, Microsoft at the Fox Theater in Atlanta, United Parcel Service International and the Fernbank Natural History Center. Whether entertaining alone, with a single dancer or with an entire musical ensemble, Jerry never fails to deliver a memorable experience to his audiences.



ATLANTA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Yoel Levi, Music Director

August 10, 1992

To whom it may concern:

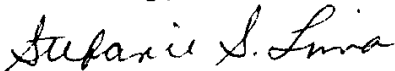
On behalf of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, I would like to express my great satisfaction with Jerry Taylor, who juggled for the ASO's "Symphony Circus" programs on July 25 and August 1, 1992. These special events offered parents and their children an opportunity to experience an hour of festive symphonic music, as well as fun entertainment in our lobby before and after each performance.

Jerry was a highlight to the lobby activities; he maintained a high level of energy and enthusiasm while performing exciting juggling tricks for well over 1,000 people during the day. He related very well with children and adults.

I highly recommend Jerry for any social occasion of which this type of entertainment is desired. I could not have been more pleased with his performance.

Feel free to contact me regarding Jerry Taylor at (404) 898-1182.

Sincerely,



Stefanie Lima
Marketing and Public Relations

J. Thomas Bacchetti, Executive Director

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Jerry demonstrates the *chroma ribbon*

THE BARAKA BAND





BARAKA BAND

MEDITERRANEAN MUSIC AND DANCE

BARAKA transports your guests to exotic lands on a magic carpet of live, danceable music! This instrumental quartet plays traditional and original selections in a variety of cultural styles, embellished with authentic instruments and colorful costumes.

With Jerry Taylor on doumbec, Stephanie Pettis on flute, Kim Chamberlain on clarinet and Philip Kontos on bouzouki, the band members have more than fifty years of collective entertainment experience.

If you wish, one or more Mediterranean "belly" dancers can be added to the show. The dancers affiliated with **BARAKA** are among the most talented in the Southeast. They dress in beautifully beaded, handmade costumes that are true works of art in themselves, and they never fail to engage an audience!

JERRY TAYLOR AND HIS EGYPTIAN DANCERS WERE A WONDERFUL FINALE TO OUR EVENING - ARTISTIC, PROFESSIONAL AND THOROUGHLY ENTERTAINING. THE DANCERS PRESENTED THIS MIDDLE EASTERN ART FORM WITH SKILL AND BEAUTY. IT WAS TRULY A MEMORABLE PERFORMANCE.

TONI ANDERSON MORRIS BROWN COLLEGE
MUSIC PROGRAM COORDINATOR

IT WAS THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE EVENING! IT CREATED A GREAT ATMOSPHERE FOR AN INTERNATIONAL PARTY. IT REALLY GOT THE PARTY OFF THE GROUND AND GOT EVERYONE INVOLVED WITH THE THEME OF THE EVENING. THE MUSIC WAS LIVELY AND UPBEAT. PERSONALLY, I THOUGHT IT WAS GREAT!

ELAINE BROWN, BOARD OF DIRECTORS
GWINNETT COUNCIL OF THE ARTS