

# Lustful Elephants Trumpet Spring by ANCIENT FUTURE

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## Track List

1. *Lustful Elephants Trumpet Spring (Live 6-12-21)* 9:37

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Web Page: <https://www.ancient-future.com/lets.html>

YouTube Premier 9-22-22: <https://youtu.be/M6p29RuE8o8>

Radio Add Date: 10-18-22 on CMJ New World, Earshot International, ZMR, and WMCE.

Line-Up: Matthew Montfort (scalloped fretboard guitar), Aditya Kalyanpur (tabla), Frank Martin (keyboards). Composition: Matthew Montfort. Audio: Jarret Aitkens. Mixing and Mastering: Matthew Montfort. Video: Steve Davis.

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Guitarist Matthew Montfort was the inaugural performer of a series of online *Alternate Reality Concerts from the Ancient Future* on his birthday in February 2021. Ancient Future's last pre-pandemic performance was in September 2019 at the Kentucky Mine Amphitheater in Sierra City, California. Indian tabla master Aditya Kalyanpur shared a video of that concert with Jhankar, an Indian arts organization in Ohio, and they came forth to sponsor a virtual concert featuring Kalyanpur, Montfort, and keyboard wizard Frank Martin in June 2021.

*Lustful Elephants Trumpet Spring (L.E.T.S.)* was composed by Matthew Montfort after studying *Rag Basant*, a springtime raga that captures the feeling of separated lovers longing to unite. The caption on an associated ragamala painting read: "Bound with a peacock's feathers...his face is as a flower. Elephant-like, he joyfully wanders in the forest among the gopis. Such is Basant raga." Montfort woke up in the middle of the night dreaming of a melody that conjures elephants in mating season. It begins with a low riff that depicts an elephant's legs, and then moves to a jump from low to high like an elephant trumpeting in excitement. The piece quickly became a part of Ancient Future's live repertoire, and a studio version is in production.

On Endangered Species Day, May 20, 2022, the audio of *Lustful Elephants Trumpet Spring (Live 6-12-21)* became the first streaming release from the *Alternate Reality Concerts*. Music fans can save *L.E.T.S.* at their favorite digital music platforms by following this link: <https://orcd.co/letslive>. Musical elephants will appear in their accounts!

The full video of the live performance of *L.E.T.S.* premieres on YouTube at 1 PM, PST on Elephant Appreciation Day, Thursday, September 22, 2022. The video with hi-res audio is currently available as a download exclusively to supporters of the *Archive of Future Ancient Recordings*, Ancient Future's fan funded recording project.

YouTube Premier. Sign Up for Notification: <https://youtu.be/M6p29RuE8o8>



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L.E.T.S. by Ancient Future (AF 20400)

## RAGA AND TALA

A raga is a melodic recipe for a mood. Raga could be described as a "super scale" using a set of notes in ascending (*arohi*) and descending (*avarohi*) order, sometimes including prescribed alternate routes, a hierarchy of note importance, and a key phrase that shows the heart of the movement of the raga. This ancient system is both an art and a science of how musical notes create certain moods. *Lustful Elephants Trumpet Spring* is based on Rag Basant. However, it incorporates harmony, and in passages follows the muse of the moment over the rules of raga. It starts with an *alap*, an introductory melodic improvisation that shows how the raga moves.

Once the *alap* comes to a conclusion, the *gat*, or main theme, is introduced in the *tala*, or rhythmic cycle, in this case *keharwa*, an eight beat cycle. Each *tala* has a *theka*, which is a standard groove represented by onomatopoeic drum syllables and played as an accompaniment. The ending of *Lustful Elephants Trumpet Spring* features a *tihai*, a rhythmic pattern repeated three times in succession that is commonly used in North Indian classical music to create a cadence. The last note of the *tihai* is timed to fall on *sam* (the first beat of the *tala*), resolving the wonderful rhythmic tension created between the *tala* cycle and the repetitions of the *tihai* pattern.

## BIOGRAPHIES



To enable its core mission of creating world fusion music, Ancient Future has grown to become a large chamber ensemble of world music masters with many smaller ensembles within it, including this trio featuring world guitar pioneer Matthew Montfort, renowned Indian tabla virtuoso Aditya Kalyanpur, and keyboard wiz Frank Martin. *L.E.T.S.* was recorded at this trio's very first concert in which they presented an innovative and accessible take on Hindustani classical music and contemporary jazz fusion, with expressive and energetic renderings of raga and tala.

### MATTHEW MONTFORT



Ancient Future leader Matthew Montfort is included on the *DigitalDreamDoor.com 100 Greatest Acoustic Guitarists* list for his innovative work on the scalloped fretboard guitar and his influence on other acoustic guitarists over the years. He has performed worldwide, from the Festival Internacional de la Guitarra on the golden coast of Spain to the Mumbai Festival at the Gateway of India in Bombay.

[matthewmontfort.com](http://matthewmontfort.com)

### ADITYA KALYANPUR



Aditya Kalyanpur began his training on the tabla at the age of five under the guidance of two of India's top tabla masters: the late Alla Rakha Khan and his son Zakir Hussain. Aditya was first seen performing with Ustad Zakir Hussain for the famous *Wah Taj!* television commercial at the age of 11. He has worked with top artists including Shivkumar Sharma, Shujaat Khan, A.R. Rahman, Katy Perry, and Keith Richards.

[adityakalyanpur.com](http://adityakalyanpur.com)

### FRANK MARTIN



Master keyboardist Frank Martin has worked with a wide variety of artists that include Stevie Wonder, Sting, Flora Purim & Airto Moriera, Herbie Hancock, John McLaughlin, Santana, B.B. King, Bruce Springsteen, Paul Simon, L. Subramaniam, Zakir Hussain, Dizzy Gillespie, Stanley Turrentine, Wayne Shorter, Chico Pinheiro, Annie Lennox, MC Hammer, and many others.

[frankmartinproductions.com](http://frankmartinproductions.com)



Artists available for interviews, station ID's, & media performances.

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