Garry Schyman, the composer of Praan that transfixed millions all over the world.

PHOTO COURTESY: GARRY SCHYMAN



PHOTOS COURTESY: MATTHEW HARDING



From Bushmen in New Guinea to crowds of free spirits in Madrid and Tokyo, Matthew Harding has taken his dance to more than a hundred countries.

Praan shot up to the top 10 of Amazon's soundtrack downloads and is also in the top 100 of all its MP3 downloads. At one point it was up over Madonna and Mariah Carey.

bringing out the 'rock' and at the same time relate to the traditional music of the Indian subcontinent—someone who can bridge the two worlds. She found a video clip of Palbasha Siddique, a Bangladeshi-American living in Minnesota. Schyman was not going to fly her to LA unless he was absolutely sure about her. He told her to send a demo. When they listened to it, everyone was blown away. She kind of ignored his melody and did her own improvisation over it. Now they had hit the jackpot—they got the song, the language and the singer. But Palbasha was only 17 at that time making her legally ineligible to sign a contract. Her mother signed it on her behalf. "I would say it was more serendipity than lots of planning and research," says Schyman.

The rest is history. This mystical song transfixed millions all over the world.

After Obama won the election in 2008, American political satirist Jon Stewart played the video