

# breathe

## Suphala: THE NOW



The Now, the debut album from Rasa recording artist Suphala, is an evocative, whirling mix of sultry vocals, electronic beats, sitar, and eastern-inspired chanting. But the centerpiece of the CD is the mesmerizing tabla playing of its female star, which makes it hard for any listener to sit still for long. Traditionally, masters of this northern Indian drum have been men. But when Suphala hooked up with tabla legend and instructor Zakir Hussain, she soon became his star pupil, eventually going on to collaborate with Western musicians such as Perry Farrell, Norah Jones, and Sean Lennon. On her own here, Suphala creates rich, haunting textures that draw inspiration from ancient and modern, east and west, to fashion a new tradition that is uniquely hers.

