

Bio-data outline

Professor Sanjoy Bandopadhyay

Sanjoy Bandopadhyay, one of the foremost sitar players of the current generation, is the *Chair Professor [Ustad Allauddin Khan Chair]* at the Department of Instrumental Music of Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata [India]. After his initial training from his father Shri Peeyush Prasanna Bandopadhyay he had training under the guidance of the doyens of music like Pt. Radhika Mohan Maitra, and Pt. Bimalendu Mukherjee. He also had additional training from Pt. Manas Chakravarty, Pt. Ajay Sinha Roy and Dr. M.R. Gautam.



He has performed in many major music festivals in India and in the European countries and in the USA. He quite often gets invitations to participate in important global event like his 2003 participation at the *Plenary Session of UNESCO Conference* held in Finland. He has a number of CD-s to his credit marketed by well-known music companies in India and in the USA. He has received invitation from the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada to visit their campus as *Distinguished India-focus Visitor*. He quite often takes part in major International Conferences on Music and Academics like his recent presentation [September, 2004] at the XIIIth International Conference of the German Musicological Society held at Weimar, Germany. The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign invited him as *George A. Miller Visiting Professor* [October, 2005].

Prof. Bandopadhyay is also involved in a number in collaborative research projects at the national and international levels.

His musical expressions sometimes attributed as post-modern, gives unique musical experience as a result of the synthesis of his extensive training in *Senia-Shahjehanpur, Imdadkhani, and Rampur-Senia gharana-s*.

For more details visit: http://www.geocities.com/sitar_sanjoy
For free music downloads visit: <http://www.download.com/sitar>
Email: sitardivine@rediffmail.com

SANJOY BANDOPADHYAY

1. GENERAL DETAILS

Name: Sanjoy Bandopadhyay
Father's name: Pt. Peeyush Prasanna Bandopadhyay
Born: September 16 1954
Specialization: Hindustani Instrumental Music - Sitar
All India Radio grade: A
Present teaching position: Professor in Instrumental Music [*Ustd. Allauddin Khan Chair*], Department of Instrumental Music, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, India

2. TRAINING IN MUSIC

Main Frame Training

- Rampur Senia/Imdadkhani: Pt. Peeyush Prasanna Bandopadhyay (since the age of six)
- Senia Shahjehanpur: Pt. Radhika Mohan Maitra (for 18 years)
- Imdadkhani: Pt. Bimalendu Mukherjee
- Additional Training
- Vishnupur: Pt. Manas Chakraborty (Vocal music)
- Rangeela: Dr. M.R. Gautam (Rare raga-s)
- Rampur Senia: Late Pt. Ajay Sinha Roy (Sitar)

3. MUSIC PERFORMANCES

Performed in many important music festivals in most of the important cities in India and in many cities in different western countries. Performed in a number of *National Programs of Music of All India Radio* and *Doordarshan*.

National

- Tansen Sangeet Samaroha, Gwalior
- Ustd. Ameer Khan Memorial Music Conference, Indore
- Sadarang Sangeer Sammelan, Kolkata
- India Internional Centre, New Delhi
- Gandharva Mahavidyalaya, New Delhi
- Swami Sangeet Sammelan, Mumbai
- Film Awards Night, Mumbai
- Bangalore Sangeet Sabha, Bnagalore
- North Zone Culural Centre, Allahabad
- UP Sangeet Natak Academy, Lucknow
- Bharat Bhavan, Bhopal
- Mehfil, Nagpur
- Sangeet Research Academy, Kolkata
- Tarapada Memorial Music Conference, Kolkata
- Madhya Pradesh Sangeet Samaroha, Indore
- Sangeet Samaj, Jabalpur and hundreds others.

International

- Extensive performance tour in France, Belgium, The Netherlands, Austria, in 1991
- Indian Council for Cultural Relations, New Delhi sponsored performance tour to Austria and France in 1998.
- Performances in Finland in 2001
- Performances in France, Belgium and Germany in 2003
- Performances in Berlin, Germany [2004]
- Performance at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA [2004]

Points covered:

1. General details
2. Training in Music
3. Music performances
4. Special features in Music
5. Distinguished Academic Invitations/Participation
6. Publications [*National/International*]
7. Presentations [*National/International*]
8. Fellowship/Awards
9. Executed project [*National/International*]
10. Current projects [*National/International*]
11. Faculty/University related miscellaneous activities
12. References in different Biographical Directories (National/International)

- Performance at the University of Pennsylvania, USA [2004]
- Performance in Edmonton, Canada [2004]
- Performance at Moline, New York, Urbana-Champaign, Boston, Pennsylvania and other cities in the USA. [2004]
- Musée Guimet, Paris [2005]
- La Rochelle, Toulouse and Marseille, France [2005]
- Champaign, Chicago, Rochester, Springfield, New York, in the USA, 2005

4. SPECIAL FEATURES IN THE MUSIC

Sanjoy has had the rare opportunity to learn under the doyen of such leading schools of instrumental music like, *Senia-Shahjehanpur*, *Imdadkhani gharana*, *Rampur Senia gharana* that ultimately helped him to develop a wide vision and as a result he could have the required inspirations for a distinctive style. His exceptional fluidity in *raga* elaboration, musical applications of simple and intricate *laya* designs in combination with skillful handling of the instrument gives the listeners a remarkable musical experience. He loves both popular and rare *raga*-s and use different *tala*-s for desired platforms for different desired musical expressions.

5A. DISTINGUISHED ACADEMIC INVITATIONS

- Distinguished India-Focus Visitor, University of Alberta, Canada, 2004
- George A. Miller Visiting Professor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA, 2005

5B. DISTINGUISHED PARTICIPATION IN ACADEMIC EVENTS

- Participation at the *Plenary Session* of the UNESCO Conference, Finland, 2003
- Participation as special invitee at the International Conference of the German Musicological Society, Germany, 2004

6. PUBLICATIONS

Commercial recordings

- RPG-HMV, India: one cassette/CD Album no. STCS 851203
- MP3.Com, USA: Three CD-s titled LUSCIOUS EVENING and YOGI, KING AND THE GIRLS and TWILIGHT TO MIDNIGHT
- MOON MOODS: On Air Communications, India
- A Tribute to Mozart: Live in Vienna: On Air Communications, India
- India Archive Music, Ltd., New York, USA (3 CD-s to be launched, one is expected shortly)

Books & articles:

National:

- Article titled *Kya karen in Sangeet Sansthan ka* in *Saptahik Hindustan* (leading Hindi periodical), Hindustan Times House, New Delhi (26 May - 6 June 1991)
- Article titled *Sangeet Shikshan: Ek Chintan* in *Sangeet* (leading music magazine in Hindi),
- Hathras (June 1991)
- Contribution of Indira Kala Sangit Vishwavidyalaya in perspective of Indian Cultural Arena,
- Hindustan Times, 21 February 2001, Special Bhopal Supplement [on special request from HT]

- Article titled *Distance Education in Indian Music: Feasibility and Prospects* in *Indian Musicological Society Journal* [2003]
- *Peeping at Computational Musicology* in *Journal of the Department of Musicology*, Rabindra Bharati University.

International:

- *Promoting Peace through Music* in *Cultures of peace: From Words to Deeds*, Published from Institute of educational Research, University of Jyväskylä, Finland 2003
- *India, Music and Intercultural Interactions* publication of the paper presented at the UNESCO Conference on Intercultural Education in Jyväskylä, Finland in June 2003
- *Music and Music Star: Promotion and Musical Values*, German Musicological Society, 2005

7. SOME PRESENTATIONS

National

- *A brief survey of the development of Vilambit compositions on the sitar: the dominating influence of the Masitkhani style*, UGC Refresher Course for University Teachers, November 2000 [A National event]
- *What is Good Music?* : University Music Teachers' Orientation Course, 2000, UGC Refresher Course for University Teachers, November 2000 [A National event]
- *Teacher and the taught are singing the same song: Where 10 feet = 10000 miles!!* [A paper on Music Informatics prepared for presentation at the Seminar held at IUCAA, Pune and organized by Mahatma Gandhi Antarashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya on "Informatics in Liberal Arts" under Caturang2001.].
- *Career Orientation of Music Curricula*, University of Allahabad, 2003
- *Musicality Vs. Virtuosity [concept paper]* SAA-uk, 2003 [Venue: British Council, Kolkata]
- *Rhythm and Space in Hindustani Music at the Jadavpur University, Kolkata, 2004*
- *A Brief Overview of The Impact of Increase in Hindustani Raag Music Students from Different Cross-Sections of the Society, The Instrumental Music Training System, and The Roles of Traditional and Institutionalized Teaching-Learning set-Ups with Focus to 1940~1960*, ITC-Sangeet Research Academy, Kolkata, 2005
- *Music: A Way of Fostering the Culture of Peace*, World Music Day, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, 2005

International

- *Presentation at the International seminar titled "Sonorous Texture"* a seminar on Netcasting and Distance Education in Music at Kuhmo, Finland. This Science and Cultural exchange was a part of the information campaign "Culture 2001" organized by the *Finnish Academy of Sciences*.
- *Raga and Time*, Jyväskylä Academy, Finland, 2001

- *India, Music and Intercultural Interactions* presented at the UNESCO Conference on
- Intercultural Education in Jyväskylä, Finland in June 2003
- *Promoting Peace Through Music*, Pre-Conference [arranged by the UNESCO Chair] in Espoo, Finland, 2003
- *Treatments of Raga-s in Improvisation*, University of Köln, Germany, 2003
- *On Indian Music*, St. Augustine College, Moline, USA
- *On different aspects of Indian Music*, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada [three presentations]
- *On Indian Music at the University of Oklahoma*, USA
- *Presentation on Indian Music*, Musée Guimet, Paris, France
- *Teaching Traditional Music in a University Setting: The Challenge of Institutionalizing the Liberation of Creativity*, CAS/Miller Distinguished Lecture, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA, 2005
- *Music and Music Star: Promotion and Musical Values*, Workshop at the University of Chicago, 2005
- *An Indian Approach to Improvisation: Hindustani Raag Music*, The College of New Jersey, USA, 2005
- *Presentation on Indian Music*, Drury University, USA, 2005

8. FELLOWSHIP/AWARDS

'Fellowship to the outstanding persons in the field of Music, Plastic Arts, etc.' from the Department of Culture, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India.

9. EXECUTED PROJECT

- Worked as the *Project Initiator* for initiating courses in *Computer Music & Music Productions* at the Indira Kala Sangeet University, Khairagarh; a pioneering program in this part of the continent. The project design has been completed in collaboration with Dr. Bernard Bel, Laboratoire Parole et Langage, ESA 6057 CNRS, Université de Provence, Aix-en-Provence, France; Prof. Richard Karpen, Director, Center for Advanced Research Technology in Arts & Humanities, University of Washington, Seattle (USA), and Prof. H.V. Sahasrabudde, Head, Department of Computer Science, University of Pune, Pune
- Worked on a multimedia documentation project titled *Documentation of Music Performance Techniques of North Indian Plucked String Instruments of 20th Century: in MULTIMEDIA*. The University Grants Commission, New Delhi, sponsored the project under their *Major Research Project* head.
- Collaborated with Ustd. Allauddin Khan Sangeet Academy, Government of Madhya Pradesh in mainframe planning for the International Seminar on "Distance Education in Indian Music: Feasibility and Prospects".

10. CURRENT/PROPOSED PROJECTS

- *Standardization of Indian Classical Musical Instruments* in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, India
- Initiation of a course in *Music Creation & Management* under the Department of Instrumental Music, Rabindra Bharati University, India. [Already approved by the BOS].
- Initiating a collaborative research project with University of Chicago, USA; Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany and SMB Museum, Berlin, Germany.

- A Text Book on *Hindustani Music* for the universities in the USA and other English speaking countries.
- An Indian Classical Music Portal for free downloads of ICM and many other free facilities to generate greater interest towards Indian Classical Music amongst the younger generation around the globe.

11. FACULTY / UNIVERSITY RELATED MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES

- Initiating a program on *Music Creation & Management* at the Rabindra Bharati University under Innovative Program in collaboration with the Department of Economics.
- Proposed outline of course programs (to IKSU) likes, Applied Music, Music
- Appreciation.
- Invited as Resource person in two UGC Refresher Courses on Music. [several courses in several universities]
- Invited for Lecture cum demonstration/visiting fellow by Delhi University, State Kala Academy: Goa-Daman-Diu, Allahabad University, etc.
- Invited as Expert, Teacher Selection Committee by Benaras Hindu University.
- Expert Member of the Teacher Selection Committee, Visva Bharati [University].
- Expert member of the Teachers' selection Committee, IKS University, Khairagarh [CG]

12. REFERENCES IN DIFFERENT BIOGRAPHICAL DIRECTORIES

- *Who's Who of Madhya Pradesh* published from Bhopal.
- *Global Directory of Hindustani and Carnatic Musicians and dancers* published from Mumbai.
- *Who's Who of Indian musicians* by U.P. Sangeet Natak Academy, Lucknow.
- *5000 Personalities of the World* (1997) published by American Biographical Institute, North Carolina, USA
- *International Directory of Distinguished Leadership* (1998 and mid-1999) published by American Biographical Institute, North Carolina, USA
- *Asian/American Who's Who* (1998, 2001, 2005) published by Rifacimento International, New Delhi
- Reference Asia: Asia's Who's Who of Men & Women of Achievement published by Refacimento International, New Delhi 2003]

POSTAL ADDRESS AND TELE/ELECTRONIC CONTACTS

Prof. Sanjoy Bandopadhyay,
 Ustd. Allauddin Khan Professor & Head
 Department of Instrumental Music
 Rabindra Bharati University, Jorasanko Campus, 6/4 Dwarkanath Thakur Lane, Kolkata 700007
 E-mail: sitardivine@rediffmail.com
 URL: http://www.geocities.com/sitar_sanjoy http://www.geocities.com/rbu_im
 Phone: +91-33-22695241/5242/6601/6610 Ext. 210 [W],
 +91-33-30901162 [H]