

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] of the Department of Instrumental Music of Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata [India]*. Recently he has taken the chair of the *Director, S.M. Tagore Center for Documentation & Research in Languishing & Obsolescent Musical Instruments [SMTC-DRLOMI]*.

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, in African countries like Mauritius and South Africa, in Canada and in the USA. His sitar recitals featured several times in the National Program of *All India Radio* [India's National Radio Channel] and *Doordarshan* [India's National Television Channel]. Well known music companies like RPG-HMV, India; India Archive Music, Inc., New York [USA] and other companies recorded him for CDs.

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 and attached to a number of academic bodies of different universities in India.

He has been attributed as 'Champion Post-Modern' by Music Critics. His music 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.sanjoybandopadhyay.com>

For concert clippings visit and others visit: http://www.sanjoybandopadhyay.com/E_Brochure/Concert_Submit.htm

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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
- West Bengal State Music Academy Annual Music Conference
- India International Centre, New Delhi
- Gandharva Mahavidyalaya, New Delhi
- Swami Sangeet Sammelan, Mumbai
- NCPA, Mumbai
- Film Awards Night, Mumbai
- Bangalore Sangeet Sabha, Bangalore
- North Zone Cultural Centre, Allahabad
- UP Sangeet Natak Academy, Lucknow
- Indian Music Group and Alliance Française, Mumbai
- Kala Prakash, Varanasi
- Bharat Bhavan, Bhopal
- Mehfil, Nagpur
- Sangeet Research Academy, Kolkata
- Tarapada Memorial Music Conference, Kolkata
- Madhya Pradesh Sangeet Samaroha, Indore

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)

- 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]
- 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
- SABHA, Manhattan, Kansas State [USA], University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign [IL], Los Angeles [CA], University of Colorado at Colorado Springs [USA] in 2007.
- Mahatma Gandhi Institute, Moka, Mauritius in 2008
- University of South Africa, Pretoria [South Africa] in 2008
- Rhodes University, Grahamstown in 2008
- Seminars/master-class in the University of Pretoria and University of Cape Town, 2008.

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, 2004
- A Tribute to Mozart: Live in Vienna: On Air Communications, India, 2005
- Joy & Peace, Aitijhhy, Kolkata. 2007
- India Archive Music, Ltd., New York, USA, 2008 IAM CD 1088 DAD

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*, 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
- *Music as An Aid to Human Understanding*, Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Golpark, Kolkata, 2006
- *Impact of Promotion on musical values*, Department of Musicology Seminar, Rabindra Bharati University, 2006
- *Panelist*, ITC-SRA Seminar, Kolkata
- *Panelist at the International Conference*, ITC-SRA [Western Region], Mumbai, 2007
- *Unity through Music: A Musician's Perspective*, Ramakrihna Mission Center of Culture, Kolkata, 2008

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

- *Workshop at University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, USA, 2007*
- *Presentation at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA, 2007*
- *Presentation at the Mahatma Gandhi Institute, Moka, Mauritius*
- *Presentation at the University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa, 2008*
- *Presentation at the University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa, 2008*

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. Sahasrabudhe, 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. Allaaddin 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.
- Documentation of obsolescent musical instruments of the world and create a 'Virtual Museum' and a general and an interactive museum at the SMTC-DRLMI, RBU, Kolkata.

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) like, 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]
- Member, Executive Council, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata
- Member, Faculty Council, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata
- Member, Internal Quality Assurance Cell, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata
- Expert Member, Academic Council, Bhatkhande Sangeet Vidyapeeth, Lucknow [Deemed university]
- Expert Member, Research Committee, Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapeeth, Varanasi.
- Expert Member, Research Committee, Utkal University, Orissa

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]
- *Afro-Asian Who's Who* [2006] published by Rifacimento International, New Delhi

POSTAL ADDRESS AND TELE/ELECTRONIC CONTACTS

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