



**Prakriti
Foundation**

**Gharana Festival of Indian Music
(2011)**

About Gharana Festival 2011

The Gharana Festival of Indian Music a 3-day festival that takes place in Chennai celebrating and experiencing Hindustani Classical music. The festival intends to showcase this rich Indian classical genre with the goal of bringing something new to the music community of Chennai. This annual festival features stand-out performances by artists who are the true torchbearers of their respective fields, carrying forward the tradition of music.

We at the Prakriti Foundation started the festival as a response to the success of the first edition in 2006, Dhrupad, which included distinguished and legendary musicians of this art form. The enthusiasm witnessed amongst the audience, in a city which is dominated by Carnatic classical music, made it possible to make Gharana an annual festival.

The festival opens its doors to people all over the country and the world, inviting them to experience and get a taste of Hindustani classical music in Chennai. The best part being that it is non-ticketed and is open to all!

The 2011 edition of the festival featured various international artists presenting Hindustani music. The performances include Dhrupad on Cello by Nancy Kulkarni from Canada, Santoor Recital by Tukahiro Arai and Sarangi Recital by Yuji Nakagawa from Japan.

Schedule

Dhrupad on Cello by Nancy Kulkarni

Synopsis: Dhrupad recital on Cello by Nancy Kulkarni from Canada, disciple of senior dhrupad vocalist Dr. Ritwik Sanyal, and the renowned veena and vocal brothers Ustad Zia Mohiuddin Dagar and Ustad Zia Fariduddin Dagar. Her performance will be accompanied by Sanjay Agle on Pakhwa.

Date: 30th March 2011

Time: 6:30 pm

Venue: Egmore Museum Theatre

Santoor Recital by Tukahiro Arai

Synopsis: Santoor Recital by Tukahiro Arai from Japan, disciple of Pandit Shivkumar Sharma accompanied by Aditya on Tabla.

Date: 31st March 2011



Time: 6:30 pm

Venue: Egmore Museum Theatre

Sarangi Recital by Yuji Nakagawa

Synopsis: Sarangi Recital by Yuji Nakagawa from Japan who received his initial training from senior Sarangi master Ustad Faiyaz Ali Khan accompanied by Aditya on Tabla.

Date: 1st April 2011

Time: 6:30 pm

Venue: Egmore Museum Theatre

Artiste Profile

▪ ***Nancy Kulkarni***

Originally from Canada, Nancy Kulkarni is a classically-trained cellist who has devoted herself to the study and performance of dhrupad music on the cello for the last 28 years. Before pursuing dhrupad, she was Co-Principal Cellist of the Rome Festival Orchestra and Section Cellist with the Chicago Civic Orchestra and Orchestra del Maggio Musicale Musicale of Florence, Italy.

Nancy has been studying dhrupad in India since 1982. She is deeply grateful for the training she received from senior dhrupad vocalist Dr. Ritwik Sanyal, and the renowned veena and vocal brothers Ustad Zia Mohiuddin Dagar and Ustad Zia Fariduddin Dagar.

Nancy has given over 200 dhrupad recitals and lecture/demonstrations at Western universities and concert halls, and in major cities in India. She was twice awarded the Senior Performing Arts Fellowship by the American Institute of Indian Studies, and was the featured artist in the films, "Through My Eyes" by Mani Kaul, and "Vihir" by Umesh Kulkarni. Nancy's playing has been presented several times on National Public Radio, All-India Radio, and she has released three solo CDs.

Nancy has made several modifications to her cello for Indian music. There are two extra strings that are plucked in the chikari style of the veena. Her four playing strings pass over a sloping elk-horn nut, modeled after the veena to produce a ringing tone. She has adopted the Indian posture, holding the cello while seated on a carpet. She plays without vibrato, so that subtle ornaments are clearly articulated.

Nancy resides in Pune, India, where she continues her dhrupad study and performance.

▪ ***Takahiro Arai***

An avid student of western music, Takahiro Arai fell in love with Santoor at the age of 26. He took his initial lessons from Mr. Setsuo Miyashita, a senior disciple of Pandit Shivkumar Sharma.

In May 2007, he came to India. Impressed by his devotion towards Indian Classical Music – and especially towards Santoor – Pandit Shivkumar Sharma accepted him as a student.

For the last 9 years, Takahiro has been accompanying Pandit Shivkumar Sharma. He has received Scholarship from Jaipur Gems in 2009

▪ ***Yuji Nakagawa***

Born in Osaka, Japan, Yuji Nakagawa received initial Sarangi training from senior Sarangi master Ustad Faiyaz Ali Khan in Varanasi. Further, he received technical guidance from young sarangi player, Shri Sangeet Mishra of Varanasi during his Japan tour in 2004.

Since 2005, Yuji has been receiving intense taleem under the tutelage of renowned Sarangi maestro Pandit Dhruba Ghosh of the Ustad Bundu Khansahib Gharana. Steeped in traditional 'Guru-Shishya' parampara and rigorous riyaz, Yuji has accomplished himself as a wonderful solo Sarangi player.

Yuji has been awarded ICCR scholarship since 2009 for pursuing Sarangi as a full-time career under the watchful guidance of Pandit Dhruba Ghosh. He has also completed Sangeet Visharad from Pandit Bhatkhande Music University, Lucknow in 2015.

In 2013, Yuji's sarangi recital in Namdharisangat Gurudwara, Bangkok received wide acclaim. Yuji also has to his credit many solo performances in Japan namely Tokyo, Osaka, Nagoya and Kyoto. Yuji had a rare honour to perform in Japanese embassy in Kathmandu (Nepal) in the year 2014.

Yuji has accompanied many eminent vocalists like Pandit Sharad Sathe (Gwalior gharana), Pandit Arun Kashalkar (Agra gharana), Smt Aditi Upadhyay. He has successfully given Sarangi solo recitals in major cities like Mumbai, Varanasi, Rajkot, Agra, Pune, Dharwad, Chennai, Shilong and Kolkata.

Yuji has been imparting Hindustani classical Sarangi lessons to a few serious students of music online for the last 5 years.

Press

The Hindu Friday Review, Chennai, 21April 2011

<http://www.thehindu.com/features/friday-review/music/Player-of-promise/article14691462.ece>