

CD 15



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15 IPPNW-CONCERTS

DHRUPAD CONCERT

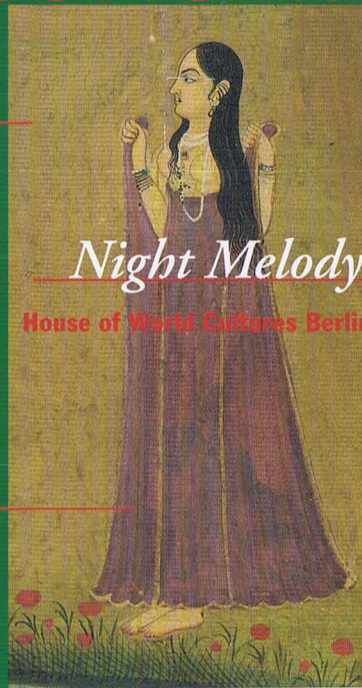
Umakant Gundecha
Ramakant Gundecha
Akhilesh Gundecha

LIVE

Night Melody Rāga

House of World Cultures Berlin

Rāga Bihāg
Ālāp and
Dhamār



IPPNW-CONCERTS

A Dhrupad Concert on June 9th 1995

House of World Cultures Berlin

UMAKANT AND RAMAKANT GUNDECHA are India's leading exponent of the Dhrupad style of music among the younger generation and the most active performers of that style both within India and on the international concert circuit. Born in Ujjain in Central India they have received conventional university educations and also studied music intensively in the traditional master-student or pupil relationship – guru-shishya parampara – that is essential to a fully developed capacity for active concert performers.

Umakant and Ramakant Gundecha learned Dhrupad vocal under the renowned Dhrupad vocalist Ustad Zia Fariduddin Dagar and Ustad Zia Mohiuddin Dagar, the distinguished performer of the Rudra Vina, the oldest of Indian stringed instruments.

They have sung great Hindi poetry of Tulsidas, Keshav Das, Padmakar, Kabir and Nirala

in Dhrupad style. They are regularly featured on All India Radio and Doordarshan-TV. BBC and Radio France have relayed their concerts.

The Gundecha Brothers have composed music for several documentary films.

They have performed in all prestigious and major music festivals all over India and many important international music festivals and institutions such as Festival of India in Germany 1991/92; Indo-Norwegian Society Festival in Oslo 1992; Asian Arts Festival in Hongkong 1992; India International Music Festival in Bombay 1993; National Convention Spic Macay in Norfolk USA 1994; Festival of India, Detroit Institute of Arts 1994; Western Music Conservatory Winterthur, Switzerland 1994; Smithsonian Institute Washington 1995; The Walter Art Gallery Baltimore and House of World Cultures Berlin 1995.

The Gundecha Brothers have received various awards and Fellowships such as M. P. Government Scholarship 1981–85; National Fellowship 1987–94; Ustad Allaudin Khan Fellowship 1993–94; Sanskrit Award 1994; They have also been recorded by HMV, Music Today and Rhythm House in India.

AKHILESH GUNDECHA, younger brother to the vocalists, is a disciple of Pandit Shrikant Mishra and received special training in pakhawaj from the eminent practitioner of that instrument, Raja Chhatrapati Singh Judev. Akhilesh generally accompanies his brothers, but has performed with other musicians as well.

DHRUPAD is the most ancient style of Hindustani classical music which has survived until today in its original form. It is a form of devotional music which traces its origin to the ancient text Sama Veda. The Sama Veda was chanted with the help of melody and rhythm, called Samagana. Gradually this developed into other vocal styles called

Chhanda and Prabhanda with the introduction of verse and metre. The fusion of these two elements led to the emergence of Dhrupad. By the eleventh century, Dhrupad music had crystallized into a perfect form which has retained its original structure and purity till today.

Dhrupad owes its richness to a majestic and systematic unfolding of traditional Ragas.

It is primarily vocal music although it is also performed on the Rudra Veena. After a solo elaboration of the Raga, the vocalist sings a composed poetry and its improvised variations set to a specific rhythmic cycle. Accompaniment is provided by the Pakhawaj, a horizontal drum with a deep, vibrant sound. Originally sung in the temples, Dhrupad also gained royal patronage until the end of princely rule and India's independence in 1947. Since that time Dhrupad music has shifted to the concert stage, and has won the appreciation of enthusiastic audience in India and abroad.

IPPNW (International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War)

Die internationale Ärztebewegung zur Verhinderung des Atomkrieges wurde 1980 von den beiden Kardiologen Prof. Bernard Lown (USA) und Prof. Evgueni Chazov (ehemalige UdSSR) gegründet. Die schnell wachsende Organisation erhielt 1984 für ihr Engagement und ihre erfolgreiche Öffentlichkeitsarbeit den Friedenspreis der UNESCO und 1985 den Friedensnobelpreis.

IPPNW-Konzerte

Die IPPNW organisiert seit 1985 in vielen Ländern Benefizkonzerte. Zu den zahlreichen Musikern, die somit dem Wettrüsten und der Zerstörung unserer Erde immer wieder ein Stück Kultur entgegensetzen, zählten bisher u.a. Moshe Atzmon, Daniel Barenboim, Leonard Bernstein, Blechbläser Ensemble der Berliner Philharmoniker, Wolfgang Boettcher, Brandis Quartett, Eduard Brunner, Bundesjugendorchester, Antal Doráti, Dresdner Klaviertrio, Martin Fischer-Dieskau, Alban Gerhardt, Michael

Gielen, Maria Graf, Natalia Gutman, Ludwig Güttler, Lynn Harrell, Barbara Hendricks, Ulf Hoelscher, Heinz Holliger, Junge Deutsche Philharmonie, Neues Berliner Kammerorchester, Kim Kashkashian, Bernhard Klee, Gidon Kremer, Rosemarie Lang, Marjana Lipovsek, Siegfried Lorenz, YoYo Ma, Maryland Chorus, Edith Mathis, Zubin Mehta, Jeremy und Yehudi Menuhin, Philipp Moll, Moskauer Philharmoniker, Musica Antiqua Köln, Auréle Nicolet, Igor Oistrakh, Boris Pergamenschikov, Christoph Prégardien, André Previn, Simon Rattle, Russisches Nationalorchester, RSB-Berlin, RSO-Moskau, Heinrich Schiff, Peter Schreier, Shinyu-kai Choir, Harald Stamm, Maria Venuti und Thomas Zehetmair.

Der Erlös aus dem Verkauf der Dokumentationen kommt den Spätopfern von Kriegen, Industrie- und Naturkatastrophen, den Opfern atomarer Unglücke und Explosionen von Hiroshima bis Tschernobyl und der Arbeit der IPPNW sowie anderen humanitären Organisationen zugute.

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