



SAMANWAYA SARKAR

Samanwaya is a National Award, President's Award and an A Graded Sitarist of All India Radio and Doordarshan. Being an outstanding Sitarist of the present generation, he is known for his mesmerizing approach and sparkingly perfect strokes on his expression of *meends*, *gamaks*, *cchoot*, fast and intricate *taans* from the lower octaves to soaring heights with ease. His unique way to unfold *ragas* gives his audience a unique aesthetic bliss of mind, for which he has achieved a remarkable reputation throughout the country and abroad at such an early age.

He started his primary lessons from his very childhood at the hands of Pt. Sasanka Bandopdhyaya of Senia gharana. His subsequent taalim from Pt. Manilal Nag for 12 years, Pt. Shyamal Chatterjee and Pt. Kumar Prasad Mukherjee respectively belonging to Bishnupur, Senia Maihar and Agra Atrauli gharana has greatly contributed to his unique style of blending *Tantrakaari ang* (i.e. style of instrumental music) with *gayaki ang* (i.e. style of vocal music) of *Dhrupad* and *Khayal*. Since his childhood he got his father Sri Swapan Kumar Sarkar in every step of his musical pursuit. Samanwaya hails from a musical family as his Father was under the tutelage of Sri Lalit Mohan Sanyal (senior disciple of Ustad Bade Ghulam Ali Khan), and his great uncles were disciples of Vidushi Hirabai Barodekar and Pt. Viswadev Chattopadhyay.

Finally for a decade he remained under the tutelage of the legendary vocalist Padma Vibhushan Girija Devi as a Gandabandh disciple, from whom he has imbibed the intricacies of *khayal*, *thumri*, *tappa*, *dadra*, *jhula* etc in his Sitar.

According to her gurumaa Smt. Girija Devi ji “*He is the only Sitarist of the country who is playing tappa after learning the proper intricacies of the form.*”

He has been also performing duet of Sitar and Vocal with a fine young Vocalist maintaining the traditional way of *tantrakaari ang* and *gayaki ang*.

He composed additional music and performed live with Debapriya Adhikary, for an Australian film “The Sleeping Warrior” based on Indian and Aboriginal spirituality got released worldwide in 2012.

He is the Director alongwith Debapriya of the documentary film Girija “A lifetime In Music” that received 65th National Award as the Best Documentary on Art and Culture by Govt of India and also got Awarded as the Best Documentary on Art and Culture Feature by Los Angeles Independent Music Festival.

He is also one of the founder trustees of the non- profit trust SUR that stands for “Sublime Urge To Rejoice”. (www.surindia.org)

Samanwaya won First prizes and awards.

1993 and 1994: First twice in the Rajya Sangeet Academy in Instrumental competition

1995: First in HMV Golden Talent arranged by Ravi Kichlu Foundation in the junior Group.

1995: First in Calcutta Youth Festival organised by Govt. of West Bengal.

1997: First in the competition arranged by West Bengal State Academy of Dance, Drama, Music and Visual Arts in Rabindra Bharati University.

2000: First in the Eveready Golden Talent contest arranged by Pt. Ravi Kichlu Foundation. & First in the All India Radio Music Competition at the National level in Hindustani Instrumental Music. (An award on behalf of President of India)

Scholarships:

2003-2005: Recipient of NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP by Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India.

Awards:

- 2019 “PERSON WHO CARES FOR ART OF THE EAST PEOPLE” by Sharq Taronalari International Music Festival, supported by UNESCO and Sponsored by Ministry of Culture, Govt of Uzbekistan

Lecture Demonstrations:

1. In 2018 National Centre for Performing Arts invited him Samanwaya Sarkar for lecture demonstration and archival recording on Thumri and Allied forms and the execution through their duet.
2. In 2017 Bega High School and Mumbulloo Primary School in Australia.
3. In 2011 BOX HILL University in Melbourne, Australia.
4. In 2008 conducted workshops and lecture demonstrations at 10 schools under ACT Govt of Australia and at Australian National University in Canberra.
5. In 2002 Oporto and Quembra University in Portugal

Performances:

Concerts in India

1. Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi
2. Thumri Festival by Sahitya Kala Parishad, New Delhi
3. Belur Math, Belur
4. Sangeet Piyasi, Kolkata.
5. Kalidas Samaroh, Nagpur
6. Raturang Mahotsav, Aurangabad
7. Shadaj, Delhi
8. Sawai Gandharva Sangeet Mahotsav, Pune.
9. Srimath Dargu Seth Halwai Ganpati Sangeet Mahotsav,
10. Mahamrityunjay Mahotsav , Varanasi.
11. West Bengal Rajya Sangeet Music Festival. Kolkata
12. Pune Festival.
13. Ganavardhan, Pune
14. Swathi Tirunal Sangeetotsav, Trivandrum
15. Gangamahotsav, Varanasi,
16. Pt.Ramsahai Foundation,Varanasi.
17. Pt. Mallikarjun Music Festival.DHWANI, Bangalore.
18. Institute of Culture, Ramkrishna Mission,Kolkata
19. Weavers Studio and Centyre for the Arts, Kolkata.
20. Laxmi Devi Lalit Kala Academy, Kanpur.
21. Samrat Sangeet Sammelan,Goa.

22. Chawlkowa Music College Sangeet Sammelan, Dibrugarh.
23. India Habitat Centre, New Delhi
Shadaj, New Delhi.
24. Chaitrapalavi Sangeet Mahotsav by Chaturang , Dombivali
25. Saptak, Nasik.
26. Navarang, Kolkata
27. Srjan(An institution founded by Guru Keluchran Mahapatra) Bhuvaneswar
28. Kalaprakash, Varasnasi
29. MatriKripa Dham,Lucknow
30. Sringar, Allahabad
31. Suro Sagar Society, Kolkata
32. Darbari, Kolkata
33. Damru, Kolkata
34. Bhawanipur Sangeet Sammelani,Kolkata
35. Naad Bramha Sangeet Samaj,Kolkata

International Music Festivals

1. Sitar Festival, St. Petersburg Russia 2019
2. Sharq Taronalari International Music Festival- Samarkand, Uzbekistan. 2019
3. Mananan International Festival for Music and Arts, Isle of Man, British Isles. 2008 &2017
4. Blue Mountains Music Festival, Katoomba Australia 2017
5. Brunswick Music Festival, Melbourne Australia 2017
6. PARRAMASALA for South Asian Arts Australia, 2017 and 2015
7. WOMAD UK 2013
8. High Peace Festival Augsburg, Germany 2013
9. *He was first ever with other2 Indian Musicians to be invited to*
10. National Theatre of Operas and Ballet, Tirana, Albania. 2010 to commemorate Mother Teresa's Birth Centenary.
11. Festival Les Orientales Saint-Florent le Vieil, France, 2010
12. Festival Autres Rivages, Uzes, France, 2010
13. Festival Classica at Evora, Portugal, 2010
14. Voix d'été en Creuse, France, 2009
Deia International Festival of Music, Spain, 2009
Festival International de Musique d'Uzerche, France 2009
National Multicultural Festival of Australia 2008

Other Concerts abroad:

1. Robert Browning and Associates 2019
2. Elbphilharmonie – Hamburg, Germany, 2018
3. TKM - Kléber-Méleau Theater,Laussane Switzerland 2018
4. Royal Overseas League London, UK. 2017
5. Funhouse at Bega, Australia 2017
6. Migrant Heritage Charitable Trust, Auckland Newzealand 2017
7. Theatre De La Ville (Abbesses), Paris, France 2013

8. Le Rocher De Palmer, Cenon France,2013
9. Ragamala Calgary and Edmonton, Canada 2013
10. SIA of Victoria, UVIC, Canada 2013
11. Learnquest Music Festival, Boston USA, 2010 /2012
12. Indian Music Society, Houston,USA. 2012
13. Swaradhana , Tampa, USA,2012
14. Hindu Temple of South Florida, Fort Myers, USA.2012
15. Holi Mahotsav, Bharaiya Vidya Bhavan Sydney, Australia.2011
16. Kulcha Arts Perth, Australia.2011
17. Nexus Multicultural Arts. Adelaide, Australia 2011
18. Boite, Melbourne, Australia.2011
19. Theo Notaras Multicultural Arts. Canberra, Australia.2011
20. HarmonyOm's First First Anniversary celebration, in collaboration with World Music Institute and WKCR. 89.9 FM. New York, USA.2010
21. Basant Bahar, San Jose, USA.2010
22. Ragamala, Calgary, Canada, 2010
23. Indian Music Society, Bloomington, 2010.
24. Vedanta Society, Providence, USA. 2010
25. Vedanta Society, Chicago, USA.2010.
26. Vedanta Society, Seattle, USA.2010.
27. Jhankar, Cincinnati, USA. 2010.
28. Basant Sandhya,New Jersey.2010.
29. World of Sounds by CASC and ISAH, Connecticut, USA.2010.
30. Palau Marche Summer Concert Series, Spain, 2009
 Summer Concerts at Andratx Cultural Center, Spain. 2009
 MilapFestival for South Asian Music and Art, London and Liverpool,UK.2009
 Tara Arts, London, UK 2008
 Indian Association of Manchester, UK 2008
 Vedanta Society, Sydney, Australia. 2008
 Bengali Cultural Society, Brisbane, Australia 2008
31. Bengali Association of Canberra, Australia.2008
 World Peace Day at Sydney Olympic Park of New South Wales in Australia by Sokka Gokai
32. International and Bharaiya Vidya Bhavan. Sydney, Australia.2009
 South Indian Fine Arts Association in Australia, Canberra.2009
 Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Sydney, Australia.2009
 Seminar at Box Hill Institute of Melbourne. Australia2009
 Indian High Commision , Canberra, Australia by the invitation of Her Excellency Mrs. Sujata Singh.2009
 In Byron by Ku Promotions.2009
33. Denmark and Germany, 2006 and 2007
34. Spain 2002 and 2003
35. Oporto University and Quembra University, Portugal, 2002.

Albums:

RAGARANGA a reputed Record Company of USA released his album named "IRIDESCENT".

TIMES MUSIC released his album with Debapriya Adhikary of Vocal and Sitar Duet named as SAMVAAD under the series of Unheard Jugalbandis.

Contact:

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