

**Dr. RANJANI RAMACHANDRAN**

Hindustani Classical Vocalist,  
Assistant Professor, Department of Hindusthani Classical Music,  
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Dr. Ranjani Ramachandran is a well known khayal vocalist of the Gwalior and Jaipur gharana having trained under eminent gurus including Padmashree Pandit Ulhas Kashalkar, Vidushi Veena Sahasrabuddhe and Pandit Kashinath Bodas. Ranjani also received guidance from Vidushi Girija Devi, acquiring a rich repertoire of Thumri, Dadra, Chaiti and Kajri. She has performed in prestigious platforms in India and abroad.

Her research interests include music analysis, archiving and interdisciplinary studies. An ex-scholar of the prestigious ITC Sangeet Research Academy, she is a recipient of many awards including the Charles Wallace Research grant from the UK and has been a long time collaborator with ethnomusicologists at the Durham University in UK.

She is currently working as an Assistant professor and teaches vocal music at the Department of Hindustani classical music in Sangit Bhavana at Visva Bharati University, Santiniketan, West Bengal. Ranjani is a Doctorate in vocal music. Her doctoral thesis focused on studying the stylistic diversity within the Gwalior Gharana through analysis of recordings of a few Gwalior Gharana vocalists from the 20th Century.

**Awards and accolades:**

- Charles Wallace Fellow, Charles Wallace India Trust (CWIT) Research Grant, UK, 2015
- Ramkrishnabua Vaze Yuva Gayak Puraskar 2013
- 'Surmani' Award, Sur Singar Samsad, 2010
- Empanelled Artiste of Indian Council for Cultural Relations ICCR, 2008 onwards
- Graded artiste of National Radio (All India Radio AIR) and Television (Doordarshan), 2001 onwards
- Yamunadevi Shahane Shastriya Gayan Puraskar, Ganvardhan, Pune, 2001

**CD Publications:**

- Raga Chaitanya" compositions of Chaitanya Kunte published (online) by Sonic octaves, I pustak, amaltash (Contributor as vocalist) March 2020
- Hindustani Classical vocal Music CD by RagaNxt; (December 2016)
- 'Swarvritta' ; Hindustani Classical vocal music; Bihaan Music, Kolkata (August 2016)
- 'Sandhiprakash', Sonic Octaves Pvt. Ltd. Mumbai (2009)
- 'Rising Stars', Sonic Octaves Pvt. Ltd. Mumbai (2009)

**Publications:**

- Ramachandran Ranjani. "A Musical Polymoth". *Economic & Political Weekly*. Vol LII No.46 (November 2017). pp 111-112

- Ramachandran Ranjani. "Stylistic Diversity within the Gwalior Gharana". *Ramyabina* (2017). pp 142-151
- Ramachandran Ranjani. "Visual interpretation of a recorded performance: Raga Marwa". *Khyal: Music and Imagination* (booklet) (November 2016). Published by Durham University , UK
- Ramachandran Ranjani. "Meticulos Performer, Dedicated Teacher" (Veena Sahasrabuddhe). *Sruti* Issue 383 (August 2016). pp 22-23
- Publication of PhD Thesis: Topic of thesis; "Stylistic Diversity within the Gwalior Gharana: An analytical study of the gayaki of some Gwalior Gharana Vocalists from the 20<sup>th</sup> Century"
- Ramachandran Ranjani, " Diversity within the Agra Gharana", *Punyaswar*, pp.77-79, 2013
- Ramachandran Ranjani, "Gwalior Gharana of the Khayal Form: Origin, Development and Salient Features", *Samakalika Sangeetham*, Vol. 2, Issue 1, pp.89-96, 2012.
- Ramachandran Ranjani, "International Conference on Bandish and its Facets: An Introduction", *Punyaswar*, pp.1-2, 2011

#### **Online Music Publications (Selected)**

- Ramachandran, Ranjani. *Ranjani Ramachandran: Raag Jaunpuri*. Retrieved January 3, 2021, from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dvGT40EIQOo>. First Edition Arts: Mumbai
- Ramachandran, Ranjani. *Ranjani Ramachandran: Raag Deshkar*. Retrieved January 2, 2021, from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u5LZSPVEnfM>. First Edition Arts: Mumbai
- Ramachandran, Ranjani. *Ranjani Ramachandran: Raag Shree*. Retrieved March 29, 2019, from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M-L7MnCUiIQ>. First Edition Arts: Mumbai
- Ramachandran, Ranjani. *Ranjani Ramachandran: Raag Shankara*. Retrieved March 29, 2019, from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cJ7WYq11wFg>. First Edition Arts: Mumbai
- Ramachandran, Ranjani. *Ranjani Ramachandran: A Raag and A Conversation*. Retrieved March 29, 2019, from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WzJ9esLALF4>

#### **Fellowships/Scholarships:**

- UGC-NET Junior and Senior Research Fellowship (2006-2011)
- Resident Scholarship of ITC Sangeet Research Academy, Kolkata (Aug. 2001 – Mar.2006; Graduated with A grade)
- Young artist Scholarship for Hindustani Classical music, from Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Culture, Govt. of India (1998 – 2000)

#### **Academic Distinctions:**

- Member, Core Committee, NAAC , Visva Bharati
- Appointed as PhD Thesis examiner and evaluator, University of Delhi (07.09.2021)
- Appointed as external examiner, Bengal Music College, University of Calcutta (05.03.2021)
- Board of studies (B.O.S.), Dept of Hindusthani Classical Music, Sangit Bhavana, Visva Bharati, Santiniketan

- Member, Departmental Research Committee, Department of Hindusthani Classical Music, Sangit Bhavana, Visva Bharati, Santiniketan
- Member, Teachers Council, Sangit Bhavana, Visva Bharati, Santiniketan

#### **Academic/Institutional Contributions (Selected)**

- Co-ordinated and organized academic session in Sangit Bhavana, Visva Bharati; A Listening Session on Hindustani Music by members of Archive of North Indian Classical Music, SCTR, Jadavpur University, Kolkata; 10th Feb 2020
- Curated an audio visual presentation of archival recordings By Rantidev Moitra; "Some Forgotten voices of Hindustani classical music from early gramophone records (1902-1930); 1st October 2018
- Facilitated and coordinated a visit for postgraduate students of Classical Music, Sangit Bhavana to Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute (SRFTI) , Kolkata to attend one day workshop on "Introduction to Sound and Recording". 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2017

#### **Workshops conducted:**

- Conducted Lecture Workshop on "Appreciation of Indian Classical Music" in Department of Animation Cinema, Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (SRFTI), Kolkata; 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> July 2019
- Conducted Workshop Demonstrations on Hindustani Music at eight government schools in Siwan District, Bihar organized by SPIC MACAY (Society for promotion of Indian Classical music and culture amongst youth); 22<sup>nd</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> April 2018
- Conducted Lecture Workshop on "Appreciation of Indian Classical Music" in Department of Animation Cinema, Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (SRFTI), Kolkata; 23<sup>rd</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> June 2018
- Conducted Lecture Workshop on "Introduction to Hindustani Classical Music" in Department of Animation Cinema, Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (SRFTI), Kolkata; 8<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup> July 2017
- Conducted lecture demonstration on "Introduction to Raga and Talas of Hindustani Music" at Centre for Creativity, IIT Guwahati; 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017- 10<sup>th</sup> March 2017
- Conducted Lecture Workshop on "Introduction to Hindustani Classical Music" for students from Department of Sound and Recording, SRFTI, Kolkata; 20<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2016
- Presented a Guest Lecture; Level-3 Undergraduate Module "The Music of India" at Department of Music, Durham University, UK; 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016
- Workshop on Introduction to Hindustani Classical Music at Society for Indian Music and Arts (SIMA), Penn State, State College, US; 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2014
- Music Workshop at Swarganga Music Foundation, Atlanta, U.S; 29<sup>th</sup> , 30<sup>th</sup> May 2014
- Three day Workshop on Hindustani Classical Music compositions in selected Ragas at the Phoenix Gharana (Music school in the U.S.) at Phoenix Gharana, School of Indian Arts, Phoenix , Arizona, U.S; 21<sup>st</sup> May, 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2014
- Workshop Demonstration programmes under the auspices of SPIC MACAY (Society for promotion of Indian classical music and culture amongst youth) at various government schools in Kota, Rajasthan

### **Papers presented/Talks/Lectures**

- Inaugural online lecture in the Visva Bharati Young Scholars' Lecture Series entitled "Dialogic" organized by Visva Bharati University. Title of the presentation "Forms of Hindustani Music: Diverse interpretations in Performance"; 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021
- "Illustrated talk" on Hindustani Music: Nuances, Travels and Multiplicity at Bhasha Bhavana, Visva Bharati, Santiniketan; organized by the Department of English and Bangla, Bhasha Bhavana, Visva Bharati; 28<sup>th</sup> September 2018
- Paper presentation (*Analysis of a gayaki. A Musician's Perspective of Practice and Theory*) in International Seminar "Writing and archiving Music Histories: Challenges and Conversations"; Jadunath Bhavan Museum and Resource Centre, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta; 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017
- Dialogue & Conversations between Hindustani and Carnatic Musicians: Ranjani Ramachandran, T.M. Krishna; G5A Foundation for Contemporary Culture, Mumbai; 10<sup>th</sup> December 2017
- Joint Research Seminar: "Analyzing North Indian Khyal Performance" with ethnomusicologists Dr. Laura Leante and Prof. Martin Clayton; Music Department Guest Lecture Series, Durham University, UK; 8<sup>th</sup> March 2016
- "Performance practice and stylistic diversity in Hindustani classical Music" Seminar on 'Language of Arts' organized by Department of Philosophy, University of North Bengal, West Bengal; 16<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2017

### **Interdisciplinary Projects**

- Collaborator as Vocalist in the soundscape of the exhibition 'Ways of Remembering Jallianwallah Bagh & Rabindranath's Response to the Massacre' curated by Sarmistha Dutta Gupta and Artistic Direction Sanchayan Ghosh held in Victoria Memorial, Kolkata; March 2020
- Participation as a Performing musician in the essay film O Horizon by The Otolith Group, UK; 2018
- "Khyal: Music and Imagination" Dialogue between Ranjani (vocalist) and Mahjabin I Majumdar (visual artist); Nandan Museum Gallery, Kala Bhavana, Visva Bharati, Santiniketan; 28<sup>th</sup> June 2016
- Participation in an Art Exhibition as a vocal artiste/composer; LAND Origin: thereafter; Art Art Konsult Gallery, New Delhi; 14<sup>th</sup> January 2016 -24<sup>th</sup> January 2016
- Participation in an Art Exhibition as a vocal artiste/composer; LAND, Natural , Gendered, " A Vocal Dialogue with Wagner's Faust Overture" at Nandan Gallery , Kala Bhavana, Santiniketan, West Bengal ; Curated by Amit Mukhopadhyay; 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct. 2015-11<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2015

### **Research projects**

- "Advanced techniques of analysis in Khyal performance"; collaborative short term research project with ethnomusicologists in Music Department, Durham University, UK supported by Charles Wallace India Trust grant(CWIT); 17<sup>th</sup> February 2016-10<sup>th</sup> March 2016

- “*Khyal: Music and Imagination*”; Consultant and collaborator in this inter-disciplinary project based at Durham University, UK and also supported by Arts and Humanities Research council (AHRC); 1<sup>st</sup> Jan. 2016 till 30<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2016
- “*The Reception of Performance in North Indian Classical Music*”; Collaborator and contributor in this research project based at Durham University, UK and also supported by Arts and Humanities Research council (AHRC); 2009-2012

### **Conversations/Dialogue**

- Speaker at a Podcast hosted by Artify, Bangalore as part of their online series Music: A listener’s perspective. Title of the Podcast “Kumar Gandharva-A perspective by Ranjani Ramachandran”; 4<sup>th</sup> April 2020
- Interactive Dialogue with Warren Senders and Sumitra Ranganathan Hindustani Music: Practice. Performance. Pedagogy, CUSP Arts Festival, Chennai; 1<sup>st</sup> February 2020
- Dialogue & Conversations between Hindustani and Carnatic Musicians: Ranjani Ramachandran, T. M. Krishna; G5A Foundation for Contemporary Culture, Mumbai; 10<sup>th</sup> December 2017

### **Selected Concerts**

- 27<sup>th</sup> February 2021. 41<sup>st</sup> Samraat Sangeet Sammelan, Samraat Sangeet Academy and ICCR, Goa
- 28<sup>th</sup> September 2020. Musical Tribute to Pandit D.V. Paluskar in his centenary year, Dr. Ashok Da. Ranade Archives, Pune (online concert)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020. Bhavrang Jayanti: In memory of Pandit Balwantraji Bhatt, Bhavrang Pratishthan, Varanasi (online)
- 12<sup>th</sup> July 2020. A Classical music live concert: Ek Prayas” Gourmalhar, Bardhaman (Online Concert)
- 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020. Vidushi Veena Sahasrabuddhe Smriti Samaroha 2020, Kala Samooh, Bhopal (Online Concert)
- 9<sup>th</sup> May 2020. Playing for the planet, Boston. “ World music against climate change” (online Concert)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 2020, Morning Melodies, Luz House, CUSP arts Festival , Chennai
- 19<sup>th</sup> Dec 2019, ‘River Raga’ in Serendipity Arts Festival, Goa
- 8<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2019, Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute auditorium, Pune
- 5<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2019, Sunny Towers, Kolkata
- 17<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2019, Suburban Music Circle, Mumbai
- 21<sup>st</sup> July 2019, Rangakarmee Studio Theatre, Kolkata
- 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019, Horizon Series, ICCR, Gandharva Mahavidyalaya Pune
- 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019, Past Present, organized by First Edition Arts, Sovabazar Rajbaari, Kolkata
- 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019; Cultural Programme, International Conference CJMC, Lipika, Visva Bharati, Santiniketan
- 6<sup>th</sup> January 2019, Dakshinee Sangeet Sammelan, Kolkata
- 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018, Darbar Hall , The Fifth Note Global Centre for excellence (Ustad Rashid Khan’s academy), Kolkata
- 7<sup>th</sup> December 2017, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta (CSSS); Jadunath Bhavan Museum and Resource Centre, Kolkata
- 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2017, ‘Dhrupadi’, Santiniketan
- 19<sup>th</sup> August 2017, “Khayal Rang” First edition Arts, Ravindra Natya Mandir, Mumbai
- 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2017, Horizon Series, ICCR, NGMA Auditorium, Mumbai
- 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017, Subah-e-Banaras, Varanasi

- 7th May 2017, 1st Punyatithi of Pandit Balwantrai Bhatt, Pandit Omkarnath Auditorium, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi
- 16th April 2017, 40th Sangeet Samrat Alladiya Khan Sangeet Samaroha, Balvikas Sangh Hall, Mumbai
- 10th March 2017, Bhupan Hazarika Auditorium, IIT Guwahati
- 16th Feb 2017, All India Radio broadcast
- 2nd July 2016; TV Broadcast, Doordarshan Kendra, Santiniketan
- 30th March 2016; All India Radio broadcast
- 23rd Feb 2016, MUSICON, An Evening of Indian Imagination, Durham University, UK
- 10th Feb. 2016, NIAS (National Institute for Advanced Studies), JRD Tata Auditorium, Bangalore
- 30th Jan. 2015, Amit Desai Memorial Concert, Vishwakosh Bhavan, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- 27th Dec. 2015, Swami Haridas Sangeet Samaroha, Visva Kala Sangam, Narada Gana Sabha, Chennai
- 21st Nov. 2015, Bhavrang Bandish Utsav, Yashwantrao Natyagraha, Bhavnagar, Gujarat
- 19th Nov. 2015, SSVAD (Santiniketan Society of Visual Arts and design), Santiniketan
- 8th Aug 2015, Barkha Ritu Ayi by Indian National Theatre, Chandigarh
- 17th May 2015, Sahayog Mandir, Thane Mumbai
- 4th March 2015, Basant Vandana, Visva Bharati, Santiniketan
- 21st Feb 2015, Route2festival, Dwaronda, Birbhum
- 5th Feb 2015, Concert in honour of Prof. K G Subramanyan, Kala Bhavana, Santiniketan
- 20th Dec. 2014, Chennai Music Season at Nadabrahmam, Chennai
- 20th Nov. 2014, "Svanubhava", Coimbatore
- 12th Oct 2014, "Bhakti Utsav" Kala Prakash, Varanasi
- 3rd Oct 2014, Foundation day of IIM Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- 14th June 2014, Learnquest Academy, Boston, US
- 7th June 2014, Basant Bahar, California, U.S
- 1st June 2014, SIMA (Society for Indian Music and Arts), Penn State, State College, US
- 24th May 2014, Phoenix Gharana, Higley Centre for Performing arts, Phoenix, U.S.
- 4th May 2014, Kala-Bharati Karnatak Sangha, Mumbai, Maharashtra
- 13th April 2014, Special Convocation, Natya Ghar, Visva Bharati, Santiniketan

Other Noteworthy Past Performances include the Vishnu Digambar Jayanti Samaroha (New Delhi); Chandigarh Sangeet Sammelan; ITC Sangeet Sammelans (Kolkata, Bangalore, Hyderabad and Chennai); "Sangeet Pratibha" of Sangeet Natak Academy, Nehru Centre (London), Classical Arts Society, (Houston), Jadavpur University, (Kolkata); Dadar Matunga Cultural Centre (Mumbai); Arpan Festival, India Habitat Centre (New Delhi, Kalakshetra Art Festival (Chennai); Pt. Kumar Gandharva Smirti Samaroha, (Dewas), Bengaluru Temple Festival (Bangalore); Bharatiya Sangeet Vidyalaya (Dharwad); Goa Kala Academy ; Riwaayat and Campus Concert series (Hyderabad); SPIC MACAY, Swami Haridas Sangeet Sammelan (Mumbai); Deval Club (Kolhapur); Lalmani Mishra Sangeet Samaroha (Kanpur).