

SANJEEV SHANKAR & ASHWANI SHANKAR

Born in an illustrious lineage of musicians of the 'Banaras Gharana' which has given many outstanding musicians to the world of music, Sanjeev & Ashwani displayed their strong affinity towards music at a very early age. Their father, the internationally acclaimed Shehnai Maestro Guru Pt. Daya Shankar nurtured his son's blooming talent and encouraged him with his personal inspiration and guidance.

They also had the privilege to learn Shehnai and take vocal lessons under the capable tutelage of their highly respected grandfather, the legendary Shehnai Virtuoso Guru Late Pt. Anant Lal a disciple of Thumri Samrat Guru Late Pandit Mahadev Prasad Mishra of the 'Banaras Gharana'. As torch-bearers of the precious Gayaki Ang (Vocal Style) of the Banaras Gharana, their scintillating performances are the perfect platform to immerse oneself in this rare vocal style as their influence of it is clearly visible.

Regarded as innovators whose efforts have widened the repertoire of Shehnai manifold with the introduction of Sitar's technique and beautiful features like Jod, Jhala and building up the Ragas in Dhrupad style, which shows the profound influence and inspiration of their Guru the legendary Sitar Maestro Late Pt Ravi Shankar under whose guidance Sanjeev and Ashwani have had the rare opportunity to consolidate their knowledge.

Recipient of the Prestigious Sangeet Natak Akademi's Ustad Bismillah Khan "Yuva Puraskar for the year 2010-2011 in the Hindustani Music Instrumental category and Aditya vikram birla puraskar in the year 2015.

Sanjeev and Ashwani have been featured in many Music albums some of which are "Taal Tantra the Sixth Sense" (The Track dedicated to Bharat Ratna late Ustad Bismillah Khan) and "Baul and Beyond" (Both by world renowned Tabla maestro and Percussionist Pandit Tanmoy Bose), "Traveller" by Anoushka Shankar and was also featured in the music album 'les Rives' The River Bank of the famous Gypsy Guitarist Titi Robin.

Hailed as one of the foremost and serious young musicians in the country today who is carrying the 300 years old family tradition and the art of Shehnai playing forward to a new

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level, Sanjeev & Ashwani's music represent an unparalleled blend of traditional classical music with modern approach.