



सनातन  
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# Sanatan Sangeet Sanskriti

*A Forum for promotion of Music, Dance and other Indian Arts*

## Sanatan Sangeet Samman 2008

*conferred on*

## Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia

**Sanatan Kalakriti Puraskar 2008**

*presented to*

**Ms Shuchi Khanna**

**Sanatan Nritya Puraskar 2008**

*presented to*

**Ms Monisa Nayak**

*Sunday, March 2, 2008 at 6.00 pm*

*The Fountain Lawns, India International Centre, New Delhi 110 003*

# Sanatan Sangeet Sanskriti

“Sanatan” in Sanskrit means “eternal” or “timeless”. The coming into existence of Sanatan Sangeet Sanskriti is the result of the efforts of a group of lovers of music and dance to find a forum-cum-research-institute for music, dance and other Indian arts.

In India, it is believed that the divine principle which was all pervading, before becoming and evolving into the material worlds viz., the Earth, the Planets, the Sun and the Stars which are numberless, was in the form of sound – Nadha Brahman – which is symbolized by the mystic word “OM”.

Music, dance and art have a unifying effect. They transcend religion, language and other seemingly dividing factors. These three are also one. While dance is music in action, art is a kind of frozen music. It is necessary to promote and encourage music, dance and other arts for the sake of harmony, unity and world peace. Music, dance and art will enable man to understand himself better and to realize his true nature.

The Sanatan Sangeet Sanskriti has been established with the above objectives in view and proposes to engage in the following activities:

- To shape the talents and to enable others to learn and appreciate the art.
- To provide teaching facilities for teaching music – classical and light, antique and modern, carnatic and hindustani and dance – particularly Bharatanatyam, Odissi, Kathak, Kathakali and Mohiniyattam.
- Providing facilities for research in music, dance and other Indian arts.
- Conducting competitions for young artists in music, dance and to award prizes to encourage them to develop further.
- Awards to outstanding artists to honour them.
- Holding seminars, conferences, meetings and exhibitions.
- Publishing of books, souvenirs, periodicals etc. in connection with and in furtherance of the objectives of the Sanskriti.

The Sanskriti has constituted National Awards to be presented annually to artists in different categories.

## The awards for 2008 are as follows:

**Sanatan Sangeet Samman** to honour a senior artist for his / her personal excellence and outstanding contributions to the Indian classical music / dance, awarded to **Pt. Hariprasad Chaurasia**.

**Sanatan Kalakriti Puraskar** given to a distinguished artist in the area of Painting and sculpture category in recognition of his / her achievements and potential, to **Ms Shuchi Khanna**.

**Sanatan Nritya Puraskar** given to a distinguished young artist in recognition of his/her talents, achievements and potential, awarded to **Ms Monisa Nayak**.



## Pt. Hariprasad Chaurasia

An internationally acclaimed flautist of India, Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia is a very popular and eminent artiste who is universally acknowledged for his outstanding contribution in popularizing Indian Classical Music all over the world. His consummate artistry has distinguished him as the greatest living master of the North Indian Bamboo Flute, acclaimed both at home and abroad.

Unlike many other great Indian Artistes, Pt. Chaurasia does not come from a family of musicians. Rather, music is a path he found for himself; he struggled very hard to overcome all the hurdles that came his way, but finally emerged successful thanks to sheer grit, sincerity, hard work, devotion and dedication.

Born on July 1, 1938 in Allahabad, he began his musical pursuit at the age of 15, learning classical vocal technique from Pt. Rajaram. Within a year, however, he had switched to flute playing, after hearing Pt. Bholanath, a noted flautist from Varanasi. He tutored under Pt. Bholanath for eight years.

He received further guidance from Surbahar player Shrimati Annapurna Devi, daughter of late Ustad Allaudin Khan and sister of Ustad Ali Akbar Khan. Under her guidance his music acquired a new depth and he left AIR to pursue his performing career.

Since that time Pt. Chaurasia has been performing nationally and internationally, winning acclaim from varied audiences and from fellow musicians like Yehudi Menuhin and Jean-Pierre Rampal, among others. Pt. Chaurasia is a featured artiste in almost all major music festivals around the globe.

As a musician Pt. Chaurasia is a rare combination of innovator and traditionalist. He has significantly expanded the expressive possibilities of classical North Indian flute- playing through his masterful blowing technique and his unique adaptation of alaap and jod to the flute. He is an immensely popular artiste in India and abroad.

In addition to his performance and compositions, Pt. Chaurasia also plays the role of a dedicated Guru and teacher.

Pt. Chaurasia is a recipient of many awards and honours including the Sangeet Natak Academy Award in 1984, the Maharashtra Gaurav Puraskar in 1990, the Padma Bhushan in 1992, the Konark Samman in 1992, the Yash Bharti Samman in 1994, the Kalidas Samman in 1999, the Padma Vibhushan in 2000, the Ustad Hafiz Ali Khan Award in 2000 and the Master Dinanath Mangeshkar Award in 2004.



## Shuchi Khanna

Shuchi pursued Creative art at the Academy of Fine Arts and Literature, New Delhi. She has a B.Ed. degree, but her first love has always been painting.

Shuchi's work has drawn praise from art critics for its feminine touch and spiritual content. "Shuchi negotiates her touches with a brush to mainly relay messages of relationship between man, woman, and nature beyond any limitation of thought."

Shuchi has done many exhibitions. Her paintings adorn the walls of prominent personalities and collectors. Shuchi is recognized as one of the top eminent women artists of India, and has been invited to exhibit paintings at the Rashtrapati Bahavan. She has the potential to attain greater heights and also to train and inspire younger artists to become achievers.



## Monisa Nayak

Monisa Nayak's tryst with Kathak started at the age of seven. She continued her training under Kathak Pandit Rajendra Gangani. Her talents and potential as a Kathak dancer were sharpened and polished by her Guru and transformed her into a matchless performer in her field.

She has obtained Diploma Honours and Post Graduate Diploma from the prestigious National Kathak Institute, New Delhi. With the perfectly blended rhythmic patterns, footwork, spectacular spin and profound expressions, her performance proclaims its close proximity with the Jaipur Gharana. The excellence she has achieved at each performance has fetched her recognition and acclaim. She has performed in India and abroad. She also imparts her tremendous skill in the art form to students.

She is recognized as an 'A' Graded Kathak Artiste at Doordarshan Kendra, New Delhi; was empanelled by the ICCR in their Reference Panel of Artistes; received Sanskriti-Kalakriti Fellowship for the year 2006-2007 in the field of Kathak Choreography; bestowed with the title 'Sangeet Kala Ratna' at the Guru Poornima Mahotsava 1998; and received the National Talent Search Scholarship in Kathak from CCRT, Govt of India.

She has received fellowships and awards from cultural organizations. She has great future potential and deserves encouragement.

# Sanatan Sangeet Sanskriti Awardees



In 1993, the Sanatan Sangeet Sanskriti had started presenting two National Awards every year in recognition of the services rendered in the field of music and dance. These awards are called “Sanatan Sangeet Samman” and “Sanatan Sangeet Puraskar”.

Sanatan Sangeet Samman is to honour a senior artist for his / her personal excellence and outstanding contributions to the Indian Classical Music / Dance. The Sanatan Sangeet Puraskar is to honour a talented artist in recognition of his / her talent and potential for excellence.

Following are the awardees in the past:

## **Sanatan Sangeet Samman**

- Ustad Amjad Ali Khan
- Dr L Subramaniam
- Pandit Bhimsen Joshi
- Shri Alagudi Jayaraman
- Smt Sonal Mansingh
- Smt Kishori Amonkar

## **Sanatan Sangeet Puraskar**

- Kumari Mythili Prakash
- Kumari Arushi Mudgal
- Kumari Vijayalakshmi
- Smt Kavita Dwivedi
- Shri A R Rahman
- Mandolin Srinivas

From 2006 onwards, the Sanskriti has also been awarding the **Sanatan Kalakriti Puraskar** to a selected artist for his / her contribution in the field of painting/sculpture. This award was given to Shri Subrata Kundu in 2007.

# Sanatan Sangeet Sanskriti

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