

Annual Report (August 2017-April, 2018)

Music Archives and Listening Room (MALR) and Baithak Society

Sitar Workshop- 31 August, 2017

The MALR conducted a lecture demonstration of Sitar in the Music Archives and Listening Room by Shri Shubranil Sarkar, a disciple of renowned artist Ustad Shahid Parvez Khan from Imdadkhani Gharana on 31st August, 2017. Students got to interact with Shri Sarkar in the informal setting of the Baithak. The students were exposed to different styles of playing Sitar with a specific focus on Imdadkhani Gharana. We also had enlightening discussions on the history of evolution of the modern day Sitar and the way in which *gayaki ang* (vocal music) started being played on sitars.



Shri Shubranil Sarkar discussing the nuances of playing Sitar with the students of Baithak Society in MALR

Inauguration of Baithak Society-September-2017

The Baithak Society was constituted in late September, 2017 with around 30 students. Some of the students who had attended the certificate course on music appreciation conducted by Mr. Kanav Gupta in

August, 2017 continued to be a part of the new society. We were also joined by a number of other students who were curious about the rich cultural heritage of Hindustani Music.

Curated Session on Kirana Gharana- 29 September, 2017

The society started its activities by an informal curated session on Kirana Gharana on 29th September, 2017 conducted by the President of the society Malavika from the Department of Mass Media and Communication. She made a power point presentation tracing the origins of the gharana, digging out its illustrious history and its contribution to Hindustani music. The session ended with listening to a bandish in raag Yaman by Pt. Bhimsen Joshi, a stalwart from this gharana.

Tabla and Sarod Recital- 3 January, 2018

The next semester opened with a solo tabla recital by Shri Nilimesh Chakraborty and a *jugalbandi* performance of tabla and sarod by Sri Nilimesh Chakraborty and Shri Srinjoy Mukherjee on 3rd January, 2018. The audiences were enthralled with the recitals of Raag Ahir Bhairav and Bhairavi. The icing on the cake was the Christmas gift given to students by Shri Mukherjee in the form of playing 'Jingle Bells' on Sarod.



Shri Nilimesh Chakraborty on Tabla and Shri Srinjoy Mukherjee on Sarod

Cataloguing in MALR- February, 2018

The MALR has conducted several meetings with the members of Baithak society in the month of February in which we trained students in the fundamentals of creating a catalogue for the music that the archive holds. At the moment the archive boasts of four major collections donated to us by illustrious collectors such as Shri Navjeevan Khosla, Pt. Deepak Raja, Shri Rohen Bose and Pt. K.G. Ginde (this collection was bought by the archive). In February 2018 we formally started the work of cataloguing on the Navjeevan Khosla Collection and are continuing with the same.

Quiz-antakshari in March, Shruti-2018

The Baithak Society organized an event titled *Dhun* mixing the form of Quiz and Antakshari in *Shruti* the annual fest of college on 23 March, 2018. The event got an enthusiastic response from the college community with 30 teams (including one team of faculty) participating in the competition.



President Malavika introducing the event Dhun in Shruti, 2018

Future events- July, 2018

The MALR has started a conversation with Shri Nirmal Chander Dandriyal who has made a critically acclaimed documentary called 'Zikr us Parivash Ka' on the life of the legendary Ghazal singer Begum Akhtar. Mr Dandriyal has graciously agreed to discuss the film with our students in the coming semester in July-August, 2018.