

Dr. RANJANI RAMACHANDRAN

Hindustani Classical Vocalist,
Assistant Professor, Department of Hindusthani Classical Music,
Sangit Bhavana, Visva Bharati, Santiniketan
Email (Official): ranjani.ramachandran@visva-bharati.ac.in
Website: www.ranjani.net,
www.youtube.com/@DrRanjaniRamachandran

Education

- 2014 PhD, Hindustani Music, Lalit Kala Kendra, University of Pune
2006 A Grade Scholar, Hindustani Classical Vocal Music, ITC Sangeet Research Academy, Kolkata
1999 Masters (M.A.) in Hindustani Classical Vocal Music, Lalit Kala Kendra, University of Pune (First Rank with Distinction)
1997 Sangeet Visharad (Diploma), Akhil Bharatiya Gandharva Mahavidyalaya Mandal, Mumbai (Distinction)

North Indian music training

- 2003-2006 Training in Thumri, Dadra from Girija Devi (as resident scholar of Sangeet Research academy, Kolkata)
2001-2006 Advanced training in Hindustani vocal music (Khyal) under Ulhas Kashalkar (as resident scholar of ITC Sangeet Research academy, Kolkata)
1993-2001 Advanced training in Hindustani vocal music (Khyal) under Veena Sahasrabuddhe (Pune)
1988-1993 Professional training in Khyal (Hindustani vocal music) under Kashinath Bodas (Kanpur)

Professional Positions held

- 2013- Assistant Professor, Department of Hindustani Classical Music, Sangit Bhavana, Visva Bharati, Santiniketan, 2013-Present
2011-2013 Guru at Lalit Kala Kendra (Centre for Performing Arts), University of Pune
2008-2011 UGC Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Performing Arts, University of Pune
2006-2008 UGC Junior Research Fellow, Centre for Performing Arts, University of Pune

Awards and Fellowships

- 2015 Charles Wallace Fellow, CWIT Research Grant, UK
2013 Ramkrishnabua Vaze Yuva Gayak Puraskar, Gandharva Mahavidyalaya, Pune
2010 Surmani Award, Sur Singar Samsad, Mumbai
2008-2011 UGC-NET Senior Research Fellowship
2006-2008 UGC-NET Junior Research Fellowship
2008- Empanelled performing artiste for Indian Council for Cultural Relations ICCR
2001-2006 Resident Scholarship of ITC Sangeet Research Academy, Kolkata
2001- Graded artiste of National Radio & TV (All India Radio AIR, Doordarshan)
2001 Yamuna devi Shahane Shastriya Gayan Puraskar, Ganvardhan, Pune
1998-2000 Young artist Scholarship for Hindustani Classical music, Ministry of Human Resource and Development, HRD, Department of Culture, Govt. of India

Publications

- Ramachandran, Ranjani. (2023). Ramkrishnabua Vaze's gayaki: Multiplicity in khyal vocalism. *Bhairavi*, 287-293.
- Ramachandran, Ranjani. (2023). Sharadchandra Arolkar and his authentic Gwalior Gayaki. *STOM*, 67-71.
- Ramachandran, Ranjani. (2022). Rabindranath Thakur ka shiksha darshan: Sangeet evam paryavaran ke antarsambandh ke sandharbh mein. *Sangeet Kala Vihar*, 75 (4), 44-47. [Hindi]
- Ramachandran, Ranjani. (2017). A Musical Polymoth. *Economic & Political Weekly*. LII (46), 111-112. <https://www.epw.in/author/ranjani-ramachandran>
- Ramachandran, Ranjani. (2017). Stylistic Diversity within the Gwalior Gharana. *Ramyabina*, 142-151
- Ramachandran, Ranjani. (2016). Visual interpretation of a recorded performance: Raga Marwa. *Khyal: Music and Imagination* (brochure). Published by Durham University, UK
- Ramachandran, Ranjani. (2016). Meticulous Performer, Dedicated Teacher Veena Sahasrabuddhe. *Sruti*, 383, 22-23.
- Ramachandran, Ranjani. (2014). Stylistic Diversity within the Gwalior Gharana: An analytical study of the gayaki of some Gwalior Gharana Vocalists from the 20th Century (Doctoral Dissertation, University of Pune).
- Ramachandran, Ranjani. (2013). Diversity within the Agra Gharana. *Punyaswar*, 77-79.
- Ramachandran, Ranjani. (2012). Gwalior Gharana of the Khayal Form: Origin, Development and Salient Features. *Samakalika Sangeetham*, 2 (1), 89-96.
- Ramachandran, Ranjani. (2011). International Conference on Bandish and its Facets: An Introduction. *Punyaswar*, 1-2.

Online Music Publications (selected)

- Doordarshan Santiniketan (2022, April 12). *Sastriyo Sangit Sammelan-Classical Vocal-Ranjani Ramachandran* [Video]. Youtube. <https://youtu.be/Vt6sjpvnXUw>
- First Edition Arts Channel (2021, January 3). *Ranjani Ramachandran: Raag Jaunpuri* [Video]. Youtube. <https://youtu.be/dvGT40EIQOo>
- First Edition Arts Channel (2021, January 2). *Ranjani Ramachandran: Raag Deshkar* [Video]. Youtube. <https://youtu.be/u5LZSPVEnfM>
- First Edition Arts Channel (2019, March 29). *Ranjani Ramachandran: Raag Shree* [Video]. Youtube. <https://youtu.be/M-L7MnCUiIQ>
- First Edition Arts Channel (2019, March 30). *Ranjani Ramachandran: Raag Shankara* [Video]. Youtube. <https://youtu.be/cJ7WYq11wFg>
- Sonic Octaves Music (2018, August 4). *Raag Shankara Bandish by Ranjani Ramachandran* [Video]. Youtube. <https://youtu.be/Q7Q6if9BJTc>
- First Edition Arts Channel (2017, September 22). *Ranjani Ramachandran: Raag Multani* [Video]. Youtube. <https://youtu.be/PqsbBwhxMuY>
- First Edition Arts Channel (2017, September 22). *Ranjani Ramachandran: Raag Sur Malhar* [Video]. Youtube. <https://youtu.be/qnEX4w-3O8c>

Concerts (selected)

- Wednesday recital organised by ITC Sangeet Research Academy, Kolkata, 27.09.2023
- All India Radio (Prasar Bharati) broadcast, 13.09.2023
- Prabhati, concert of morning ragas organised by Kala Prakash, Varanasi, 18.06.2023
- Online concert curated by Mihir Thakore and streamed on youtube, 12.11.2022

- Nirgun ke Gun, concert of Nirguni bhajans organized by Lalit Kala Kendra Gurukul, Savitribai Phule Pune University, 21.10.2022
- Jalsa, Hindustani Classical Vocal Recital organized by Gopal Gayan Samaj, Pune, 18.10.2022
- Improvising the Khyal, March to Freedom organized by DAG and Indian Museum, Kolkata, 14.07.2022
- Chowdhury House Music Conference commemorating Birth Centenary of Bharat Ratna Pandit Bhimsen Joshi organized by Calcutta Performing Arts Foundation, Kolkata, 25.03.2022
- SSVAD-PARAMPARIK Annual Music Conference, Santiniketan organized by SSVAD and Paramparik, 19.03.2022
- Online Music Therapy, organized by Visva Bharati, Santiniketan, 24.01.2022
- Journey around the world in Space and Time. Evening Performance (Music 4 Climate Justice), contributed as Hindustani classical music vocalist in an online global event organized by Music 4 Climate Justice (M4CJ) streamed live during the United Nations Conference of the Parties (CPO-26) held in Glasgow, Scotland, 05.11.2021
- Online concert in International Musical celebration of Bhavrang's Centenary Year, 23.09.2021
- Online Music Therapy, organized by Visva Bharati, Santiniketan, 06.08.2021
- Dharohar, Kala Prakash and INTACH Varanasi Chapter, Varanasi (Online Concert), 18.04.2021
- 41st Samraat Sangeet Sammelan, Samraat Sangeet Academy and ICCR, Goa, 27.02.2021
- Musical Tribute to Pandit D.V. Paluskar in his centenary year, Dr. Ashok Da. Ranade Archives, Pune (online concert), 28.09.2020
- Bhavrang Jayanti: In memory of Pandit Balwantrai Bhatt, Bhavrang Pratishthan, Varanasi (online), 23.09.2020
- A Classical music live concert: Ek Prayas, Gourmalhar, Bardhaman (Online Concert), 12.07.2020
- Vidushi Veena Sahasrabuddhe Smriti Samaroha 2020, Kala Samooh, Bhopal (Online Concert), 29.06.2020
- Playing for the planet, Boston. "World music against climate change" (online Concert), 09.05.2020
- Morning Melodies, Luz House, CUSP arts Festival, Chennai, First Edition Arts, 02.02.2020
- 'River Raga' in Serendipity Arts Festival, Goa, 19.12.2019
- Dr. Vidyut Katagade memorial concert, Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute auditorium, Pune, 08.12.2019
- Smt. Sunanda Chatterjee centenary memorial concert, Sunny Towers, Kolkata, 05.12.2019
- Suburban Music Circle, Mumbai, 17.11.2019
- Garaj garaj ghan ave, Rangakarmee Studio Theatre, Kolkata, 21.07.2019
- Horizon Series, ICCR, Gandharva Mahavidyalaya Pune, 29.03.2019
- Past Present, organized by First Edition Arts, Sovabazar Rajbaari, Kolkata, 22.02.2019
- Cultural Programme, International Conference CJMC, Lipika, Visva Bharati, Santiniketan, 12.02.2019
- Dakshinee Sangeet Sammelan, Kolkata, 06.01.2019
- Darbar Hall, The Fifth Note Global Centre for excellence (Ustad Rashid Khan's academy), Kolkata, 25.05.2018

- Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta (CSSS); Jadunath Bhavan Museum and Resource Centre, Kolkata, 07.12.2017
- ‘Dhrupadi’, Santiniketan, 23.11.2017
- “Khayal Rang” First Edition Arts, Ravindra Natya Mandir, Mumbai, 19.08.2017
- Horizon Series, ICCR, NGMA Auditorium, Mumbai, 23.06.2017
- Subah-e-Banaras, Varanasi, 08.05.2017
- 1st Punyatithi of Pandit Balwantraji Bhatt, Pandit Omkarnath Auditorium, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, 07.05.2017
- 40th Sangeet Samrat Alladiya Khan Sangeet Samaroha, Balvikas Sangh Hall, Mumbai, 16.04.2017
- Bhupan Hazarika Auditorium, IIT Guwahati, 10.03.2017
- All India Radio broadcast, 16.02.2017
- TV Broadcast, Doordarshan Kendra, Santiniketan, 02.07.2016
- All India Radio broadcast, 30.03.2016
- MUSICON, An Evening of Indian Imagination, Durham University, UK, 23.02.2016
- NIAS (National Institute for Advanced Studies), JRD Tata Auditorium, Bangalore, 10.02.2016
- Amit Desai Memorial Concert, Vishwakosh Bhavan, Ahmedabad, Gujarat, 30.01.2015
- Swami Haridas Sangeet Samaroha, Viswa Kala Sangam, Narada Gana Sabha, Chennai, 27.12.2015
- Bhavrang Bandish Utsav, Yashwantrao Natyagruha, Bhavnagar, Gujarat, 21.11.2015
- SSVAD (Santiniketan Society of Visual Arts and design), Santiniketan, 19.11.2015
- Barkha Ritu Aji by Indian National Theatre, Chandigarh, 08.08.2015
- Sahayog Mandir, Thane Mumbai, 17.05.2015
- Basant Vandana, Visva Bharati, Santiniketan, 04.03.2015
- Route2festival, Dwaronda, Birbhum, 21.02.2015
- Concert in honour of Prof. K G Subramanyan, Kala Bhavana, Santiniketan, 05.02.2015
- Chennai Music Season at Nadabrahmam, Chennai, 20.12.2014
- “Svanubhava”, Coimbatore, 20.11.2014
- Bhakti Utsav, Kala Prakash, Varanasi, 12.10.2014
- Foundation day of IIM Indore, Madhya Pradesh, 03.10.2014
- Learnquest Academy, Boston, US, 14.06.2014
- Basant Bahar, California, U.S, 07.06.2014
- SIMA (Society for Indian Music and Arts), Penn State, State College, US, 01.06.2014
- Phoenix Gharana, Higley Centre for Performing arts, Phoenix, U.S, 24.05.2014
- Kala-Bharati Karnatak Sangha, Mumbai, Maharashtra, 04.05.2014
- Special Convocation, Natya Ghar, Visva Bharati, Santiniketan, 13.04.2014

Invited Workshops

- Workshop on Hindustani classical music organized by Institute of Music & Fine Arts, University of Kashmir, Srinagar, 08.06.2023-09.06.2023.
- Workshop on Hindustani classical vocal music organized by Department of Fine Arts & Music, Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh, 25.02.2023-28.02.2023.
- ‘Music Appreciation Workshop’ organized by Department of Animation Cinema, Satyajit Ray Film & Television Institute (SRFTI), Kolkata, 01.12.2022-02.12.2022.
- Lecture Workshop on “Appreciation of Indian Classical Music” in Department of Animation Cinema, Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (SRFTI), Kolkata, 03.07.2019-04.07.2019.

- Online Workshop ‘SPIC MACAY Anubhav 3 Hindustani Music Intensives’ of organized by SPIC MACAY (Society for Promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture amongst youth), 10.10.2021-14.10.2021.
- 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), 22.04.2018-26.04.2018.
- Lecture Workshop on “Appreciation of Indian Classical Music” in Department of Animation Cinema, Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (SRFTI), Kolkata, 23.06.2018-24.06.2018.
- Lecture Workshop on “Introduction to Hindustani Classical Music” in Department of Animation Cinema, Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (SRFTI), Kolkata, 08.07.2017-09.07.2017.
- Lecture demonstration on “Introduction to Raga and Talas of Hindustani Music” at Centre for Creativity, IIT Guwahati, 06.03.2017-10.03.2017.
- Lecture Workshop on “Introduction to Hindustani Classical Music” for students from Department of Sound and Recording, SRFTI, Kolkata in Sangit Bhavana, Visva Bharati, Santiniketan, 20.12.2016.
- Guest Lecture, Level-3 Undergraduate Module “The Music of India” at Department of Music, Durham University, UK, 29.02.2016.
- Workshop on Introduction to Hindustani Classical Music at Society for Indian Music and Arts (SIMA), Penn State, State College, US, 02.06.2014,
- Music Workshop at Swarganga Music Foundation, Atlanta, U.S, 29-30.05.2014
- 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, 21.05.2014-23.05.2014
- 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, 2012

Invited Lectures/Paper Presentation

- Inaugural online lecture ‘Forms of Hindustani Music: Diverse interpretations in Performance’ in the Visva Bharati Young Scholars’ Lecture Series entitled Dialogic organized by Visva Bharati University, 15.01.2021 <https://youtu.be/xEJaMWLV4hc>
- Lecture of PhD coursework ‘Role of music archives in Performing arts research’ organised by the Department of Performing Arts and Music, University of Calcutta
- Audio visual presentation ‘Gwalior Gharana: Multiple Voices’ at Archive of North Indian Classical Music, SCTR, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, 11.04.2019.
- ‘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, 28.09.2018.
- 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 (CSSS), Calcutta, 08.12.2017.
- 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, 08.03.2016.

- ‘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; 16.02.2017.

Dialogue/Interview/Podcast

- Raaggiri (2022, November 5). *Ranjani Ramachandran An Indian Classical Vocalist Exclusive Interview Part 1*[Video]. Youtube. <https://youtu.be/kqL1aDX-Rs>
- Raaggiri (2022, November 6). *Ranjani Ramachandran An Indian Classical Vocalist Exclusive Interview Part 2*[Video]. Youtube. <https://youtu.be/zgeaVB49swY>
- First Edition Arts Channel (2017, August 17). *Ranjani Ramachandran: A Raag and A Conversation* [Video]. Youtube. <https://youtu.be/WzJ9esLALe4>
- Bandish: Celebrating 100 years of Bhimsen Joshi, NEWS9 Live’. 01.01.2022. <https://open.spotify.com/episode/2jIChFEpQItWpzOKG3ekeG?si=2a98057b8b054e63>
- Contributed as a Hindustani Classical music vocalist in a special audio montage on MS Subbalakshmi’s 105th Birth Anniversary organized by NEWS9 Live,16.09.2021. <https://youtu.be/Ky3YLikqmVs>
- Speaker at a Podcast hosted by Artify, Bangalore as part of their online series Music: A listener’s perspective. ‘Kumar Gandharva-A perspective by Ranjani Ramachandran’ 04.04.2020. <https://youtu.be/GROXw18nHHY>
- Interactive Dialogue with Warren Senders and Sumitra Ranganathan. ‘Hindustani Music: Practice. Performance. Pedagogy’, CUSP Arts Festival, Chennai, 01.02.2020
- Dialogue between Hindustani and Carnatic Musicians: Ranjani Ramachandran, T.M. Krishna; G5A Foundation for Contemporary Culture, Mumbai, 10.12.201

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
- Participation in an Art Exhibition as a vocal artiste/composer ‘LAND Origin: thereafter’ Art Konsult Gallery, New Delhi, 14.01.2016 -24.01.2016.
- Participation in an Art Exhibition as a vocal artiste/composer ‘LAND, Natural, gendered’ A Vocal Dialogue with Wagner’s Faust Overture, Nandan Gallery, Kala Bhavana, Santiniketan, West Bengal, Curated by Amit Mukhopadhyay, 03.10.2015-11.10.2015

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); 17th February 2016-10th 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); 1st Jan. 2016 till 30th 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

Membership in professional and cultural associations

- Empanelled artist of India Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), 2009-present
- Graded artiste of all India Radio and Doordarshan (TV), 2001-present
- Society for Promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture Amongst Youth (SPIC MACAY), 2012-present

Teaching

Courses Taught

(Undergraduate, Masters)-Theory and Practice

- Fundamentals of Hindustani music
- Voice training in Hindustani music
- Introduction to Hindustani raga music
- Khyal (vilambit and drut) and improvisational techniques
- Compositional forms in Hindustani music
- Introduction to semi classical forms of Hindustani music (Thumri, Dadra)
- Khyal performance presentation
- Gharana in khyal vocalism
- History of Hindustani music in ancient, medieval, and modern period
- Appreciation of Hindustani music
- Role of archives in Performing arts research

Service at Visva Bharati University

- Member, Admission Committee, Sangit Bhavana (2014-Present)
- Member, Core Committee, NAAC, Visva Bharati (2019-2021)
- Member, Departmental Research Committee (2014-Present)
- Member, Intra-University Youth Festival Judgement committee (2014-Present)

Events organised

- Conducted and coordinated presentation of songs by students of Department of Hindusthani classical music on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, 02.10.2023
- Conducted and co-ordinated presentation of patriotic songs by students of department of Hindusthani classical music on the occasion of Independence Day celebrations organized by Visva Bharati at Gour Prangan, Santiniketan, 15.08.2023
- Conducted and co-ordinated presentation of patriotic songs by students of department of Hindusthani classical music on the occasion of Independence Day celebrations organized by Visva Bharati at Natya ghar, Santiniketan, 15.08.2022
- Conducted and coordinated classical music presentation by the students of the Department of Hindustani classical music, Sangit Bhavana on the occasion of Basanta Bandana at Gour Prangan, Visva Bharati, 23.04.2022.
- 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, 10.02.2020
- Coordinated Tala Vadya Kutcheri, a programme of percussion instrument ensemble organized in Sangit Bhavana, Visva Bharati, 17.02.2019.

- Curated an audio visual presentation of archival recordings in Sangit Bhavana, Visva Bharati; “Some forgotten voices of Hindustani classical music from early gramophone records (1902-1930)” presented by Shri Rantidev Maitra, 01.10.2018.

Service at other institutions

- Appointed as Question Paper Setter and Chairperson for courses of BPA in Hindustani Vocal & Instrumental Music, Pondicherry University.(04.08.2022)
- Appointed as evaluator and examiner of PhD thesis and PhD viva conducted by Manipal Centre for Humanities, Manipal, Karnataka.(26.07.2022)
- Appointed as Question Paper Setter and Chairperson for courses in BPA in Hindustani Music, Pondicherry University (05.01.2022)
- 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)

Community Service

- Volunteer, Apna Skool, Jagriti Bal Vikas Samiti, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, an organisation working for education of children of migrant workers in brick kilns and construction sites, 2010-present
- Member, Citizens group of Santiniketan, a voluntary organisation working for waste disposal solutions in the community, Santiniketan, West Bengal, 2018-present