

Mystical Melodies



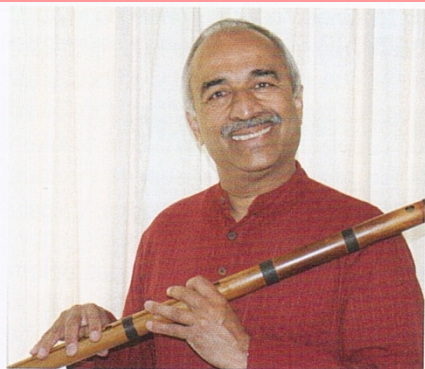
Raj Rangayyan ~ Bamboo Flute Bansuri
Utpal Mazumdar ~ Tabla

The ragas that form the basis of the classical music of India evoke moods, feelings, and sentiments in ways not experienced with other types of music. Why and how do the mere acoustical wave patterns of musical notes affect us in such profound manners? How can the signatures of ragas etch distinct melodic and spiritual messages in our minds that are neither apparent to our auditory senses nor obvious to our intellect?

In this album, we present to you a collection of enigmatic ragas and mystical melodies, each one of which creates a particular mood and conveys a unique sentiment. We invite you to immerse yourself in the serene and soothing ambience of ragas. Let the melodies resonate with your feelings! Experience how ragas can help you relax, meditate, contemplate, improve your emotional balance, and enjoy life.

1. Quest for Calm ~ Raga Madhuvanti, Teentaal 8:46
2. Transient Thoughts ~ Raga Dhani, Jhaptal 6:32
3. Enlightenment ~ Raga Patdeep, Teentaal 7:54
4. Spiritual Nourishment ~ Raga Malhar, Teentaal 7:00
5. Emotional Balance ~ Raga Narayani, Teentaal 6:31
6. Prayer for Unity ~ Raga Kirvani, Ektaal/Teentaal 8:32
7. Eternal Gratitude ~ Raga Gorakh, Teentaal 9:43

According to the traditions of Hindustani music, Madhuvanti and Patdeep are ragas for the late afternoon. Dhani is a raga for any time. Malhar is specifically for the rainy season, but otherwise a raga for the night. Narayani, Kirvani, and Gorakh are ragas for the night.



Raj received training on the bamboo flute "bansuri" from Guruji Sri K.P. Shenoy and on the sitar from Guruji Sri N.R. Rama Rao in India. He has given many performances in India, Canada, and Brazil. In Calgary, he has performed for the University of Calgary, the Raga Mala Music Society, the City of Calgary, the Glenbow Museum, and other organizations. His arrangements have included innovative combinations of many types of instruments and genres of music. He wishes to present and promote the classical music of India in its pure, serene, soothing, and natural acoustic character to facilitate yoga, meditation, contemplation, and relaxation.



Utpal was trained in the tradition of classical music of India. He is proficient in tabla, pakhawaj, and other musical instruments. He actively promotes awareness of world music by collaborating in fusion and new age music genres. He conducts music appreciation workshops and lecture demonstrations in South Asian Studies in educational institutions and regularly performs in world music ensembles on radio, television, and on the stage. He also trains in voice, rhythms, and chants for meditation and yoga groups. Utpal has coproduced and has been credited in several albums featuring jazz, flamenco, Celtic, bluegrass, Latino, and choir music.

All compositions are improvisations based on ragas of Hindustani classical music of India. All cheezas or gats are courtesy of Guruji Sri K.P. Shenoy; Kirvani gat in teentaal is courtesy of Master Moshai Sri Paritosh Kar.

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We are grateful to our gurus for imparting to us the essence of the classical music of India. We thank our families for accommodating our musical pursuits and our friends around the world for their support. We thank the School of Indian Languages and Performing Arts (silpa.ca) and the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute (sici.org) for supporting the production of this album. We thank the Raga Mala Music Society of Calgary (ragamala.ca), College of the Rockies (cotr.ca), Universidade de Yoga (uni-yoga.org.br), Yasodhara Ashram (yasodhara.org), Glenbow Museum (glenbow.org), and the University of Calgary (ucalgary.ca) for their support over the past several years.

Raj and Utpal have been performing together in Calgary for 30 years. Their music has been licensed to prestigious museums as well as yoga and meditation schools. They have collaborated with several musicians of different genres, and firmly believe that music transcends all boundaries! Raj & Utpal's music is available through iTunes, Amazon, and several other online distributors: see indiepool.com.

CD 1. Just In Time... Just For You! CD 2. In Tune With You
CD 3. If You Have The Time... Relax With A Raga!
CD 4. Listen, Honey... CD 5. Totally Peaceful CD 6. Mystical Melodies



Raj Rangayyan
Bamboo Flute
Bansuri

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Rangayyan (SOCAN)

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Melodies

Utpal Mazumdar
Tabla

- 1 Quest for Calm ~ Madhuvanti
- 2 Transient Thoughts ~ Dhani
- 3 Enlightenment ~ Patdeep
- 4 Spiritual Nourishment ~ Malhar
- 5 Emotional Balance ~ Narayani
- 6 Prayer for Unity ~ Kirvani
- 7 Eternal Gratitude
~ Gorakh



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