Sultan Khan - Maestro's Choice (2006)



1 Raga Ahir Bhairav 31:03 2 Raga Patdeep 20:23 3 Thumri 10:25 Sarangi – Sultan Khan Tabla – Fazal Qureshi Tanpura - Madan Bongale, Chintamani Gore

Sultan Khan is one of the greatest musicians of the rare instrument called sarangi. It is believed that the word sarangi was derived form the word Sau Rangi, which means a hundred colors and sultan Khan is a great exponent to express those colors on the instrument.

Sultan Khan was born on April 15, 1940 at Sikar in Rajasthan. His great grandfather Hussain Baksh and grandfathers, Azim Khan were court musicians in the princely state of Jodhpur. Gulab Khan his father was also an accomplished vocalist and sarangi artiste. Sultan Khan was trained in the Indore gharana style of khayal singing which was popularized by the legendary Amir Khan. He went through a strict regimen at home.

Sultan Khan is being acknowledged by music connoisseurs for unique depth and his magnificent technical and melodic control over the string instrument. He adopted in his style a special nuance of Amir Khan's gayaki, which reflects always in his renditions. He is torchbearer of a famous lineage of sarangi players. His systematic badhat, exquisite gamakas and intricate taan-s make his performances unique and soulful.

He is a master in light and light classical genres of Indian music. Besides his solo performances Sultan Khan is widely known for his talent of accompanying other famous artistes like Zakir Hussain, Ravi Shankar, Lata Mageshkar and Many others.

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He is a proud recipient of the Sangeet Natak Academy Award the gold Medalist Award of Maharshtra and the American Academy of Artistes Award in 1998. In 1997 he had the honor and privilege of playing for Prince Charles 50th birthday celebration. Sultan Khan has come to be recognized on an international scale performing along with Ravi Shankar on Former Beatle, George Harrison's 1974 Dark Horse world tour.

In this album Sultan Khan brings out the structured gravity of the raga Ahir Bhairav the winsome appeal of the thumri played here in four different angs or styles and exquisite lyricism of the evening raga Patdeep. ---exoticindiaart.com

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