

Chintan Upadhyay

Chintan was born in the cultural ambience of Bhavnagar city, in Gujarat. He received his initial musical tutelage from his parents, both scholastic teachers of music & **musicology**. He received training from Late Shri Laxmipati Shukla ji, a noted disciple of Pt. Omkarnath Thakur, and from Shri Ashwin Andharia, disciple of Late Pt. Rasiklal Andharia in Bhavnagar.

The journey began, while Chintan, after standing first (Bhavnagar Centre) in the Sangeet Alankar examination conducted by Bruhad Gujarat Sangeet Samiti and joined Lalit Kala Kendra, Pune University for the Masters Degree in Music, and received National Scholarship from Govt. of India; he completed the course under the mentorship of Dr. Vikas Kashalkar and Pt. Vijay Koparkar, the noted Classical vocalists in Pune.

Chintan surrendered his heart and soul to the tutelage of Pt. Uday Bhawalkar, in the true tradition of Guru Shishya Parampara in 2004. Pt. Uday Bhawalkar, from the ancient school of music, Dagar – Baani, represented by the legendary Dagar family.

He became scholar at ITC Sangeet Research Academy- Kolkata in 2013 and continued his 'Taleem' from Pt. Uday Bhawalkarji. Chintan has been awarded the Junior Research Fellowship for Dhrupad studies in 2014. He has been allotted a 'B High Grade' by Akashvani, All India Radio, as a Dhrupad Vocalist.

Chintan has experimented with many forms of arts without changing the traditional Dhrupad format and has enriched his boundaries of experience. These attempts include Dances such as Odissi, Kathak, Bharatnatyam, Modern Dance, Theatre shows and musical exchange with many western musicians.

He has sung Dhrupad for many of the documentary films and also for the movie "Prithviraj Chauhan" by Yashrajfilms production where he also acts as a court musician.

Chintan has performed at the following places in India:

NCPA-Mumbai for 'Promising Artist' series,

"Uttaradhikar" for Raza Foundation Delhi,

For National Convention SPICMACAY Surat,

Dadar Matunga Cultural Centre-Mumbai,

For ICCR 'Horizon Series', Baaja Gaaja 2012-Pune,

'Barsi' in memory of Late Ustad Zia Mohiuddin Dagar Sahab,

Ustaad Allarakha Sangeet Sammelan in Hoshiyarpur, Punjab,

Y.B. Chavhan hall for 'Rangswar',

Kala Coast Music Festival Udupi,

'Adityaramji Shastriya Sangeet Mahotsav' by Gujarat Rajya Sangeet Natak Academy, in Junagadh,

Devnandan Ubheykar festival Bangalore,

Yuva Dhrupad Festival, Pune for Veena Foundation & Gandharva Mahavidyalaya,

Suburban Music circle - Mumbai,

At the birth place and residence of Swami Vivekananda ji in Kolkata,

Shri Anand Mayi Maa Ashram- Kolkata, Malhar Festival Pune, Gharana Sammelan Nalasopara, Mumbai,

Kala Coast Music Festival 2015, Udupi,

Latur, Talegaon, Ahmednagar, Nainital, Dharwad, Dwarka, Vadodara etc.

Chintan has performed concerts in Canada, USA, UK, Germany, Vienna in last few years and also has taught at various places and conducted workshops, out of which the few major venues were:

**The Malhar Group – Toronto,
Sivananda Centre – Valmorin & Montreal, Canada,
The Lahacienda Creative Studios - Montreal,
Swarsadhana – Toronto,
'Dharana' Berlin - Germany,
'Alankar Music Society' - Vienna,
Pur Yoga – Drummondville, - Canada
Sitar Music Society – Leicester - UK,
Cotham Church, Bristol, - UK,
Dhrupad Music Society – Oaklands College – London,
The Apiary Studios - London, etc.**

Chintan has started a new centre for Dhrupad Music in Vadodara under the banner of “Alembic Dhrupad Foundation” for teaching this ancient music.

Chintan also was teaching as a Junior Guru - Tutor, at the Bengal Parampara Sangeetalaya, Dhaka, Bangladesh, under the guidance of Pt. Uday Bhawalkarji.

Chintan has been teaching students from countries such as Canada, USA, UK, Vienna, Germany, Argentina, Indonesia, Qatar, Dhaka etc. by online teachings.

Chintan also conducted workshops at various places in India which include:

'Mahagami' Dance Gurukul - Aurangabad, Harmony School of Music - Mumbai,

FTI - Film and Television Institute - Pune,

Intensive workshop for SPICMACAY National Convention @ Surat

Centre for Excellence - Bhavnagar, Gujarat, M.S. University, Music Department,
Vadodara,

Vallabh Vidya Nagar, Gujarat,

IIT Pavai - Mumbai for SPICMACAY on recommendation of Ustad Bahauddin Dagar,

Ramkrishna Mission Rajkot,

etc.