

# PARAMPARA 2025

**SPIRIT OF SANGEET**



Presented by PRSSV Institute of Performing Arts and Heritage



*Music & Dance for All*

**Sangeet College Performing Arts Showcase  
On the occasion of the Late Pt Sharda Sahai's 90th Birthday**

**Sunday March 23rd 2025, 4pm-6:45pm  
Elliott Hall, Harrow Arts Centre, Uxbridge Road, HA5 4EA, UK**



# PRSSV 60th Birthday

Welcome to our annual Parampara 2025 student showcase!

This year we celebrate the 60th birthday of the Pandit Ram Sahai Sangit Vidyalaya (PRSSV) Institute of Performing Arts and Heritage. PRSSV was established in 1965 in the ancient city of Benares and has been a registered charitable trust in the UK since 1987. Our teaching ethos is "learning through doing" and our students perform regularly, finding new ways of experiencing and making music.



# SPIRIT OF SANGEET



Sangeet is a collective term for the coming together of instrumental music, vocal music and dance.

The Natyashastra (also known as the "Sangeet Natya Shastra") is considered a foundational text for Indian classical dance and drama. It is attributed to the ancient scholar Bharata Muni. The text details performance techniques, theatrical principles, and the rules for music, dance, and drama. It outlines the importance of "Abhinaya" (literally, "carrying to the spectators") which involves connecting the artists and the audience through body language, speech, mind, and scene, where actors communicate to the audience through song and music.

The Natyashastra has influenced various Indian artistic traditions, highlighting the sophistication of ancient performances. It continues to be a valuable resource for understanding and practicing Indian classical dance and drama

To learn more visit our website : [www.prssv.org](http://www.prssv.org)



# Celebrating the 90th Birthday of our Founder, Pandit Sharda Sahai-ji



This showcase is dedicated to the loving memory of Pandit Sharda Sahai. We continue to seek his blessings.

## PRSSV's PARAMPARA

Provides a major platform for our students to perform to a live audience giving them invaluable experience. It also serves as an opportunity to showcase how Indian classical music is growing momentum in the UK. PARAMPARA literally means 'proceeding from one to another' and refers to the tradition of Guru-Shishya (Teacher-Student/Disciple) passing on knowledge and tradition through the ages.



# PANDIT SHARDA SAHAI



Pt Sharda Sahai, USA (1975)

Pandit Sharda Sahai (1935-2011) was born in Benares and was a direct descendent of Pandit Ram Sahai, the founder of the Benares style (“Gharana”) of Tabla playing. With the inherent gift in his blood of the finest traits of the Benares Baaj, he began at an early age to learn tabla from his father, the late Pandit Bhagvati Sahai. Following his father’s demise in 1946, he became a disciple of the inimitable Pandit Kanthe Maharaj, himself a disciple of Sharda Sahai’s grandfather, Pandit Baldeo Sahai.

Sharda Sahai started his professional career at the age of nine, performing both as a soloist and as an accompanist. He made his major public debut when he was sixteen, appearing at the Italee Music Conference in Calcutta with the sarod maestro Ali Akbar Khan. His professional activities in India have included appearances as soloist and accompanist at all of the important music conferences and festivals as well as performances with every major artist of North Indian classical music. He was awarded “A Grade Artist” status by All India Radio in 1965. Also in 1965 he founded the Pandit Ram Sahai Sangit Vidyalaya, an institute for training in classical music and dance, located in Benares.

Sharda Sahai has performed over one thousand concerts worldwide. His solo performances have been broadcast on All India Radio’s prestigious National Program. His accompaniment experience includes every major artist of North Indian classical music- among others: sitarists Ravi Shankar, Vilayat Khan, and Nikhil Banerjee; sarodists Ali Akbar Khan and Amjad Ali Khan; violist V.G. Jog; and dancers Gopi Krishna, Birju Maharaj, and Sitara Devi.





# PROGRAMME

## 1. Prayers

**Comperes-**Harsha Dhanjee/Omkar Vaidya/Anjan Saha

## 2. Tabla Group One

**Description:**

This performance is based on the basics of Tabla where the students will start with a drum roll and then play a Mukhra with some Kayadas and Paltas and then end with a Tukra.

**Teacher-**Sachin Khetani

**Teaching Assistants-**Jaiden Dave, Keshav Nagda

**Performers-**Armaan Valimohamedi, Dhruv Joshi, Harshaan Plahe, Nithan Jeyakumaran, Riyan Shah, Tanush Gorasia, Javisheth Soni, Saish Aneet

## 3.Kathak Group One

**Ganesh Vandana and Teentaal**

**Teacher-** Suruchi Saxena

**Performers-** Akshara Saragadam, Preeti Shah, Shravya Parker, Tamanna Singadia Jagdev

**Comperes-** Sanvi, Neharika, Preeti, Sara



## 4. Kathak Group Three

**Madhav Madan Murari, Krishna Bhajan**

**Teacher-** Suruchi Saxena, Madhav Madan Murari, Krishna Bhajan

**Performers-** Arohi Jain, Arpita Mutha, Jenisha Ghosh, Sejal Parag Patil, Vayikra Sunil

**Comperes-** Preeti and Sara

## 5. Bansuri Group One

**Bandish in Raag Bhupali - Taal: Teentaal**

**Teacher-** Prayag Kotecha

**Performers-** Aneela Ferdinand, Bhavya Bhandari, Caylan Shah, Deb Littlely, Kavitri Parmar, Krishna Vaghela

**Comperes-** Dhilan Davdra, Param Kapadia

## 6. Bansuri Group Two

**Bhajan in Raag Yaman Kalyan, Shri Krishna Hare Murari**

**Performers-** Ankush Khetani, Rohini Chotai, Yogin Patel

## 7. A Word from PRSSV

### **Panditji's Birthday**

**Teachers-** Frances Shepherd/Anjan Saha

**Compere-** Shona Sharma

## 8. Kathak

**Ganesh Vandana followed by a Tarana and Ganesh Bhajan 'Hey Ganaraya'.**

**Teacher-** Kakoli Mishra

**Performers-** Arita Goyal, Koyari Kshirsagar, Shona Sharma, Suhani Bhutoria

## 9. Bansuri

**Explorations in Raag Yaman -compositions by Sri Clive Bell.**

**Teacher-**Prayag Kotecha

**Performers-**Khushi Khetani, Maayin Chotai, Param Kapadia, Shreya Vyas

**Tabla Accompaniment-**Jaiden Dave, Manav Bhatt, Rohan Varia

**Comperes-**Dhilan Davdra, Param Kapadia

## 10. CHIEF GUEST- MAYOR SALIM CHOWDHURY

Mayor's Speech

Harsha Dhanjee

## 11. Kathak Group Five

**Pure technical piece in teentaal with Tihais, Todas, Paran and Parmelu.**

**Teacher-** Suruchi Saxena

**Comperes-** Arohi, Jenisha and Vayirika

**Performers-** Avika Gupta, Dhaani Neel Desai, Diya Varnika Balne, Neeharika Raviraj Nayak, Sanvi Yummundi, Sara Srivastava

## 12. Kathak Group Two

**Sargam**

**Performers-** Arohi Jain, Arpita Mutha, Jenisha Ghosh, Nimisha Mandal Preeti Shah, Sejal Parag Patil, Vayikra Sunil

**Comperes-** Dhaani and Avika

## 13. Kathak Group Four

**Teacher-**Suruchi Saxena

Araj-Krishna Bhajan

**Performers-** Avika Gupta, Dhaani Neel Desai, Diya Varnika Balne  
Neeharika Raviraj Nayak, Sanvi Vummundi, Sara Srivastava

**Comperes-**Sejal and Arpita

## 14. Tabla Group Two- Mwaki Afrobeat

**Mwaki-** This performance is inspired using the track Mwaki which is 2024's biggest afrobeats track. The students will use this track as a lehra and play classical pieces alongside it like Uthan, Mohara, Mukhra, Delhi Kayada, Gat and Chakradaar Tukra.

**Teacher-** Sachin Khetani

**Teaching Assistants-** Jaiden Dave, Rohan Varia

**Performers-**Aarish Mehta, Akshath Pandugala, Alaksh Narshi, Ayush Thakker, Charan Shah, Chetan Narshi, Diyan Rajdev, Issa Ali, Jaydev Vaghela, Jitendra Sheth, Keertan Shah, Keyan Patel, Krishang Upadhyay, Maneet Kayale, Prasit Shanker, Priyen Kerai, Pujan Halai, Quito Yuvan Mistry Tejas Patil, Yuvraj Sheth

**Comperes-**Dhilan Davdra, Rohan Tanna

## ~INTERVAL~

### 15. The Benares Baj Group Four

**This piece is inspired by Pandit Sharda Sahai and is inspired by the famous Banarasi Solo. This performance will include famous pieces such as Benarsi Theka, Layakari Bant, Relas, Gats and Tukras.**

**Teacher-**Sachin Khetani

**Performers-**Akshay Mandalia, Arya Kedar Mahajani, Jaiden Dave, Keshav Nagda, Manav Bhatt, Rahul Dhamecha, Rohan Ketan Varia, Shaunak Gupta, Vyan Halai

**Comperre-**Krishnan Upadhyay

### 16. Teachers Performance-Holi

O Rangrez- Tabla and Flute  
Rang Darungi  
Kathak, Tabla, Flute and Vocal.

**Performers-** Suruchi Saxena, Rohan Ketan Varia (student of Sachin Khetani), Prayag Kotecha, Sowmiya Thamocharan (student of Mehboob Nadeem)

**Comperes-**Dhilan Davdra, Diya Balne

## 17. Finale-Fusion- Usher's YEAH

**Kathak and Tabla accompanied by Tabla Group 3**

**Teacher-**Suruchi Saxena and Sachin Khetani

**Teaching Assistants-**Keshav Nagda, Jaiden Dave

**Dancers-**Arohi Jain, Arpita Mutha, Avika Gupta, Dhaani Neel Desai, Diya Balne, Jenisha Ghosh, Neeharika Raviraj, Sanvi Vummundi Sara Srivastava, Sejal Parag Patil, Vayikra Sunil

**Tabla-**Aaditya Vora, Aarav Viresh Chandarana, Dayna Jadva Dhilan Kalpesh Davdra, Dhruv Patel, Eshan Chauhan, Mahir Patel Malvika Halai, Omkar Dhananjay Vaidya, Rahul Majeবাদia, Rohan Tanna Shayan Amin, Viyan Varsani

**Compere-**Rahul Dhamecha

## 18. Closing Speech

**Vote of Thanks - Harsha Dhanjee**

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We could not bring this production to you without the help and guidance of:

- Our dedicated Sangeet College teachers and assistants:

Kakoli Shankar Mishra (Kathak), Prayag Kotecha (Bansuri), Sachin Khetani (Tabla), Suruchi Saxena (Kathak)

- All the parents and students for their commitment to the arts
- All volunteers for helping to make this event possible including:

Milen Shah, Nalin Dhamecha, Rita Dhamecha, Ritu Shaker, Sampath Marakkala, Neal Rajdev, Reena Rajdev, Parul Tanna Thakar, Ruby Kayale, Dhananjay Vaidya, Shruti Chauhan, Kunal Chauhan, Nisha Sanghrajka, Sarath Pandugula and Kaushik Upadhyay (leader)

# PARAMPARA TEAM 2025

**Anjan Saha** - Heritage Curator and Compere

**Chelsea Persad** - Social and Digital Communications

**Chiman Patel** - Chair of Trustees

**Divyanand Caird** - Event Curator

**Frances Shepherd** - Director and Lead Teacher

**Harsa Dhanjee** - Event Co-ordinator and Compere

**Jay Mistry and team from Dhol2dhol**- Stage Management

**Sivarasa Visakan** for Visual Presentation

**A special thank you goes out to all Harrow Arts Centre staff and technicians**





# Learn Music & Dance with Us!

Sangeet College is a unique centre of learning for Indian Classical Music with its strong sense of community which provides an inspiring environment for students to learn from teachers as well as each other. The college offers Kathak, Tabla, Harmonium, Flute (Bansuri) to both children and adults. We recently started Folk, Bollywood and keep fit Bollybics dance classes. The class sizes are small and cater for all abilities and ages.

## *Why Choose Sangeet College?*

We have over 35 years' experience of teaching Indian music and Dance in the UK and have had students perform at venues across London including the Southbank Centre, London Mela and Abbey Road Studios.

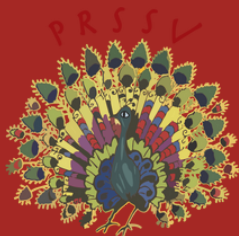
We have a structured learning programme with an ethos of "learning through doing" enabling students to hold regular concerts using the latest technology.

We have combined the best of Indian traditional teaching techniques and applied those to a modern context where a student can achieve a recognised qualification in their chosen discipline.

We are a 'not for profit' registered charity. Donations received are used to help students fund their classes.

**For music and dance lessons please contact 02085741202 or  
[www.prssv.org](http://www.prssv.org)**

# CONTACT US



*Music & Dance for All*

First Floor, Dominion Centre & Library  
112 The Green, Middlesex UB2 4BQ  
(Line open: Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm)  
T: 020 8574 1202

[sangeetcollege@prssv.org](mailto:sangeetcollege@prssv.org)



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