

DR. MANAS VISHWAROOP

HINDUSTANI CLASSICAL VOCALIST



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ABOUT ME

Dr. Manas Vishwaroop

Ph.D. | Hindustani Vocalist | Composer | Scholar | Educator

A versatile artist with a skilled voice rooted in the Agra Gharana, Dr. Manas Vishwaroop is an internationally acclaimed performer, academician, and composer. Trained by the legendary Pt. Shrikrishna (Babannarao) Haldankar, he brings forth the soul of traditional Hindustani music with emotive depth and intellectual clarity. With a Ph.D. in Music, national awards, and a repertoire ranging from Classical, Semi-Classical & Light Music, his artistry bridges tradition and innovation.

"Carrying forward a timeless legacy with a modern voice."

My Music

I believe music is not just a performance but a lived experience. My artistic journey is rooted in devotion to raga, rhythm, and rasa. I strive to express the timeless depth of Hindustani classical music while engaging with contemporary sensibilities.

Musical Lineage

Born into a musical family, I was deeply influenced by my parents: Dr. Himanshu Vishwaroop, a renowned violinist of India, and my late mother Prof. Dr. Veena Vishwaroop, a gifted teacher and composer. My guru, Pt. Shrikrishna (Babannarao) Haldankar, a doyen of the Agra Gharana, shaped my musical soul with love and care. Gururji's lineage traces back to Ustad Khadim Hussain Khan, Kallan Khan, and Ustad Ghagghhe Khudabaksh, the founder of Khayal in the Agra Gharana.

Research & Academic Work

I hold a Ph.D. in Music from the University of Mumbai. My doctoral research, titled "The Literary & Musical Aspects of Ancient & Modern Bandishes of Khayal Gayan in Agra Gharana: An Analytical Study", explores the aesthetics of the Gayki of Agra Gharana. I have published several Research Articles in renowned Journals of Performing Arts.

Awards & Achievements

- Gold Medalist in B.A. & M.A. (Music)
- UGC-JRF Fellowship
- National Scholarship by HRD Ministry
- Degree Scholarship by UGC
- ITC-SRA Yuva Award
- All India Radio (Akashwani) Competition Winner
- Won 1st Position in 15 National & State Level Competitions

Performance Repertoire

My vocal repertoire spans: Dhrupad-Dhamar, Khayal-Tarana, Thumri-Dadra, Ghazal, Bhajan-Abhang, Natya Sangeet. These styles allow me to express the full spectrum of mood, form, and melodic richness in Hindustani music. I have performed on major events such as -

- Ustad Alladiya Khan Festival at Mumbai
- Jamshedji Tata Memorial Concert, NCPA at Mumbai
- University of Peradenia at Kandy, Sri Lanka
- Leçons de ténèbres & Raga de la nuit at Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Bhopal, Kolkata & Chennai
- Khairagarh Mahotsav at Khairagarh

Teaching Philosophy

As a professor of Hindustani Music, I nurture students with rigor, compassion, and a sense of lineage. My teaching integrates deep listening, scholarly research, and creative freedom — shaping performers who are both rooted and responsive.

Performances Across the Globe



CONTACT ME

PHONE & WHATSAPP
+91-96199-14954

EMAIL
**ManasVishwaroop
@Gmail.com**

Social Media



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CV, Brochure, Photos and others



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My Journey

How does one sing for an audience immersed in the ever-present hum of urban life? How do I reach ears that have grown accustomed to the subtle distortions of background noise? And more importantly, how can raga sangeet — with its ancient structure and deep emotive power — remain relevant, intimate, and transformative in today's world? These are the questions that continually shape my musical journey.

As a disciple of Pandit Shrikrishna (Babannarao) Haldankar, the venerable doyen of the Agra Gharana, my music has been shaped with utmost care, affection, and depth. My guru nurtured me like a grandchild, guiding me through the complex and beautiful grammar of Khayal music. Through his teaching, I learned how to create silence between beats and carve space through the nuanced unfolding of each swar. My interpretations of classical repertoire are rooted in this lineage, but they also reflect my response to the contemporary world I live and sing in.

I see my performances as spaces where tradition and modernity converse — not collide. Every taan, pause, and modulation I make carries something of the city and something of the soil. These choices reflect not just musical structure but lived experience — the anxieties and complexities of modern life, and the timeless wisdom of the tradition I come from. My music is not designed for passive consumption; it invites the listener to stay, reflect, and immerse. In a way, I'm singing back the rhythms of the living city — not merely entertaining, but engaging.

That said, the foundations of my music were laid in the quiet town of Khairagarh, where I grew up surrounded by music. My father, Dr. Himanshu Vishwaroop, a renowned violinist, and my late mother, Prof. Dr. Veena Vishwaroop, a gifted teacher and composer, created a world where music was a way of life. From early morning riyaz to listening to life stories of musicians, to exchanging ideas with instrumentalist friends — everything became part of my musical DNA.

Later, moving to Mumbai exposed me to a vibrant and diverse landscape of classical traditions. Competitions gave me an opportunity not just to perform, but to listen, learn, and reflect. I was drawn more toward feedback from jurors and the distinct musical sensibilities of fellow artists than to the trophies themselves. Over time, I began shaping my presentation with a balance of discipline, imagination, and emotional resonance, integrating a range of classical forms without losing their essence.