

From Editor's Desk.....

With the wishes of new year 2014, we feel pleasure to publish the January 2014 issue of Sangeet Galaxy journal. The contributors in this issue are Mr. Mohan Kumaran. P, Binathi.G, Dr. Rekha M. Menon, Dr. Preeti Gupta, Ruchi Mishra and Alok Shukla.

In the year 2013 we have lost some of artist of music galaxy. Pakistani folk singer Reshma was one of them. Reshma passed away in Lahore, Pakistan on 3 November 2013 after a long battle with throat cancer. She was 66 years old. She is known for her popular songs such as *Lambi Judai* and *Dama Dam Mast Kalandar*. Reshma was born in 1947 in Bikaner, Rajasthan, in a Banjara family. She has no formal education in music, but at the age of just 12 years, she was seen singing at the Shahbaz Qalander's shrine. Thereafter, her iconic song *Laal Meri* was recorded on the state-run Pakistan Radio. With this, she became the most popular folk singer of Pakistan. She appeared on the television in the year 1960 and recorded songs for not just Pakistani film industry, but also the Indian cinema. Some of her most popular songs also include *Hai O Rabba nahion lagda dil mera* and *Ankhiyan no rehen de ankhiyan de kol kol*. She won various national awards such as *Sitara-i-Imtiaz* as well as *Legends of Pakistan*, by the President of Pakistan. She performed in India during 1980s when exchange of artists was allowed between India and Pakistan. Indian film maker Subhash Ghai used her voice in *Hero* which also featured her most famous song *Lambi Judai*.

Besides it Ustad Zia Fariduddin Dagar (1932-2013), the dhrupad vocalist passed away on 8 May 2013 following brief illness at his Gurukul near Panvel. He was 80 years of age. Ustad Zia Fariduddin Dagar was born in Udaipur, Rajasthan on 15 June 1932. He was also the court musician of Maharana Bhupal Singh of Udaipur. He played a prominent role in reviving the dhrupad tradition in the 20th century along with his brother late Ustad Zia Mohiuddin Dagar, the legendary Rudra Veena player. He was the master of *srutis*. He was renowned for his drupad vocal in not just India, but also across the world. He gave performances in various popular festivals in India and abroad. He won various prestigious honours and awards such as Tagore Ratna Award, Tansen Samman and Sangeet Natak Academy Fellowship.

The Indian classical singer and music director, Pandit Raghunath Panigrahi passed away on 25 August 2013 in Bhubaneswar. He was 80 years of age. He is known as the vocalist of Jayadeva's Gita Govind. Pandit Raghunath Panigrahi was born on 10 August 1934 at Gunupur in Odisha's Rayaga (earlier Koraput) district. He is known for his way of classical singing of Gita Govinda that describes unique relationship between Lord Krishna and the Gopis. He had left his mark on the Odissi light classicals such as *Na Jaa Radhika* and contemporary songs such as *Nali Nali Ei*, *Krushnachuda* or *Nupoor Bajaai Kie*. He was the first Odiya singer to be honored by the French government for compositions of Gita Govinda. He was also conferred with the Padmashri award in the year 2010. He established the Sanjukta Panigrahi Memorial Trust, with the purpose of spotting and encouraging Odissi singer as well as dancers. Since the year 2001, this Trust has been giving the scholarships to budding dancers. Also, the Trust gives excellence awards in Orissi dance forms to people. Other awards won by him include Sangeet Natak Akademi Award, Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship as well as Jayadeva Samman in the year 2008.

Sangeet Galaxy journal dedicates homage to all these super stars of music.

Editor-in-Chief