

The Music Circle



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Mission

The Music Circle is dedicated to fostering awareness, appreciation, and understanding of the classical music of India—one of the world's great musical treasures—by providing a supportive and inspiring platform for the its leading exponents, especially for those emerging and acclaimed artists destined to be tomorrow's masters.



Overview

The Music Circle was founded in 1973 by Ravi Shankar and Harihar Rao. Now ably led by Artistic Director Vinod Venkataraman, The Music Circle has presented some 300 concerts of classical Indian music over the years and amassed an international reputation. The Music Circle presents an annual series of 6 to 10 public concerts that recreate the excitement and superb musicianship of authentic Indian "chamber" concerts featuring the master performers of our time. A private, non-profit cultural organization, the Music Circle is the country's oldest organization dedicated to the performance and cultivation of Indian classical music. Our collaborators include institutions such as:

- The Skirball Cultural Center
- Los Angeles County Museum of Art
- UCLA
- Occidental College
- The Getty Museum
- Pacific Asia Museum
- Norton Simon Museum
- The San Gabriel Mission Playhouse

Community Outreach

To encourage the public to discover the rich cultural heritage of India's classical arts, the Music Circle has also produced day-long festivals of Classical Indian music; as well as workshops with master musicians for local musicians, teachers and students. In an effort to cultivate knowledgeable audiences of the future of Indian classical music, the Music Circle offers student discounts for admission to performances.



Recordings

Since 1988, the Music Circle has recorded its concerts using professional technicians and state-of-the-art digital equipment, tailored to the sound of Indian classical music and to the instruments that comprise each performance. These wonderful live recordings reflect not only the artists' superb musicianship, but also the excitement that is generated by an audience that truly appreciates the exceptional level of playing from these great masters. In addition to an extensive archive of performance master recordings on multiple formats, The Music Circle also possesses a catalog of performance videos from past concerts. All generations of musicians agree: many of their best performances have taken place in Music Circle venues.

