

NAYAN GHOSH

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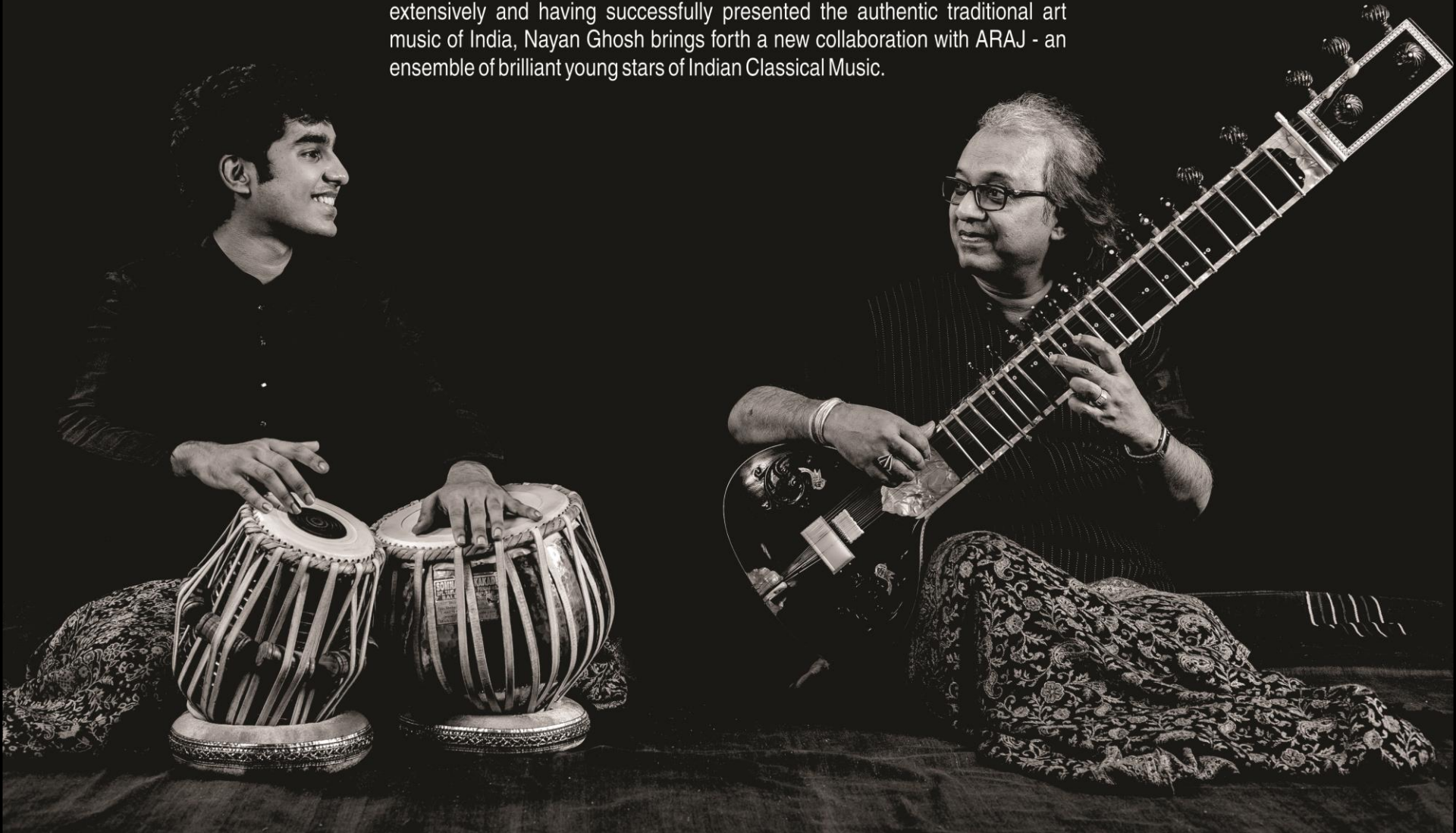
ARAJ

|| the maestro with the prodigies... ||



Maestro **NAYAN GHOSH** is an acclaimed and established stalwart with exceptional command on two diverse instruments - the Sitar and the Tabla.

In this 50th year of his glorious performing career, having travelled the globe extensively and having successfully presented the authentic traditional art music of India, Nayan Ghosh brings forth a new collaboration with ARAJ - an ensemble of brilliant young stars of Indian Classical Music.





## NAYAN GHOSH

Maestro Nayan Ghosh is acclaimed in India and around the world as one of India's foremost musicians, with an unusual dimension – the only maestro with superlative command on two diverse instruments the Sitar and the Tabla. Son and disciple of the 20th century Tabla wizard Nikhil Ghosh and nephew of Pannalal Ghosh, "the Father of Indian Classical Flute", Nayan has inherited the rich musical legacy and carries it with dignity and grace.

His sitar recitals sparkle with intense melodiousness and rich delineations, bringing out the depth and the true spirit of the raga. His judicious balance of the gayaki (vocalisation) and the tantrakari (instrumentation) elements reveal his unswerving focus on musical form and beauty. His formidable tabla solos drawn from an enviable repertoire of the Farukhabad, Delhi, Ajrada, Lucknow and Punjab schools and his eloquent and mesmerising accompaniments have won him a strong stamp of recognition as one of the foremost tabla exponents.

His performing career began at a very early age and since the age of 18, in the early 1970's, his music took him across continents repeatedly and saw him represent India at some of the most prestigious International Music Festivals and Universities across Europe, USA, Canada, UK, Australia, New Zealand, North Africa and the Far East, with rave reviews in international dailies like the New York Times, the Sydney Morning Herald, the Tribune-de-Geneve, Franfurter-Allgemeine, the Kansas City Times and so on. Over the years, he has also taught as a distinguished visiting professor at such bodies like the Kent State University and the Emory University.

A recipient of the prestigious national award for the performing arts from the Govt of India, the SANGEET NATAK AKADEMI AWARD-2014 for Tabla at the hands of Hon'ble President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, at New Delhi's Rashtrapati Bhavan, and a 1998 recipient of the Achievement Award for both Tabla and Sitar, from the Governor of California, Gray Davis in Los Angeles.

Nayan Ghosh has shared the stage with such legends as Ravi Shankar, Vilayat Khan and Nikhil Banerjee, besides a whole galaxy of stars like Buddhadev Dasgupta, Shivkumar Sharma, Amjad Ali Khan, Pandit Jasraj, Halim Jaffer Khan, Rais Khan, and L. Subramaniam among other stalwarts. He has collaborated with world musicians such as the 'father of minimal music' Terry Riley, avant-garde pianist Yosuke Yamashita, guitarist Kazumi Watanabe, Kidd Jordan and Henry Butler, Paul Grant, Ross Daly, John Bailey, Hoo Eouling et al.

In 2016, the maestro was specially invited alongwith his talented son, Ishaan Ghosh, by the former President of the United States, President Jimmy Carter to give a benefit concert for the HABITAT FOR HUMANITY project and felicitated by the President himself, in Atlanta.

Presently, as Director of India's leading music academy, the SANGIT MAHABHARATI in Juhu, Mumbai, Nayan is imparting advanced training to numerous young aspiring musicians. He has been a Distinguished Guest Professor at IIT-Bombay, teaching tabla, sitar, vocal and musicology at the Cell for Human Values. He is also an empaneled Guru in the CITI-NCPA Guru-Shishya Parampara project.





## ARAJ

Meaning: prayer, fragrance and request for divine grace, is a classical collaboration among **five exceptional young talents** from India.

The group has been conceptualised and designed by young Tabla virtuoso, Ishaan Ghosh and incorporates vibrant musical compositions in Tabla, Sitar, Flute, Classical Vocal and Sarangi.



The classical group comprises of Ishaan Ghosh (Tabla), S Akash (Flute), Mehtab Ali (Sitar), Pratik Singh (Vocals) and Vanraj Shastri (Sarangi).

The quintet presents authentic traditional classical music coupled with contemporary flair, brilliance and exuberance.

Each of the artistes have honed their prodigious talents under acknowledged masters and 'Guru-s' and display musical maturity and expertise much belying their age.

# ISHAAN GHOSH

All of 19, Ishaan Ghosh stands out as one of the front-ranking Tabla players in the younger generation of India's Classical Music scene. He is the grandson of one of the most acclaimed Tabla Maestros of the 20th century, Late 'Padmabhushan' Nikhil Ghosh and the son and disciple of the internationally renowned Tabla and Sitar stalwart Nayan Ghosh.

An exceptionally gifted child prodigy, Ishaan gave his first Tabla Solo recital at the age of two and a half.

Since the age of 8, Ishaan has presented traditional Indian music at prestigious venues in Switzerland, France, Spain, USA, UK, Mexico, Hawaii among others.

His dynamic Tabla Solos have received wide appreciation from musicians and connoisseurs alike. Besides accompanying his father's sitar concerts, he has also performed with landmark figures in the field of Indian Classical Music like 'Sangeet Martand' Pt. Jasraj, Ustad Amjad Ali Khan, Padmabhushan Pt Buddhadev Dasgupta, Ustad Aashish Khan, Pt. Tejendra Narayan Majumdar, violin legend Dr. N Rajam, Rakesh Chaurasia & Purbayan Chatterjee, among several other prominent artistes.

He has regularly collaborated with musicians of various other genres like Jazz Guitarist Max Clouth of Germany, Mohammad Rasouli and percussionists Fakhroddin Ghaffari and Hamid Reza Rahbaralam of Iran, Hoo Eouling of China and Raho Langsepp of Estonia.

He was conferred the 'BABA ALLAUDDIN KHAN YUVA PURASKAR' by the Government of Madhya Pradesh, India in 2012.

In 2016, he was specially invited along with his father by the former President of the United States, President Jimmy Carter to give a benefit concert for the HABITAT FOR HUMANITY project, and was also felicitated by the President himself.





**S AKASH:** One of the most vibrant young flautists of India, S Akash has been a child prodigy and has trained under flute exponents like the late Venkatesh Godkhindi and Ronu Majumdar. Currently he is studying with vocalist Jayateerth Mevundi and is one of the most sought after young musicians today.

**MEHTAB ALI NIAZI:** Hailing from a traditional family of musicians, young Mehtab Ali represents the illustrious 'Bhendi Bazar Gharana' of music and has trained under his sitarist father, Mohsin Ali Khan. He is a promising figure in the field of Indian instrumental music. His flourish and flare for the instrument is indeed praiseworthy.

**PRATIK SINGH:** A multifaceted young artiste, Pratik Singh is equally gifted in vocal music and the tabla. He is one of the most promising disciples of Maestro Nayan Ghosh. His natural artistry and colourful vocalism makes him stand out among today's young artistes.

**VANRAJ SHASTRI:** Young sarangi virtuoso Vanraj Shastri has an exceptional command on this exquisite instrument. He has honed his skill under the tutelage of sarangi wizard Dhruva Ghosh and is currently a disciple of Maestro Nayan Ghosh. He has received appreciation for his achieving outstanding musical skill on the sarangi in a short span of time.



The presentation by Maestro Nayan Ghosh and the young artistes will feature repertoire from every genre of Indian instrumental and vocal music with a unique dynamism, keeping in mind the aesthetic beauty and grandeur of traditional Indian music.

The stalwart and ARAJ together, will present a wide range of performances encompassing both classical and semi-classical styles of Indian Music, in the form of Solos, Duets, Trios as well as group performances.



The expertise and magnetism of Nayan Ghosh and the collective artistic energies of the young virtuosi promises to be musically enriching and an opportunity to experience the JOY OF MUSIC.



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*Thank you.*