



SACHI, Society for Art & Cultural Heritage of India



**Join us for an evening of Ragas**

presented by

Hindustani classical vocalist and visiting artist

**Viraj Amar**

With accompanying artists

Sudev Sheth on tabla and Anand Karve on harmonium

**Friday, May 10, 2013, 8:00 p.m.**

**Home of Jasmin & Gagan Arneja**

**4378 Cesar Chavez Street, San Francisco, CA 94131**

\$15 SACHI members; \$20 non-members

To purchase tickets, email [info@sachi.org](mailto:info@sachi.org); 650.918.6335

Limited seating

Please join SACHI friends in an historic Noe Valley neighborhood for an enchanting evening of ragas.

Royal and religious patronage inspired rich music traditions transmitted from masters to disciples. As court artists entertained the ruling elite and major temples encouraged music as a form of worship, various schools evolved under revered masters assuming unique characteristics. Each school represented a particular lineage of music, called *gharana*.

Viraj Amar, a distinguished and gifted Hindustani vocalist, is the foremost disciple of the illustrious Pandit Rajan and Pandit Sajan Mishra, the acknowledged maestros of the Benaras Gharana (lineage). Specializing in *Khayal Gayaki*, the modern genre of classical singing in North India, Viraj is equally at ease singing *Bhajans* or devotional songs, *Thumris*, a genre of semi-classical Indian music characterized by its sensuality, and *Tappas*, a form of semi-classical vocal music introduced and sung mostly in imperial and royal courts. She will present both classical and semi-classical pieces in her performance.

#### About the Artist:

Viraj represents a generation of young, talented artists who are committed to the cause of upholding and promoting India's rich musical heritage. She is the Founder, Director and Chief Coordinator of Upasana School of Performing Arts, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad.

Viraj has performed widely in USA, France, and the UK. She was invited to perform at the Indo-Soviet Festival, Russia, and to Otemon Gakuin University in Osaka, Japan as cultural ambassador. She is featured in all major music festivals in India—Ahmedabad, Varanasi, Goa, Udaipur,

Jalandhar, including performances at the National Centre for Performing Arts (NCPA) and Nehru Centre, Mumbai, at the India International Centre (IIC), Delhi, and Bharat Bhavan, Bhopal.

Viraj is the recipient of several distinguished awards, including the coveted Pandit Omkaranath Trophy for instrumental and vocal music. She performs regularly on All India Radio and Doordarshan TV, and is an empaneled artist with the Govt. of India.

[www.sachi.org](http://www.sachi.org)

SACHI extends generous thanks to hosts Jasmin & Gagan Arneja, and to sponsors Rekha and Bipin Shah for program support.

The concert venue is a sample of architect Albert Lanier's residential work. Married to artist and educator Ruth Asawa, Lanier's distinctive designs reflect harmonious spaces filled with natural light.