

SWARNABHOOMI ACADEMY OF MUSIC, CHENNAI, INDIA. SIX MONTH DIPLOMA PROGRAM STARTING JULY 26, 2010. **ADMISSION OPEN!**



Are you a musician who wants to take a few months off in India, live in beautiful natural surroundings and study with some of the world's best musicians from every corner of the globe, push your playing up a few notches and take home a world class learning experience that's uniquely Indian at a truly low cost?

Swarnabhoomi Academy of Music (SAM) near Chennai, India is the place for you. With pioneering guitarist and composer Prasanna as its President, Swarnabhoomi Academy of Music is India's alternative to high-end music schools in the west.

Chennai :

Chennai, formerly known as Madras, is one of the most culturally vibrant cities in the world. Chennai is the capital of Tamil Nadu, seat of the world's oldest surviving language, musical and dance forms - Tamil, Carnatic music and Bharatanatyam. Sun-drenched Chennai is a large metropolis with a population of around 9 million with beautiful Hindu temples, churches and other fine architecture. Chennai also boasts of the 12 km long Marina Beach, the world's second longest beach.

The SAM success story

Swarnabhoomi Academy of Music is strategically located between Chennai and the coastal town of Pondicherry in Marg Swarnabhoomi, a 1000 acre neo-city being built by one of India's leading infrastructure companies, Marg Limited.

Guided by the artistic vision of its President Prasanna, Swarnabhoomi Academy of Music has already managed to achieve what few starter music schools anywhere in the world could. Within just a couple of months of conceptualization, Swarnabhoomi Academy of Music brought in such world class masters as bassist **Mike Pope** (Chick Corea, Al Di Meola, David Sanborn) guitarist **David Gilmore** (Joss Stone, Steve Coleman, Trilok Gurtu) and 8-time Grammy Award winning drummer **Rodney Holmes** (Santana, Brecker Brothers, Wayne Shorter) along with **Prasanna** to conduct a one week residential workshop in Chennai from Aug 17 to 22, 2009, which was attended by musicians from all over India and the UK.

SAM also presented 5-time Grammy Award winning bass legend **Victor Wooten** in a series of workshops and concerts in 4 cities in India in April 2010. Victor performed concerts with Prasanna, SAM faculty Dr. S. Karthick and Bangalore Amrit in Chennai, Bangalore, Kolkata and Mumbai. Victor also formally launched the admissions process for SAM's 2010 diploma program.

SAM Diploma Program 2010

SAM's first fully residential 6 month diploma program in Music Performance starts on July 26, 2010 and admissions are now open for musicians from all over the world. SAM's first batch of students will get to study with 15 top class professional musicians hailing from 9 countries including India, Brazil, Suriname, USA, Canada, Barbados, Armenia, Germany and Switzerland. All faculty and students will live, dine and make music in its sprawling campus, making it a truly rewarding residential experience for all.

Tucked away from the noise of the city, SAM's vast 4 acre campus is being currently built 80 kms from Chennai and will be ready for operation well in time for the July 2010 program. Its 29,000 sq.ft facility will house lecture halls, ensemble rooms, labs, practice rooms, recital halls, a well-stocked library, a state of the art media center, recreation facilities etc. SAM's facility will also feature top of the line equipment including Mesa Boogie guitar amps, Orange bass amps, Kawai grand, upright and digital pianos, Dixon drum kits, Meinl cymbals and more. SAM has partnered with Hal Leonard Publishing to bring high quality instruction material and books to its students.

SAM brings all this to you at a small fraction of the cost of studying at an equivalent music college in the US, Europe or other places.

Come and be part of a movement! Come and study at SAM and share your talents with us and take back the joy of music and India with you!

For more info on SAM, visit the college web site at <http://www.sam.org.in>

Also connect with SAM on

Facebook - <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Swarnabhoomi-Academy-of-Music/105109062959>

MySpace – <http://www.myspace.com/sammusiceducation>

Twitter - <http://www.twitter.com/sam4music>

Program Dates: July 26 - Dec 18, 2010

(With a Break from Oct 8 to 18)

Fees:

All-inclusive package of US \$7000 for international students.

Fee includes

1. Tuition
2. Course material including books, handouts etc,
3. Accommodation in our newly built apartments, health insurance, 3 meals a day for the entire duration of stay, access to health club and recreation facilities and two way airport transfers from Chennai to SAM campus

SAM faculty for the 2010 program

July 26 – Oct 8

PRASANNA (GUITAR) – Pioneer of Indian Classical Carnatic music on the guitar and one of today's most cutting edge musicians in Jazz and beyond. Composer for the 2009 Oscar Award winning documentary 'Smile Pinki'. Performances with Joe Lovano, A.R. Rahman, Victor Wooten, Umayalpuram Sivaraman, Aka Moon, Omar Hakim, Steve Smith, Vijay Iyer, Airtó Moreira, Trilok Gurtu, Anthony Jackson etc.

DAVID ANDERSON (DRUMS) – One of the top LA studio musicians truly versatile across Jazz, Rock, Funk, Fusion. Performances with Chaka Khan, Larry Carlton, Stanley Clarke, Dionne Warwick, David Benoit, Tom Scott, Hubert Laws, The Rippingtons etc.

DR. S. KARTHICK (INDIAN PERCUSSION) – One of the world's most acclaimed ghatam (claypot) players, a doctorate scholar in Sanskrit, Karthick has performed with M.S. Subbalakshmi, D.K. Jayaraman, Balamuralikrishna, Prasanna, Victor Wooten, A.R. Rahman, Ariane Gray Hubert, Palghat Raghu, Umayalpuram Sivaraman etc.

RUBENS DE LA CORTE (GUITAR) – Brazilian guitarist, composer and arranger. Musical director for African superstar Angelique Kidjo and guitarist for Eliane Elias. Also Performed with Carlos Santana, Peter Gabriel, Diane Reeves, Alicia Keys, Dave Mathews, Trilok Gurtu, Philip Glass, Josh Groban, Jessye Norman, Willie Nelson etc.

STEVE JENKINS (BASS) – "The sky is the limit" – Bass Player magazine, "Jenkins augments his considerable chops with a cool vision" – Jazziz Magazine. Performances with Vernon Reid, Screaming Headless Torsos, John Scofield, Wayne Krantz, Hiromi, Cindy Blackman, Dave Fiuczynski, Jeff 'Skunk' Baxter, Thomas Pridgen of 'Mars Volta', Keith Carlock, Kenwood Dennard, Steve Hunt etc.

SARAH JERROM (VOICE) – "Stunning, sophisticated jazz" – PBS 106.7 FM, Melbourne, Australia, "Equipped with a lovely voice and a go-get-em attitude" – Toronto Star, Canada. Acclaimed Toronto Jazz singer Sarah has performed with Ingrid Jensen, Dave Young, Mike Murley, Melissa Stylianou, Kelly Jefferson and others.

MANU KOCH (PIANO/KEYBOARDS) – Manu is one of the most in-demand young piano and keyboard players in New York today. Manu has performed with Angelique Kidjo, David Binney, Sekouba Bambino, Roy Hargrove, Cindy Blackman, Miguel Zenon, Donny McCaslin, Chiara Civello, Benny Reitveld, Lionel Louke, Kaissa etc.

JOVOL BELL (DRUMS) – Young Jovol Bell known for his work with Dave Fiuczynski and Screaming Headless Torsos is a Berklee graduate and a groove machine with his trademark fusion of hip-hop and jazz.

Oct 18 – Dec 18

ATMA ANUR (DRUMS) – "The Jimi Hendrix of drums" – Neal Schon in Rolling Stone Magazine. Degrees in Orchestral Percussion from Manhattan School of Music and Jazz Composition from Berklee College of Music. Atma has performed with Journey, Joe Satriani, David Bowie, Billy Sheehan, Greg Allman, Glenn Hughes, Tony MacAlpine, Greg Howe, Michelle Shocked, Richie Kotzen etc.

ED DEGENARO (GUITAR) – "You are actually making music with that fretless" – Joe Satriani, "You sound great" – Allan Holdsworth, "I dug the sound files. They are screaming" – Wayne Krantz, "World class chops and tone" – Chris Poland, "He swings, he grooves, and that's all there is to say" – Steve Lukather

VARDAN OVSEPIAN (PIANO/KEYBOARDS) – "He is the real deal" – Mick Goodrick, "Beautiful record" – Brad Mehldau. Vardan is an Alumni of Yerevan State University, Estonian Music Academy, Helsinki Jazz Conservatory and Berklee College of Music. Performances with Jerry Bergonzi, Peter Erskine, Mick Goodrick etc.

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STEVE ZERLIN (BASS) – Brilliant and versatile bassist from Baltimore, well versed in adapting the bass guitar to perform nuances of Indian music. Performances with Dennis Chambers, Jack Dejonette, Facing East, Kenny Loggins, Vinny Valentino, Pal McCandless, Jeff Coffin, Jessica Williams, The Drifters etc.

ANDRO BISWANE (GUITAR) – Master of Afro-Caribbean, Afro-Funk, Surinamese Kaseko styles with degree in classical and jazz guitar performance from Rotterdam Conservatory. Performances with Karadara, FraFra Sound, Ray Appleton, Lester Bowie, Billy Haynes, David Murray, Basekou Kouyate, Toumanie Diabate etc.

HARVEY WIRHT (DRUMS) – Distinctive Surinamese drummer with top level diverse credentials and performances with Ziggy Marley, Leni Stern, Fareed Haque, David Gilmore, Babatunde Olatunji, Maria Schneider, Joanne Brackeen, Gino Sitson, Hassan Hakmoun, Angelique Kidjo etc.

NATALIE JOHN (VOCALS) – One of New York's rising jazz singers and arrangers. Graduate of USC and the New School. 2006 Downbeat Award for Best College Vocalist, John Coltrane Foundation Scholarship and more. Performances with Rachel Z, Ingrid Jensen, Bjorkestra, Prasanna etc.

TIMELINES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Last date for sending Application form and demo (you tube video links, myspace links, mp3s etc accepted) -

MAY 31, 2010

Application form can be filled out online at

<http://www.sam.org.in/diploma/applicationform.php>

Applicants will be notified of selection within a week of receiving their application materials. We request applicants to apply early to allow enough time for visas, travel and other logistics.

Mp3s and demo materials can be e-mailed to the Vice-President of Swarnabhoomi Academy of Music, Shyam Rao at shyam@sam.org.in

For all enquiries and more info, e-mail Shyam Rao or call him at +91-98843 75572