

INDIAN MUSIC AT ITS BEST (double bill)

PIU SARKHEL – *khyal* vocal **PURNIMA CHAUDHURI – *thumri* vocal**

Its not always *sitar!* One forgets that the real Indian music is to be found in the vocal traditions – which form the basis for all music including instrumental performance in India. This tour of North Indian vocal *KHYAL* and *THUMRI* is by two ladies who are among the finest singers in India today.

In PIU SARKHEL we have a young singer who learnt from her father Sri Kamal Bannerjee and has been totally inspired by one of the greatest ever vocalists of India the late USTAD AMIR KHAN who spent a lot of time living with them at their home. Piu has therefore imbibed the *AMIRKHANI GAYAKI* – characterised by a superb sense of ease and pace from meditative to highly virtuosic. Blessed with a superb voice with a fantastic technique Piu is one of those rare artists who is articulate in English and can talk about her music with ease.

PURNIMA CHAUDHURI is a performer *par excellence* of the slowly dying art of the traditional romantic song form called *thumri* and other forms of light classical singing typically associated with the culture of the ancient city of VARANASI. Purnima trained with the renowned Pt Mahadev Mishra in the art of singing *thumri, dadra, kajri, chaiti, hori and tappa*: with Pt A Kanan in classical music and she eventually studied with the great *thumri* singer Smt Girija Devi. PURNIMA is technically superb, poetic, charming and soulful – the epitome of the *PURAB ANG*

Both singers exude integrity, authenticity and the very best of the great traditions of Indian vocal music. A REAL TREAT.

Artists

Piu Sarkhel	<i>khyal</i> vocal
Purnima Chaudhuri	<i>thumri</i> vocal
Sanju Sahai	tabla
Artist tbc	harmonium

Continued over...

Concert/Workshop dates

Sat 13 MAY 7.30pm
BRISTOL St George's
0117 923 0359
www.stgeorgesbristol.co.uk

Sat 20 & Sun 21 May
LONDON Asian Music Centre
Workshops
020 8742 9911
www.amc.org.uk

Wed 24 MAY 7.30pm
CORNWALL Tate St Ives
01736 796226
www.tate.org.uk/stives

Sat 28 MAY 7.45pm
LONDON Purcell Room
0870 401 8181
www.rfh.org.uk

Notes to editors

Piu Sarkhel and Purnima Chaudhuri are available for interviews from the 12th May till 27th May 2006.

For further press information and images please contact Elie Gussman or Kuldeep Jalf, Asian Music Circuit on 020 8742 9911 / elie@amc.org.uk / kuldeep@amc.org.uk / www.amc.org.uk

The **Asian Music Circuit (AMC)** is the UK's leading promoter for music from the Asian continent, famous for presenting a diverse range of innovative and eclectic Asian music tours, concerts, workshops, lectures and events in the UK.