



Indian Sitar Master Deobrat Mishra Stunning Album Yoga Mantra

WITH DEAN EVENSON & PRASHANT MISHRA

Award-winning label Soundings of the Planet is pleased to announce the release of *Yoga Mantra*. These authentic Sanskrit devotional chants come directly from their source on the banks of the sacred Ganges River in India. During a time when yoga and chanting are more popular than ever, this album of traditional North Indian Hindustani music with a contemporary twist is a welcome offering.

Yoga Mantra features the remarkable voice of Indian sitar master Deobrat Mishra performing with his nephew Prashant Mishra on tabla. Sound healing pioneer Dean Evenson adds silver flute to these improvisational compositions of traditional ragas. Deobrat Mishra represents the 11th generation of the Benares Gharana vocal tradition. The authenticity and quality of the music make it ideal background for yoga, chanting, somatic movement, and meditation.

The album showcases Deobrat's stunning rendition of the auspicious 'Gayatri Mantra' along with six other sacred mantras. It is believed that whoever chants this mantra experiences an increase in enthusiasm and positivity in life, helping a person get out of even the worst of situations. Deobrat has composed the music for the benefit of human welfare. He says "when you sing the powerful Gayatri Mantra, you may experience new energy flowing inside you."

Deobrat Mishra is the son of Pandit Shivnath Mishra, a legend of sitar from the holy city of Varanasi (also known as Benares) on the sacred Ganges River in India. As a young child Deobrat studied tabla with his mother Mrs. Pramila Mishra. He also began studying vocal music with his father at age five and started his sitar lessons a year later. Most of Deobrat's family members come from the Benares vocal tradition so vocal music is in his lineage for over 500 years. This is one of the rare albums where he sings mantra and plays sitar together.

Deobrat is very dedicated to Indian culture. He teaches Naad or Nada Yoga which is basically the 'Yoga of Sound.' In traditional Indian culture, it is understood that the universe is made of vibration so by understanding that principle, a person can harness the benefits of music, toning, and chanting to contribute to their own inner healing. He composes all of the mantras in traditional Indian raga style so the music can affect more people in a healing way. On some of the tracks, he sings



the Hindustani scale of the ragas on songs as Sa Re Ga Ma Pa Dha Ni, which are same as western notes Do Re Mi Fa Sol La Ti.

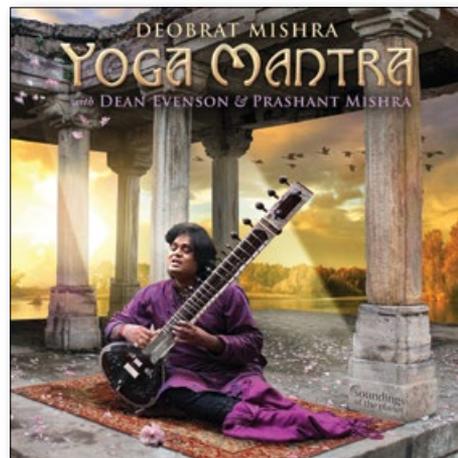
Academy of Indian Classical Music

The rich heritage of traditional Indian music is at risk of being lost. The Guru-Shishya (teacher-student) relationship which was the hallmark of this system for centuries is breaking down. If this tradition is not maintained, soon it may exist only in textbooks. In order to preserve this rich heritage so precious to India and the world, Pt. Shivnath Mishra and Deobrat Mishra have formed the Mrs. Pramila Mishra Academy of Indian Classical Music that replicates the system of passing down knowledge from master to student.

Soundings of the Planet co-founders, Dean and Dudley Evenson, met Deobrat Mishra almost 20 years ago and have produced his concerts in Northwest Washington ever since. He and his father and teacher Pt. Shivnath Mishra toured the West Coast and Europe for years captivating audiences with their amazing sitar performances. *Raga Cycle*, their previous album on the Soundings label, showcases their call and response 'dueling sitars' they are known for. More recently Deobrat has been touring with his nephew and tabla maestro, Prashant Mishra, in India, the US and Europe. When not touring, he teaches in Varanasi, India and offers online classes and concerts.

“Yoga Mantra, features authentic Sanskrit devotional chants and mantras by sitar master Deobrat Mishra, son of Pandit Shivnath Mishra, sitar legend from the holy city of Varanasi. In this rare album, Deobrat sings and plays the sitar together. The sweetness of his voice is exquisite. This is a very special album for lovers of kirtan and Indian classical music. Don't miss it!”

— LIGHT OF CONSCIOUSNESS MAGAZINE



YOGA MANTRA
by Deobrat Mishra, Dean Evenson, Prashant Mishra
Publisher: Soundings of the Planet
\$14.98, UPC: 096507723221