

Note from the founders

Jaipur Gunijankhana is an archive dedicated towards the preservation and documentation of Hindustani music. Given the vastness of the North Indian music tradition, we believed that it would be wiser to restrict ourselves to one of the many gharanas (lineages) and try to document the music of that particular lineage. Thus, while we focus on documenting the Jaipur Atrauli tradition, the selection of artists and ragas that belong to the gharana is intentionally loose and it is our attempt to include any music that may have even very remote connections to the tradition.

Our archive was inaugurated on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2018, by senior musician Dr. Arun Dravid, under the mentorship of Pt. Raghunandan Panshikar. We dedicated our first year to Gaansaraswati Kishori Amonkar, who had just passed away a year before. During the year, we hosted several public events that were conducted by Kishoritai's disciples and other music scholars. We also released an audio visual on Kishoritai's life titled 'Gaansaraswati Yashogatha'. The videos of all the public events and the audio visual is available at our archives for all music lovers.

The second year of the archive has been dedicated to Gaantapaswini Mogubai Kurdikar. Following a similar format as the first year, we started the year with an audio-visual titled 'Gaantapaswini Chi Tapogatha'. We also hosted several events as a tribute to Smt. Mogubai Kurdikar.

We are glad to share that in the past year, our support has grown manifold. Several music lovers have donated archival material such as LP's, cassettes and MP3 tracks of audio recordings. Many students have shown interest in volunteering and have contributed to various initiative at the archive. We have hired Mr. Sreyash Depolkar as an administrative assistant who is available at the archives from Monday to Friday from 10am to 1 pm.

We are confident that with continued support we hope that Jaipur Gunijankhana will grow into a space that fosters the growth of arts, artists and music lovers!

Dr. Radhika Joshi

Dr. Veena Joshi

#### Annual Report (2019-2020)

#### Gaantapaswini Chi Tapogatha

First event of the year was the release of 'Gaantapaswini Chi Tapogatha', a 40-minute audio visual film that traces Gaantapaswini Mogubai Kurdikar's musical journey. The content used in the film was put together using the audio recordings, books and photographs available at the Jaipur Gunijankhana archive. We were honoured to have Shri. Vinay Dhumale a renowned personality in film and media industry to Jaipur Gunijankhana to



Pt. Raghunandan Panshikar. Shri. Vinay Dhumale and Vid. Padma Talwalkar reminiscing about their experiences with Gaantapaswini Mogubai Kurdikar.

inaugurate the film. During the inauguration, Vinay ji spoke about his own experiences of shooting a film he had made on Smt. Mugubai Kurdikar and how that had allowed him to work very closely with Mai (as Mogubai ji was fondly known as). These associations left a profound impact on his life, both on an emotional aspect as well as on his career. Vinayji has graciously donated a copy of his film 'Gaan Tapaswini' to Jaipur Gunijankhana and this film is now available to all music lovers to

the archive. Other dignitaries present during the inauguration were Vid. Padma Talwalkar and Pt. Raghunandan Panshikar who both spoke about their experiences with Mai . During the inauguration, we also had an exhibit that gave the audience a chance to read about various aspects of Mai's life. Recognising that most in today's generation would not have had a chance to see Mogubai ji in person, or may not have even heard much about her, we created a visual exhibit to allow readers to learn more about her. The exhibits consisted of a timeline of Mai's musical journey, quotes on her gayaki by eminent musicians such as Ustad Amir Khan and Vidushi Hirabai Badodekar, and some memories from her disciples.



Visitors reading about Vid.Mogubai Kurdikar's life and musical journey

# Smt. Sulabha Pishvikar: Mai'n chi taleem

Our first guest artist of the year was Smt. Sulabha Pishvikar, disciple of the legendary Smt. Mogubai Kurdikar. In addition to presenting some of the ragas that Mai had taught her, Sulabha Tai shared a few memories through an engaging discussion with vocalist Smt. Madhuvanti Deo. Sulabha Tai was accompanied by Shri. Pranav Gurav on the Tabla and Shri. Leeladhar Chakradeo on the Harmonium.



The event brought together not only music lovers but also some of Kishoritai's senior disciples including Vid. Meera Panshikar, Vid. Nandini Bedekar and Vid. Maya Upadhyay, who have all had the fortune of learning from Mai as well. Also present were Mai's grandson (Vibhas Amonkar), his wife (Bharati Amonkar) and great-grand daughter (Tejashree Amonkar).



L to R: Smt. Nandini Bedekar, Tejashree Amonkar, Smt. Meera Panshikar, Smt.Bharati Amonkar, Shri. Vibhas Amonkar, Smt. Maya Upadhyay, Smt. Sardeshmukh.

## Listening session by Dr. Suresh Chandvankar

It is due to the tireless work of many record collectors that we are able to listen to artists from yesteryears just at the click of our fingertips. We invited Dr. Suresh Chandavkar from the Society of Indian Record Collectors to share with us his experiences of cataloguing these

records. In this very engaging session, Dr. Chandanvkar shared many anecdotes of how artists had to be convinced to record. Once the music was recorded, the tapes had to be sent to London to be processed. Although when released the records were priced exorbitantly high, often a few years later they were found to be sold in the most nondescripts places for a pittance.

From his collection, Dr. Chandvankar also played some rare recordings of Smt. Mogubai Kurdikar, her contemporary Smt. Kesarbai Kerkar and her daughter Smt. Kishori Amonkar and provided very interesting anecdotes on the context behind the recordings and the challenges the artists faced then.



## Glimpses of Gaantapaswini's Gayaki: A session by Dr. Arun Dravid

As one of Kishoritai's oldest disciples, Dr. Arun Dravid also had a long association with Mai. Not only did he benefit from her taleem, but he also had the privilege of having long discussion on music with her. In this session at Jaipur Gunijankhana, Dr. Dravid performed Raga Shuddha Nat in Vilambit Ada Choutaal (a taal that Mai often sang in but is rarely heard today). One of the most interesting parts of the evening was a series of letters that Arunji read out to the audience between B.V. Keskar (broadcasting minister) and Vid. Mogubai Kurdikar. The dialogues through the letters not only allowed the audience a peep into Mai's personality, but also enabled the listeners to appreciate her principles and beliefs to which she remained true throughout her life.



Dr. Arun Dravid conducting a session at Jaipur Gunijankhana

#### Workshops at Jaipur Gunijankhana

Given the large interest amongst students to learn Bandishes (compositions) that are commonly sung in the Jaipur-Atrauli tradition, we organised a workshop by veteran singer Pt. Dinakar Panshikar. Over the four sessions spread over two days, Dinkar Ji taught compositions in several rare ragas including Maalavi, Virat Bhairav, Ambika Sarang, Bahaduri Todi and many others. While some of the compositions he taught were traditional, others had been composed by his Guru Pt. Nivruttibua Sarnaik as well as himself! Panditji was ably accompanied on the table by Shri. Arvind Kadgaonkar. The workshop was attended by several contemporary musicians such as Smt. Meera Panshikar, Smt. Dhanashree Katdhare Ghate, Pradnya Deo, Achintya Prahlad, Nishad Matange, Radhika Joshi, Rasika Kulkarni-Karmalekar, Apoorva Deshpande, Rohit Marathe and Smt. Nandini Bedekar.



# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

# INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR 2019-2020

EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT	INCOME	AMOUNT
Salary	Rs. 114,000	Donor passes	Rs. 7,000
Video Editing	Rs.8,000	Workshop Fees	Rs.30,000
Artist Remuneration	Rs.40,000	Donations	Rs. 200,000
Sound System	Rs. 5000		
Exhibit Charges	Rs. 10,000		
Maintenance Charges	Rs.24,000		