



PANDIT VISHWA MOHAN BHATT

Creator of the MOHAN VEENA and the winner of the GRAMMY AWARD, Pandit Vishwa Mohan Bhatt has mesmerized the world with his pristine pure, delicate yet fiery music. Pandit Vishwa Mohan Bhatt developed and named this hybrid slide guitar and has established it at the top most level in the mainstream of Indian Classical Music.

Being the foremost disciple of Pandit Ravi Shankar, Pandit Vishwa Mohan Bhatt belongs to that elite body of musicians which traces its origin to the Moghal emperor Akbar's court musician Tansen and his guru the Hindu Mystic Swami Haridas.

Pandit Vishwa Mohan Bhatt has attracted international attention by his successful indianisation of the western Hawaiian guitar with his perfect assimilation of sitar, sarod and veena techniques, by giving it an evolutionary design and shape and by adding 14 more strings. Pandit Bhatt is undoubtedly one of the most expressive, versatile and greatest slide players in the world.

Outstanding features of Pandit Vishwa Mohan Bhatt's style are his natural ability to play the 'Tantrakari Ang' and incorporate the 'Gayaki Ang' on Mohan Veena which is the greatest advantage of this instrument over traditional Indian instruments like sitar, sarod and veena.

Pandit Vishwa Mohan Bhatt with his sheer virtuosity and limitless supply of melodies won the highest music award of the world, the GRAMMY AWARD IN 1994 along with Ry Cooder for their World Music Album, 'A MEETING BY THE RIVER' enhancing his celebrity status not only as a star performer but also as an improviser and a soulful composer. He is also known for other fusion and pan-cultural collaborations with Western artists such as Taj Mahal, Bela Fleck and Jerry Douglas. Exposure such as an appearance on the 2004 Crossroads Guitar Festival, organized by Eric Clapton, allows his playing to reach a larger audience. He was also awarded the Sangeet Natak Academy Award in 1998 and the Padma Shri in 2002.

Pandit Vishwa Mohan Bhatt has performed extensively in the USA, USSR, Canada, the Great Britain, Germany, Spain, France, Italy, Netherlands, Belgium, Scotland, Switzerland, Denmark, Dubai, Sharjah, Bahrain, Muscat, Abu Dhabi etc. and throughout India. Pandit Vishwa Mohan Bhatt has become the cultural ambassador of India by carrying the Herculean task of glorifying and popularizing Indian culture and music throughout the world.

He mesmerized the audience at NIT Rourkela on the opening day of SPIC MACAY's State Convention 2014 on 24th January, 2014.