



The Achiever's Program in Indian Popular Singing

Course Details

Level One: Rudiments and Core Voice Training:

Swars 1: 25 hours – 4 weeks

- Understanding the vocal instrument
- Speech and Singing
- Correct pitching techniques
- Relative pitching method
- Singing in true voice
- Singing vowels and consonants (Morphing Technique)
- Singing and Resonance – Level 1
- Octaves and related methods
- Singing low notes (Kharaj) – developing a good natural body of voice

Melodic embellishments: 25 hours – 4 weeks

- Meend – the gliding (vocal portamento) sound used to accentuate a particular musical expression
- Kan Swar – Grace notes used to create a unique effect while composing a melody.
- Murki – sharp decorative melodic curves or phrase created to bring about a uniqueness to a word in a composition

- Khatka - A short, one note – one beat modulation
- Taans – A rhythmic melodic line set on faster tempi; can be a part of the main melody or added for decoration.

Rhythm: 18 hours – 3 weeks

- Understanding time signatures
- Constructing Rhythm patterns and variations
- World rhythm styles and application
- Layakari – Rhythmic improvisations of simple melodies

Swars 2: 30 hours – 5 weeks

- Singing and Resonance – Level 2
- Singing melodies with large note intervals
- Singing melodies with difficult note arrangements
- Singing high notes
- Vibrato vs. Steady Voice

Voice Modulation and Musical Expression: 20 hours – 3 weeks

- Understanding poetry and diction
- Creative use of vibrato
- Use of decorative elements in melodies
- Special voice-throw techniques
- Music and Drama

Ear Training: throughout

- Train ears for better pitch recognition
- Develop better grasping power to understand the melodic and rhythmic elements and reproduce a composer's melody with confidence and conviction

Harmony: 10 hours – 2 weeks

- Triads and singing harmonic lines

Part one can be completed in 5 months of regular study

- 2 weeks vacation -

Level Two: Scales, Songs and Genres – 50 hours – 2 months

- Major, Minor and Pentatonic Scales; Songs and scales, Scales vs. Raags
- Understanding scales and identifying the main features of a song / melody.
- Exploring various genres of Indian Music and singing songs of these genres.

Part two can be completed in 2 months of regular study

Taans Advanced – 24 hours – 1 month (Optional)

The student will be taking up the course study sequentially i.e., 'Level by Level' and 'module by module'. So it is important to complete Swar 1 before taking up Swar 3 and so on... The student is also required to take up an internal assessment per module with the faculty to ascertain if the skills set out in the module are achieved by the student satisfactorily. This also confirms that the student has enough readiness to take on the next module/challenge. Once a student completes a module, he is given link to the next module.

- 1 week break for warming up -

Level Three: Recording an Original Song

- The student will record an original song produced by SwarGram. The song will be promoted online and even put in online stores.

1 Week = 6 hours of study