



NCPA presents *Music Mirror—Documentaries on Music and Musicians*

The new series kicks off with a documentary film on the legendary vocalist Pandit Mallikarjun Mansur on May 14, 2010, at NCPA

Media Release

For Immediate Release

Mumbai, May xyz, 2010: The National Centre for the Performing Arts, India's premier arts and culture institution, presents **Music Mirror—Documentary Films on Music**, a new offering from the Indian Music vertical of the NCPA. This series of documentary films on the lives of great musicians, their art, musical instruments and other related topics begins this month with a sonorously musical film on celebrated vocalist Pandit Mallikarjun Mansur on **14th May, 2010, at Dance Theatre Godrej at 6 30pm**. The documentary is made by the Films Division and directed by Prajna Parimita Parasher, on the life and music of Pandit Mansur, whose birth centenary is being celebrated this year.

Dr. Suvarnalata Rao – Head Programming (Indian Music), NCPA says, "A trained ear can understand sounds but, for the uninitiated, a visual provides a context from various disciplines which helps those who want to be included and deepen their understanding of music. The film on Mallikarjun Mansur is accompanied by minimal narrative and mostly shows his singing. This helps create an imagery of his music and influences. To see and hear at the same time enhances experience and improves your comprehension and recognition."

The NCPA is dedicated to educating the audiences and providing access to interested individuals through such documentary films.

The world of music is essentially inhabited by sounds, which by nature are abstract. Nonetheless, drawing inspiration from the art itself, practitioners of other art forms, especially filmmakers, have attempted to transfer some of the magic of music on to the screen to give it a tangible form. Although dramatised, documentaries lend visual perspective and socio-cultural context to the otherwise abstract aural experience.

The films, to be programmed over the coming months, cover various themes and personalities such as Allauddin Khan, Ali Akbar Khan, rhythms of India and folk music of India. "We are especially sourcing films on those artistes who are no more, and films related to all genres of music, not just Indian classical," adds Dr. Rao.

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About the NCPA:

Inaugurated in 1969, the National Centre for the Performing Arts, Mumbai, exists to provide leadership on a national level as India's premier performing arts, research and training centre through the presentation of Indian and international art forms, the promotion of excellence and the preservation of Indian & International cultural heritage.

For further information please log on to www.ncpamumbai.com

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