

Prattyush Banerjee is a unique twenty-first century musician who has been successfully multi-tasking as performer, music arranger, composer, researcher and instrument designer. He has been living up to his name, which means “dawn” in India. His activities always have fresh directions with a stamp of originality. He is “taking **sarode** playing to the next level”, and has modified this instrument to a great extent. He has also created its first electronic version, the ***jyotidhwani*** and is currently working on a new instrument, called the ***edorsa***.

Born in Kolkata in 1969, Prattyush is a worthy torchbearer of the *Senia-Shahjahanpur gharana* of *sarode* made famous by the great *Ustads*, Abdullah Khan, Md. Ameer Khan and *Sangeetacharya* Radhika Mohan Maitra. He was initiated to the art of *sarode* playing at the tender age of 8 by his engineer father, **Late Prasun Kumar Banerjee**, who was also a well-known connoisseur and patron of music. Later, he trained under **Shri Samarendra Sikdar**, an eminent disciple of Radhika Mohan. Subsequently, for almost thirty years now, he has been under the coveted tutelage of the internationally celebrated doyen of the *gharana*, **Pandit Buddhadev Das Gupta**.

Prattyush’s individualistic approach of playing is marked by solid technique and a rare musical sensibility evolved through constant experimentation of absorbing various elements from different genres of music. Among many other developments, he is the first to play the complex *tappa* style of singing on the *sarode*. He is also a keen student of western music and plays the piano.

Prattyush has been performing in public since he was eleven, and has featured at major music festivals throughout India like, the Vishnu Digambar Jayanti Samaroh and ITC Music Conference, New Delhi; Tansen Sangeet Samaroh, Gwalior; Sangeet Natak Academy, Patna; Bhatkhande Sangeet Samaroh, Mumbai; Sursagar in Bangalore, Komal Nishaad in Baroda and numerous concerts in Kolkata including, the Salt Lake City Festival, Ramakrishna Mission Institute, Dakshinee Conference and the West Bengal State Music Academy Festival among others. Abroad, he has played at the Bach Festival, Belgium; Tropentheater, Amsterdam and the Creations India Concert in Toronto among others. He has a solo album and a newly released duet CD titled, ***“Gitanjali”*** with the eminent recitation artiste, Bratati Bandyopadhyay.

He has been very successful as a recording musician-composer and has arranged music for forty Bangla and Hindi albums till date. With *jyotidhwani*, he is a highly sought after fusion performer as well and has performed with Pete Lockett, Bickram Ghosh and Tanmoy Bose.

He was attached as a research consultant with the ITC Sangeet Research Academy and has published many articles on music.

He has been honoured with the Ranadhir Roy Smriti Samman and the Outstanding Young Person of the Year Award in 2003 and the Pabitra Dasgupta Memorial Award in 2007.