



*Presents*

# **SANGEET SANDHYA**

*With the world famous singers from Bombay*

*To celebrate BEHT's work in the field of  
Health and Education*

*on*

*Friday 11th October 2019*

*Time: 7.45 to 11.15pm*

*(Doors Open 7.00pm)*



*Ashit Desai*



*Hema Desai*

*Venue: Avanti House School -*

*Wemborough Road, Stanmore HA7 2EQ*

*(Wheelchair friendly & plenty of parking available)*

*Tickets @£15 including light refreshments at break*

*Book your tickets well in advance to avoid disappointment*

*To book your tickets please contact*

*Jyoti: 07939 904414 or 020 8952 5965*

*Meena: 07837 907032 Mira: 07904 437995*

*Prafula (Bena): 07534 094050*

*By e-mail: [info@beht.org](mailto:info@beht.org) [www.beht.org](http://www.beht.org)*

*Artist Information overleaf*

## Ashit Desai - Artistic Director

Few individuals come to their craft with such aplomb and ease as does Ashit Desai to music. With a rare gift that transcends genres, he has cultivated a movement for good music. His repertoire belies his roots and in his rich baritone voice he sings for both audiences as well as recordings.



His association with the legendary Sitar Maestro, the late Pandit Ravi Shankar, is one of the most inspiring phases of his career. In 1982, Ashit was awarded the coveted Asiad Jyoti Medal by the President of India for his music for the Asiad Games in Delhi. Ashit also received many accolades for his rendition of 'Vaishnav Jana to' in Richard Attenborough's 'Gandhi'.

In 1988, he conducted Pandit Ravi Shankar's orchestral compositions at the closing ceremony of the Festival of India in Moscow. These and other honours sit lightly on Ashit Desai's shoulders. In his restless quest for musical excellence, he has his moorings firmly in tradition, but he revels in experimenting and extending the boundaries of creativity.

'Taraana - the Indian Choir' is one such creative quest that has taken shape within Ashit, who is eager to bring his idea of orchestral work combining Indian melody and Western harmony, into voices with rich instrumental support.

## Hema Desai - Singer & Conductor

Hema Desai's singing career reads like an anthology of good music. Having studied music from S.N.D.T. University, Bhavnagar, she gained a Sangeet Visharad Diploma with a gold medal and a Master's Degree in Gujarati Literature. She took her formal classical training from the renowned Vitthaladas Bapodra and Rasiklal Andharia. Her study of both music and literature is reflected in the intensity with which she renders devotional, folk and ghazals.



In the world of musical ballets, she has sung for 'Gopal Krishna', 'Punya Tirth', 'Panchamahabhoota', 'Jeevan Swapna' and 'Shachi Paulomi'.

For Gujarati television serials, she has led with her voice in Surajmukhi; Shamaana; 'Saat Pagla Akashmaa'; 'Shachi Paulomi'; 'Khel'; 'Saptarangi'; 'Amas na Tara' and 'Shraddha'.

In keeping pace with Hindi and Marathi serials, she has left her indelible mark on 'Chaturai', 'Chanakya', 'Mrityunjay', 'Maa', 'Hijarat' and many more. Her album recordings are simply too many to mention here, but a few notable ones include 'Bhakti Sagar', 'Taazgi', 'Lagna Geeto', 'Madhuvan', 'Megh Malhar', 'Namostute', 'Alakh no naad', 'Jai Jai Shreenathji', 'Aadya Shakti', 'Garba na taale' that have gone onto to become bestsellers.

Her dual role as a vocalist and as conductor of 'Taraana' adds another feather in the cap of Hema Desai, whose choir rises to the occasion every time.