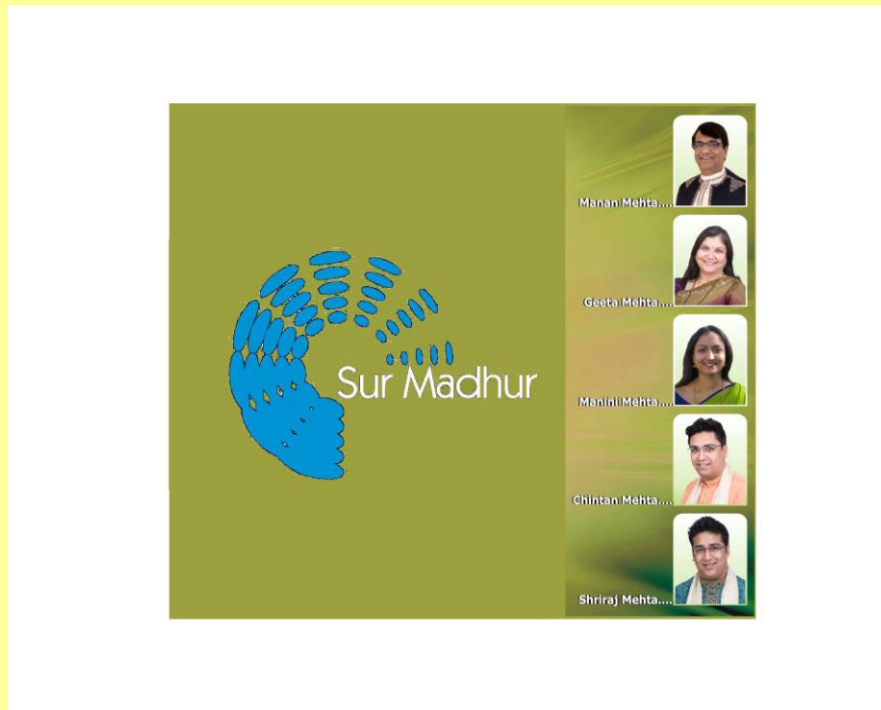




Ananda Sandhya

July 10, 2009 at 8:00 PM

Artists of the month: Sur Madhur



“Experience a Musical Journey”

Sur Madhur is a unique music group dedicated to preserving our rich Indian musical heritage. Based in Allentown, PA and serving communities all over USA, all five members of Sur Madhur are from the same family. The parents were born and musically trained in India while the three children were born and trained in USA. They perform Bhajans, light music, ghazals, light classical music, film songs, folk music, Raas Garba and Bhangra dance music, as well as East-West fusion and meditation music. In an effort to pass on our rich music culture to the next generation, Sur Madhur also has a music school named Sur Madhur Music Academy to teach vocal and instrumental music.

Geeta Mehta is the lead singer of the group. She has a silky voice with resounding timber, and she sings with deep devotion and emotion which touches the hearts of all listeners. She was an accomplished radio and TV artist, performing on All India Radio and Durdarshan. She has also performed as the lead singer for the prestigious music group, Visarata Sur, in Gujarat. She has won numerous prizes in music competitions in India and USA.

Manan Mehta is an accomplished tabla player with a Tabla Visharad music degree from Bhatkhande Music Institute in Mumbai and learned tabla from Pt. Vinayak Rao Ingle, a foremost disciple of world renowned Ustad Allah Rakha Khan of the Punjab Gharana. He has accompanied many prominent International Indian artists for classical concerts including Pt. Tarun Bhattacharya, Pt. Vasant Rai, Pt. Damodar Shastriji, Pt. Mukesh Desai, and Trupti Mukherji, as well as light music artists such as Manhar Udas, Amar Bhatt, Ras Bihari Desai, Kaumudini Munshi, and the legendary film playback singer Jagmohan. He teaches tabla at the music school.

Chintan Mehta composes, writes, and performs Indian Bhajans, Ghazals, Folk Music and Western Music. He has a soothing and versatile voice, and can render a variety styles of music with equal ease. Chintan is an accomplished harmonium, guitar, and keyboard performer and teaches at the music school to students of all ages. He is also a music producer, director, and recording artist who produces music recordings for adults and children alike.

Manini Mehta composes, writes and performs songs in English, set to a fusion style (Indian and Western). Blessed with a beautifully rich voice, Manini is equally comfortable with singing traditional Indian music. She has performed in Western classical concerts with the Naples Philharmonic. She has also recorded her voice with the well known flutist Ronu Mazumdar.

Shriraj Mehta is a young and upcoming artist. Shriraj began receiving his musical training at the age of 3. He is classical trained in tabla by his father, Manan Mehta and has received further training from Pt. Divyang Vakil. Shriraj also plays various percussion instruments including the dhol, and plays in concerts all over USA with well known artists well such as Praful Dave and Purshottam Upadhyay. Shriraj (Shri) is also an extremely talented singer. He possesses a mellifluous voice and sings Indian music of all genres including Bhajans, Ghazals, and Folk Music with utmost ease in an extraordinarily unique and creative style. Shri is an excellent Music Director, Producer, and Recording Artist as well.

This unique music group will present **devotional songs** for our community at

ANANDA MANDIR

Please come and enjoy the evening. As always, the concert is a community service for you provided by the cultural wing of Ananda Mandir, and it is free. However, your kind donation for the temple is always graciously accepted.

For more information, please call Arun Bhowmik at 908-672-1452