Performances worldwide

Sri Chinmoy has offered concerts and pipe organ performances in over sixty countries: from New York’s prestigious Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center and the Sydney Opera House to colossal sports halls in Russia and Europe to China’s Great Wall, from the United Nations to Presidential Palaces, from the Carrousel du Louvre to The Vatican. International airlines also feature his music in their in-flight programming. These multiple performances reflect Sri Chinmoy’s aspiration to serve people from all walks of life, faiths and nations through his vision of a one world family. Selecting from his many compositions, Sri Chinmoy performs on his principle instruments — the flute, esraj, cello and harmonium — as well as on a wide variety of Eastern and Western woodwind, string, percussion and keyboard instruments. Some years ago he began infusing his concerts with the power and grandeur of piano and pipe organ improvisations that represent a most radical and far-reaching revolution in contemporary music. He now has added virtuoso violin and esraj improvisations to this standard repertoire. To date, he has produced 200 recordings on cassette tapes and CDs.

WORLDWIDE CONCERTS
Sydney Opera House
Sydney, Australia
Palais des Congres
Montreal, Canada
House of Parliament
Ottawa, Canada
The Great Wall of China
Beijing, China
Sportvastadion Rialto Sparta
Praque, Czech Republic
Royal Albert Hall
London, England
Edific Towar
Paris, France
The Carrousel du Louvre
Paris, France
le Zenith
Paris, France
Sporthalle
Olpe, Germany
Nippon Budokan
Tokyo, Japan
State Central ‘Russia” Hall
Moscow, Russia
Nippon Budokan
Tokyo, Japan
Sporthalle
Berlin, Germany
Le Zenith
Paris, France
The Carrousel du Louvre
Paris, France
Royal Albert Hall
London, England

HEADS OF STATE PERFORMANCES
President Mikhail Gorbachev of the Soviet Union and Jane Henson of Goebrecht
UN Secretary-General
Javier Perez de Cuellar
and Prime Minister of Peru
President Navarro Logan
of Yemen
President Mary Robinson
of Ireland and UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
President R. J. Rabbit
of Iceland
President Voltaire Bavel
of the Czech Republic
President Boris Trojakowski
and President Miroslav (former)
of Slovenia
Prime Minister Ahmad Shahid
of Afghanistan
President Lenthe Telle
of Norway
Secretary 1 Hikma-Yunyt
of Lebanon
President Jorge Eluca
of Paraguay
President Michel Kacou
of Ivory Coast
President R. Prendu
of St. Lucia
Prime Minister Nari Alkatiri
of East Timor
Deputy President Jacob Zuma
of The African National Congress
King Sandowak Palawanov
of Muscat, Oman
King Fahdik Paka Slam IX
of Peace, Indonesia
Eight Kings of Indonesia
King Tumpa Jai-Nisie Nukulun
of Malaysia
King Tumpa Haiq Ahmad Shah
of Malaysia
President J. Karchyjovski
of Former Yugoslavia
President Goodwill Ekpli
of the Zulu Nation

SACRED SITES
Viharn Sieni Siheyo
London, England
St. David’s Chaple, Cardiff
Windsor Castle
London, England
St George’s Chapel
Copenhagen,
Denmark
Cathedral of St. John
Washington, DC, USA
United Nations
Washington, DC, USA
Sorbonne University
Paris, France
Cambridge University
Cambridge, England
Oxford University
Oxford, England
McGill University
Montreal, Canada
University of Sydney
Sydney, Australia
University of Nevada
Las Vegas, USA
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, USA
Howard University
Washington, DC, USA
The University of Tokyo
Tokyo, Japan
Sapporo University
Sapporo, Japan
Japan
University of Tokyo
Tokyo, Japan
Shintomi University
Tokyo, Japan
Stockholm University
Stockholm, Sweden

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SRI CHINMONEY’S TAPES AND CDs
Aum Publications or Heart-Light Distributors 363-10 Parisien Blvd. Jamaica, NY 11432 USA: 1-800-739-2885
Blue Ocean Books / 84 Courland Road Oxford (USA 4) 14974
RUBIN 01465-995563
The Golden Shore / Gladesworthy St. D0 06129 Norwich, GB. 01603 18 00 65
Wisconsin Delphi / 87 Peregrine Full Company, (USA 4) 4157 MEXICO 0735907.

Piano
The Budokan
Tokyo, Japan
March 10, 1992
Audience of 12,000

Pipe Organ
Royal Albert Hall
London, England
May 27, 1997

the music of maestro
Sri Chinmoy
Music transcends the barriers of nations, nationalities and religions. It is through music that the universal feeling of oneness can be achieved in the twinkling of an eye.

—SRI CHINMoy

Maestro Sri Chinmoy is a foremost authority on the esraj, a North Indian classical instrument. His performance style draws forth the esraj’s innate expressive intensity and haunting modal tonality. It has four main playing strings that are bowed and 20 sympathetic strings that vibrate between modern major intervals and exotic, and contemporary, East and West, alternating between major intervals and exotic, modal contours spanning two octaves. The lyrical beauty, charm and haunting qualities of his music leave a lingering resonance in the listener’s heart long after the concert ends.

Setting his own words to music rapidly and spontaneously, Sri Chinmoy composes dozens of songs in a single session — from two lines to nearly two hundred lines — using his native Bengali notation. Yet he also composes with great care and attention to nuance and articulation of specific vocal slides that seem to pull directly from the heart strings with thrilling intensity. These add overall richness, subtlety and specific attributes to each song.

COMPOSITIONAL OUTPOURING
Since 1964 Sri Chinmoy has steadily increased his compositional outpouring decade by decade, composing on average 500 songs per year. In 1995, he composed nearly 5,000 songs in a single year, his most to date.

TRIBUTE SONGS
A number of these compositions are tribute songs dedicated to world luminaries that have been performed specially for them during concerts and in private meetings by the Sri Chinmoy International Choral. Such world figures include President Mikhail Gorbatchev, President Nelson Mandela, UN Secretaries, General Kurt Waldheim, Kofi Annan, Perez de Guiller and Mother Teresa, music greats Ravi Shankar, Paul Bibe, Leonard Bernstein, Yehudi Menuhin, Roberta Flack, Sting, Quincy Jones and Narada Michael Walden, cultural greats, Jane Goodall, Roy Kennedy, Peter Max, and sports greats Mohammad Ali, Billie Jean King, Carl Lewis, Bill Pearl and Frank Zane.

Sri Chinmoy has also composed songs for international events, such as the American Bicentennial celebration and the 1994 World Decaf Cup in the Czech Republic, the Olympics and World Masters Games. His extensive travels have taken him to many countries of the world, and he has composed 200 songs celebrating the listener’s heart long after the concert ends.

Sri Chinmoy is a miraculous model of the abundance to the creative life, and I can only hope that I may someday participate in that cosmic fountain of stillness and profound energy which he embodies. (15 October 1977) What power is in this man’s music? It’s incredible. Sri Chinmoy writes a counterpoint like Bach. Every phrase goes with every other phrase. My musical spirit is very, very deeply impressed. (1 March 1979)

Your life has been a continuous flow of living inspiration and dedication to the triumph of the human. (16 July 1996) I hope the great artist you are involving will carry your message of harmony to all those who may listen and see I cannot but subscribe to your highest wishes. (15 August 1996)

Sri Chinmoy’s songs are outstanding. Even if you don’t understand the Bengali words, you understand what it means. His organ improvisations are so elemental, but so organized, and the piano is very rich, full of imagination. (19 November 1991)

It is a great thing that you have inspired so many people by composing thousands of wonderful songs. (26 July 1995)

Your heart and soul’s music is not only the inner truth and outer feast, but a fulfillment divine for Eternity. (15 April 1987)

This is the most powerful and soul-stirring music I have ever heard. It has entered right inside me and left me feeling totally purified. (13 April 1987)

Music of the Heart and Soul
In an essay that has spanned four decades, Sri Chinmoy has composed a monumental total of 15,000 songs in his native Bengali and 7,000 in English — many hauntingly prayerful, others powerfully dynamic. Both simple and subtle, his compositions involve an atmosphere of unique serenity. The essence of ancient Indian ragas — infinitely intricate, non-harmonic melodies and rhythms — are conveyed in a single melody line easily accessible to the modern ear. Ragas, a word rich in connotations, essentially means ‘innovation’, or the invoking of a particular mood. In Sri Chinmoy’s case, these moods express the vast reaches of the aspiring human heart and soul that seemingly have no end. Each line, or stanza means ‘that which shines by itself’, and his melodies draw forth the unique colouring of each note in a succession of soulful, luminous involutions of great depth.

Sri Chinmoy adheres to the traditional purity of the chant without harmonic embellishment or orchestral complexity, thus maintaining an unaltered style of simplicity and authenticity. Possessed of an acrid rhythmic sense, his compositions can be both full of precise, lively timings or drawn out to a near droneing pace. Each song is an unusual blend of the ancient and contemporary, East and West, alternating between modal intervals and exotic, modern modal contours spanning two octaves. The lyrical beauty, charm and haunting qualities of his music leave a lingering resonance in the listener’s heart long after the concert ends.

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Some of the most inspired music I've heard from a solo performer — classical, pop or otherwise.

NEW YORK, CUE MAGAZINE / NY, NY, USA.

Sri Chinmoy's pipe organ improvisations will prove to be one of the most powerful, ecstatic and spiritually uplifting performances anyone is ever likely to encounter. Adventurous listeners who are insatiably quiet and fully present will discover the music of genius.

PULSE MAGAZINE / I.S.A.

The crowd had come not only for the music, but also for what was between the compositions, the inner serenity that the sounds only serve to prolong.

LE MONDE / PARIS, FRANCE.

More than 10,000 wanted to hear the Concert given by Sri Chinmoy, but only 8000 found seats.

EXPRESS / COPENHAGEN, DENMARK.

Sri Chinmoy himself performed one haunting number on the erop, and a lovely, very modern flute enay pretty enough to make a deer lay its head in the musician's lap.

WASHINGTON POST / WASHINGTON, DC, USA.

This was an evening for silent meditations and for haunting tunes, played on Indian flute, erop and other instruments, and to the crisp evening air by Sri Chinmoy.

LOS ANGELES TIMES / LOS ANGELES, CA, USA.

Sri Chinmoy's sublime spiritual matter reveals through music the infinite vastness of the universe as an intimate sanctuary of the soul. It is a living counter-melody to the immortal soundsound world which resides within us all.

FREE SPIRIT MAGAZINE / I.S.A.

If you listen to Sri Chinmoy's organ improvisations totally, a desire, hearing, ever-surprising side on a torrent awaits you: mightily, primordial in its power, ecstatic, but utterly simple, refreshingly carefree, reassuring, overwhelming.

ESOTERICA MAGAZINE / GERMANY.

Sri Chinmoy's music can be forceful and intense, and at other times buoyant, naive and light. There's something undeniably uplifting and fascinating, something purely human about the music.

EAR MAGAZINE / USA.

It was clearly not an event to advertise or raise money. Sri Chinmoy's approach was altogether different. He aimed to instill a profound sense of harmony in the hearts of his audience by playing soulful music.

COMMON GROUND / MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA.

What a piano virtuoso Sri Chinmoy is! Listening to his piano piece was a revelation. By turns it was resplendent in a tidal wave of creative energy. It was like a gushing, a primal creation, and then calmed by the noisiness of sunshine bathing a glittering landscape. I sat still, transfixed. And again I was awashed at Sri Chinmoy's incredible range of creative and humanitarian energy.

TICKET / GREATER PHILADELPHIA, PA, USA.

Sri Chinmoy is greatly inspired. His music is more than just music. It definitely touches an inner space.

WON-YU / NEW YORK, NY, USA.

These songs remind us that heavens are inside ourselves. Is this not their essential worth?

The Blue Violin

These songs remind us that heavens are inside ourselves. Is this not their essential worth?

AUBREES MAGAZINE / FRANCE.

This is the story of an astonishing man. He is a man who has more than one string to his bow: he is a musician, he is an Indian man born in Bengal, he is a philosopher and a painter as well.

IVY / FRANCE.

Sri Chinmoy plays some of the most beautiful music I've ever heard in my life, and that's the truth.

WRIGHT / NJ, NY, USA.

Everyone listened in rapt attention, totally absorbed in the music and moved by his performance.

NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO / USA.

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NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO / USA.
SRI CHINMAYO IN CONCERT

In his hope for a one-world family, Sri Chinmoy has offered over 700 concerts at a variety of venues: from Britain’s prestigious Royal Albert Hall to an auditorium on the tiny island of Barunagga in the South Pacific; from symbols of democracy — the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, D. C. and Athens, Greece — to nations where the monarch still plays a pivotal role — Thailand and Nepal.

The concerts have ranged in attendance from the largest of 19,000 in Montreal, Canada, to intimate private concerts for Heads of State and Royalty. Ninety university concert tours have also been held at both public and private institutions, including Harvard, Yale and Princeton in America, Oxford and Cambridge in Great Britain, The Sorbonne in France and Tokyo University in Japan. Sri Chinmoy has performed his prayerful music at some of the world’s great cathedrals and churches — Notre Dame and the Vatican — at the feet of Japan’s Great Buddha Statue at Kamakura and at the famed Buddha Architectural wonder, Borobudur. He has also performed at some of the world’s most moving memorials: Nagasaki and Hiroshima Memorials in Japan.

Sri Chinmoy currently performs his peaceful music on the Flute, violin, cello, and harmonium — adding to these soulful instruments the grandeur of piano and pipe organ improvisations. At the beginning of the new millennium, he added various voices, speech and Chinmoy benga improvisations into his concert programme, and in 2005, performances on the Chinese erhu.

The decade of the 1990’s brought in a new concert format that continues to this day: dedicating multiple concerts to world luminaries and significant anniversaries. In 1995 Sri Chinmoy dedicated an entire series of 50 concerts to the United Nations’ 50th anniversary, and two years later another series of 50 to the 50th anniversary of India’s independence in 1997. For these special anniversary concerts, congratulatory messages sent from heads of state, VIPs and spiritual leaders were read out — including from Great Britain’s Prime Minister John Major and Tony Blair and UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan. A number of other eminent individuals also offered introductions and welcoming remarks at these specially dedicated concerts, such as Goddess Mounamata, daughter of the last British Viceroy of India and the Soviet Union’s great composer, Gennady Starkov.

PERFORMANCES FOR HEADS OF STATE, ROYALTY AND WORLD LUMINARIES

President Mikhail Gorbatchev of the Soviet Union and Supreme Treasurer Gorka.

UN Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar.

President Mary Robinson of Ireland and UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

President Vaclav Havel of the Czech Republic.

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