



Dhanashree Pandit Rai is one of the leading exponents of the Thumri form of music. A graduate of Hindustani Classical Music from the University of Bombay, and visiting faculty at S.N.D.T. University, Mumbai, she trained under the stalwart of the Kirana gharana, Firoz Dastur and Thumri legend Shobha Gurtu. A recipient of several distinguished awards, she has performed extensively in India and abroad, conducting workshops and presenting concerts in Indian Classical Music. Ms. Rai has imparted training in Indian music to several world renowned jazz artists.

Keka Sinha is a distinguished Kathak dancer from Mumbai, India. She is a disciple of Guru Bandana Sen and Reba Vidyarthi, direct disciples of the Late renowned Pandit Shambhu Maharaj of Lucknow gharana. Sinha is the recipient of several distinguished awards. She has performed internationally and in India at prestigious festivals and has conceptualized and choreographed many significant dance ballets. She is also a television artist, serves on the selection committee for the Centre for Cultural Resources & Training, Govt. of India, and imparts training to several aspiring dance artists.



Re-live the splendour of the Nawabs in a unique concert of Thumri & Kathak, tracing the hand in hand journey of two great art forms through time.

Listen to immortal traditional Thumris brought to life in Kathak dance expression, re-creating the glory that was Lucknow in the early to mid-19th century.



Thumri, a light vocal classical music genre in North India, popularly ascribed to the 19th century court of Nawab Wajid Ali Shah of Lucknow, arose as a song accompaniment to Kathak dance. *Kathak*, one of the 8 major classical dance forms of India, is the art of storytelling in dance. It originated as religious storytelling in the temples of India and later gained prominence in the princely courts in mid-19th century.

A program depicting the close interaction between the two art forms, Thumri and Kathak, presented by artists Dhanashree Pandit Rai and Keka Sinha will evoke the court ambience of 19th and early 20th century India in a fully choreographed performance of dance, music, and storytelling.

SACHI extends special thanks and appreciation to the following sponsors: Betty & Bruce Alberts, Neera & Ed Baer, Sheila & Ketan Kothari, Shivi Singh & Prithvi Legha, Vinati Mishra, Gita & Ashok Vaish, and Meena Vashee.

SACHI and the Asian Art Museum present an evening of courtly splendor:

**Music & Dance from the Courts of North India
in a Thumri-Kathak Performance**

by vocalist Dhanashree Pandit Rai and Kathak dancer Keka Sinha

Accompanied by artists Arshad Syed on the tabla and Vivek Datar on the harmonium

Thursday, January 19, 2012

7 – 9 p.m.

**Samsung Hall, Asian Art Museum
200 Larkin Street, San Francisco**

\$75 per person, priority seating **SOLD OUT**

\$50 per person, priority seating

Limited priority seating includes museum admission and Maharaja exhibition viewing.

Rsvp, kalpana@sachi.org; 650.349.1247

\$20 per person, open seating, Asian Art Museum non-members

\$10 per person, open seating, Asian Art Museum members

General seating may be purchased online at www.asianart.org.

For information contact publicprograms@asianart.org; tel 415.581.3660