



KISHORI AMONKAR
Akademi Fellow

Born in 1931 in Mumbai, Shrimati Kishori Amonkar received her training in music from her mother Shrimati Mogubai Kurdikar, an eminent disciple of Ustad Alladiya Khan of the Jaipur gharana. She was also a student of Shri Anwar Hussain Khan.

Gifted with a melodious voice, Shrimati Amonkar is a leading exponent of Khayal and semi-classical forms of Hindustani music, particularly devotional songs. Trained in the rigorous tradition of the Jaipur Atrauli gharana, she has assimilated the best in other gharanas as well to create a style that is grounded in tradition but highly individual in spirit. Kishori Amonkar's music emphasizes expression of emotions coupled with spiritual devotion. This quality of her music, combined with a cerebral approach to the performance of a raga, has gained her a discerning audience in the country.

Shrimati Amonkar has also researched on Indian music and conducted seminars and workshops on the subject. She has performed widely within the country and abroad, and has many records to her credit. A documentary on her musical journey has been made by Doordarshan, Mumbai. She has authored a work in Marathi on Indian classical music, titled *Swarartha Ramani*.

She was bestowed the titles of 'Gaanaraswati' by Sri Shringeri Mutt and 'Aasthaan Vidushi' by Sri Raghavendra Swami Mutt. The universities of Pune and Orissa have conferred the D.Litt on her.

Shrimati Kishori Amonkar has been honoured with the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 1985, the Padma Bhushan in 1987, and the Padma Vibhushan in 2002 for her work in music.

For her contribution to Hindustani vocal music, Shrimati Kishori Amonkar is elected Fellow of Sangeet Natak Akademi.