

**PROJECT: A DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC LINKED TO  
KATHMANDU UNIVERSITY.**

A creation of a Department of Music linked to Kathmandu University will open at the Harsha Narayan Dhaubhadel Shivalaya (Chupin Ghat) in Bhaktapur.

Placed under the direction of Dr. Gert-Matthias Wegner, the purpose of the Department of Music is to :

- Give the musical traditions of Nepal a chance for survival by means of study, practice, documentation, preservation, communication, appreciation.
- Provide the public and private sector with students competent in music studies as well as modern recording media, in order to work in areas concerned with practice, preservation, and presentation of culture, like performance, teaching, research, publication, tourism, media work, cultural politics, international presentation, consultation, etc.;
- Preserve the traditional repertoire and encourage and involve traditional musicians and dancers.

In order to achieve this, the Department of Music has been designed to work in five different areas :

1. Academic course leading to B.A. and M.A.
2. Practical music classes
3. Sound Archive (recording and preservation)
4. Publication and communication (literature, bulletin, master tapes for CDs, documentary films, public concerts)
5. Research

The British Council, the German Academic Service (DAAD) and the School of Asian and African Studies (S.O.A.S) at the University of London have offered to collaborate with the

Department of Music, Kathmandu University, in supporting the academic programme.

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## *Mandala and Landscape*

*edited by*  
**A. W. Macdonald**

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NEPAL / INDIA

## **BARDS OF THE HIMALAYAS**

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*edited by Franck Bernède*

*The art of the bards of the Himalayas in the centre of Indo-Nepalese territory is not recognised for its true worth as far the sound documentation of this sub-continent is concerned. For there is a rich treasure here that can be divided into two main categories : sung epics and ceremonial music. The latter can be described by the generic term "the knowledge of the celestial musicians" and covers a vast repertory of chants of the various divinities, some of which are associated with ritual of possession.*

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Compact disc to appear in Autumn 1997

## **Musiques traditionnelles du Népal : Rituels et divertissements**

*edited by*  
**Sophie Laurent**

**Productions UMMUS de l'Université de Montréal**

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[bedarm@ere.umontreal.ca](mailto:bedarm@ere.umontreal.ca)*

# Himalayan Music

Contents of the enclosed Compact Disc

- [1] *Basanta* (6'28)  
This spring song is sung by a *bhajan* group with harmonium, *tābla*, cymbals and assorted percussion instruments. Recorded by I. Grandin in Kirtipur on February 25, 1986.
- [2] *Basanta* (3'22)  
This spring song is sung by a *bhajan* group with harmonium, *nagarā* (kettledrum), bells and cymbals. Recorded by I. Grandin in Kirtipur on February 17, 1988.
- [3] *Basanta* (2'34)  
This spring song is sung by a *dāphā* group with *khūm* (a large, barrel-shaped drum with tuning-paste on the heads) and cymbals. Recorded by I. Grandin in Kirtipur on January 28, 1988.
- [4] *Basanta* (2'06)  
This spring song is sung by Ram Krishna Duwal. Recorded by I. Grandin in the singer's home in Panga on October 28, 1993.
- [5] *Caryā song 'Raktavarṇa'* (3'55)  
The song is in *rāga Nāt* and *tāla Jati* (extract). It is preceded by a short *ālāp* (*rāg kāyegu*), recorded by A.A. Bake in 1956.
- [6] *Cholti* (0'41)  
Sung by Dev Narayan Maharjan (extract of the *bol* recitation). Recorded by F. Bernède in Kathmandu in August 1995.
- [7] *Cholti* (1'59)  
Played by a *dhimay bājā* group of Kathmandu (Ombahal tol) conducted by Dev Narayan Maharjan (extract). Recorded by F. Bernède in August 1995.
- [8] *Lampvāḥ* (2'52)  
Played by a *dhimay bājā* group of Kathmandu (Ombahal tol), conducted by Dev Narayan Maharjan. Recorded by F. Bernède in Kathmandu in August 1995.
- [9] *Srī Gaṇeś pūjā* (4'13)  
*Mālaśrī* melody sung by a group of *maṅgalinī* auspicious women. Recorded by C. Tingey.
- [10] *Pañca bājā* (4')  
Played by a group of Damāi of Gorkhā. Recorded by C. Tingey.

- [11] *Bhagwatiko laya* (4'46)  
*Nagarā bānā* ensemble of the Manakāmanā temple (Gorkha district). Played by Deviram Pariyar (*rasa*), Nabaraj Pariyar (*nagarā*), Sujan Pariyar (*bijuli-bānā*) and Man Bahadur Pariyar (*kamal*). Recorded by S. Laurent.
- [12] *Mero karma* (5'22)  
Played and sung by Ram Saran Nepali. Recorded by H. Weisethaunet.
- [13] *The butterflies of Jumla* (4'26)  
Played by Ram Saran Nepali. Recorded by H. Weisethaunet.
- [14] *Pho laba ghātu* (4'41)  
(Two song sections). Sung by Klinu villagers conducted by Bhasu Gurung. Recorded by M. Lahtinen and P. Moisala on February 16, 1976.
- [15] *Imitations of bird songs* (0'48)  
Sung by Gyendra Rana Magar. Recorded in Kathmandu by F. Bernède in March 1996. Jungle fowl, partridge, *nyauli* (great Himalayan barbet), *kuturkhe* (blue-throated barbet).
- [16] *Nyauli* (3'36)  
This love song is sung by the Huḍkiya bard Sher Ram at Paparsali (Almora District, U.P. India). Recorded by F. Bernède in February 1989.
- [17] *Ngah drum and voice* (2'26)  
Recording made by B. Pignède in 1958. ("Au pied de l'Annapurna," *Le Chant du Monde*. LD-S- 8245).
- [18] *Dhyāngro drum of jhānkri mediums (Tamang)* (1'20)  
Recorded during the *Janai Purnima* at Patan by C. Jest in 1965. ("Tibet, Nepal, musiques religieuses et profanes. BAM, LD 104, 1966).
- [19] *Hani children's song* (0'21)  
Recorded by P. Bouchery in 1996.
- [20] *Hani children's song* (0'34)  
Recorded by P. Bouchery in 1996.
- [21] *Hani children's song* (0'39)  
Here executed by men's choir. Recorded by P. Bouchery in 1996.
- [22] *Hani laudatory song (Xaba)* (1'48)  
Welcoming song for visitors, improvised text on the most common melodic structure in the Red River region (district of Jianshui, Yuanyang, Jinping). Recorded by P. Bouchery in 1996.
- [23] *Use of a citrus leaf as a wind instrument* (0'19)  
Typical melody of Yuanyang region. Played by a man (extract). Recorded by P. Bouchery in 1996.

[24] *Vegetal trumpet (gubi)* (0'54)  
Melody of Yuanyang region. Played by a woman (extract). Recorded by P. Bouchery in 1996.

[25] *Leaf and gubi. duet* (0'29)  
Played by two women. Recorded by P. Bouchery in 1996.

[26] *Hani love song (atsi)* (0'38)  
Accompanied by the sound of *gubi* (extract). Recorded by P. Bouchery in 1996.

[27] *Hani percussion ensemble* (2'15)  
(Gongs, cymbals, single membrane cylindrical drums). Played by the "pure men" of the village community during the performance of the ritual dance for the celebration of the new year (extract). This piece is accompanied by a dance song (*sokë-so-ae*) borrowing the same melodic and textual structure of the *xaba* type (cf. track 21). Recorded by P. Bouchery in 1996.

Total : (69'50)

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