Sangeet Natak Akademi
National Academy of Music, Dance and Drama
an autonomous body of the Ministry of Culture, Government of India
New Delhi

PRESS RELEASE

Announcement of Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar for the Year 2016
by Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi

The Sangeet Natak Akademi, National Academy of Music, Dance and Drama, the apex body of performing arts in the country in the meeting of its General Council held on 24 May 2017 in Guwahati has unanimously selected 33 eminent artists of India including one joint award who have made a mark as young talents in their respective fields of performing arts for Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar 2016.

The Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar, conferred to artistes below the age of 40 years, was introduced in the year 2006 with the objective of identifying and encouraging outstanding young talents in diverse fields of performing arts and giving them national recognition early in their life, so that they may work with greater commitment and dedication in their chosen fields. The names of the selected artists are as under:

In the field of music, eight recipients of Yuva Puraskar are: Yashasvi Sirpotkar and Koushik Aithal for Hindustani Vocal Music; Yashwant Vaishnav for Hindustani Instrumental Music–Tabla; Abir Hussain for Hindustani Instrumental Music–Sarod; Sri Krishna Mohan & Ram Kumar Mohan - Trichur Brothers (joint award) for Carnatic Vocal Music; Sai Giridhar for Carnatic Instrumental Music–Mridangam; Ashwin Anand for Carnatic Instrumental Music–Veena; and B. Shree Sundar Kumar for Carnatic Instrumental Music–Kanjira.

In the field of dance, eight recipients of Yuva Puraskar are: Jyotsna Jagannathan for Bharatanatyam, Sanjukta Sinha for Kathak Dance; Sanjenbam Karuna Devi for Manipuri Dance; Mruthyunjaya Keshava Prasad for Kuchipudi Dance; Shashwati Garai Ghosh for Odissi Dance; Usharani Baishya for Sattriya Dance; Kalamandalam Rachitha Ravi for Mohiniattam Dance; and Krishnendu K.J. for Other Major Traditional Dance & Dance Theatre - Kutiyattam.

In the field of theatre, eight recipients are: Manish Joshi for Playwriting; Kedar Thakur and Mohit Takalkar for Direction; Neeraj Gupta and Vikrant Sharma for Acting; Soma Das for Mime; Gagan Mishra for Allied Theatre Arts–Lighting; and Jayachandra Varma Rekandar for Other Major Traditions of Theatre – Surabhi Theatre.

Oda Kunwar Chowdhary
21st May 2017

Secretary
Sangeet Natak Akademi
(National Academy of Music, Dance & Drama)
Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India
New Delhi-110 001
In the field of Traditional/Folk/Tribal Music/Dance/Theatre and Puppetry, eight recipients are: Sonia Shirsat for Traditional Music, Goa; Chainis Gill for Folk Music, Punjab; Gurumayum Bisheshwor Sharma for Thang – Ta Manipur; Ch. Ravi Kumar for Traditional Theatre – Oggukatha, Telangana, P. Thilagavathi for Traditional Theatre – Kattaikooththu, Tamil Nadu; Dushyant Kumar Dwivedi for Pandavani, Chhatisgarh; S. Gopi and Rajeev Pulavar for Puppetry.

Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar carries a purse money of Rs 25,000/- (Rupees twenty five thousand only). The Yuva Puraskar will be presented at a special ceremony, by the Chairman, Sangeet Natak Akademi.

Rita Swami Choudhary
Secretary
Sangeet Natak Akademi

For Sangeet Natak Akademi
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