



ASHWINI BHIDE DESHPANDE

Akademi Award: Hindustani Vocal Music

Born on 7 October 1960 in Mumbai, Maharashtra, Shrimati Ashwini Bhide Deshpande received her initial training in music from her mother Shrimati Manik Bhide, and was later groomed under the tutelage of Shri Narayanrao Datar. Shrimati Deshpande also learnt from Shri Ratnakar Pai of Jaipur Atrauli gharana.

An outstanding performer and an A grade artist of All India Radio and Doordarshan, Shrimati Deshpande has performed in most of the prestigious music festivals in India and abroad. She has issued a large number of CDs under well-known labels. Besides Khayals, Thumri-Dadra, Bhajans and Abhangs, her recordings include talks on music, lecture-demonstrations, and recitations of Sanskrit stotras. She has published a book titled *Ragarachananjali* of her self-composed bandishes in two volumes. As a teacher of vocal music, she has trained many students.

Shrimati Ashwini Bhide Deshpande is the recipient of several honours for her work, including the Pandit Jasraj Puraskar, and the Raashtriya Kumar Gandharva Samman (2005); the Sahyadri Swar Ratna Puraskar (2010); the Maharashtra Rajya Sanskritik Puraskar (2011); the Pandit Mallikarjun Mansur Award (2013); the Gangubai Hangal Puraskar (2014); and the Gaantapaswini Mogubai Kurdikar Samman (2015).

Shrimati Ashwini Bhide Deshpande receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for 2014 for her contribution to Hindustani music.