



Guitar wizard **PANDIT DEBASHISH BHATTACHARYA** is a legend of slide guitar. From the age of four, a child's fancy with a Hawaiian guitar evolved into creating new guitars and his unique playing style has mesmerized audiences and connoisseurs for over 4 decades.

Debashish continues the lineage of his Gurus, Pandit Brij Bhushan Kabra, Pandit Ajoy Chakrabarty and Late Ustad Ali Akbar Khan in performance and inspiration.

He has been featured in Billboard Top 10, Songlines Magazine Top 10, Central Asia and Asia Pacific World Music Top 10, Amazon Top 100 albums, National Geography and world's who's who enlisted artist. He won the 2016 Songlines Music Award and is a 2002 and 2009 Grammy Nominee, 2007 BBC Planet Award, 2005 Asiatic Society Gold Medal, 1984 President of India Gold Medal.

Pandit Debashish Bhattacharya's composed numerous world music collaborations and cross-cultural bridges. This approach has attracted global legends like **American Dobro Guitarists 12 times Grammy winner Jerry Douglas, African Kora Legend Ballake Sissoko, Jazz Guitar Legend John McLaughlin, Moroccan Oud legend Driss el Maloumi, American Bluesman Bob Brozman, British Singer Martin Simpson, Australian Rocker John Butler American Rocker Henry Kaiser, Indian legends Ustad Zakir Hussain, Pt Ravi Shankar and Many others.**

Debashish provides support to 6 guitar Luthier families of Bengal to sell and manufacture his patented instruments globally. He has taught innumerable guitarists across the world who continue his musical lineage.

Debashish Bhattacharya, the worthy disciple of **Pandit Brij Bhushan Kabra**, modified and adopted the Hawaiian guitar to suit Indian classical music. With love and devotion, he mastered all that was possible within its framework and his inherent creative nature made him naturally adept in this musical creation. Indian music, which thrives on improvisation, gave him all these possibilities but the instrument that is more suited for Western music, tied his hands at times. Keeping intact the original sound of guitar, he yearned to blend the tonal resonance of majestic traditional Indian instruments.



He experimented by blending tones of **Rudra-veena**, **Violin**, **Sarod** and the **Sitar** into **Chaturangui** - one instrument with four colours and the first of the Trinity of Guitars.

During one of his trips to Puri, Debashish was savouring the beauty of the famous sea beach. The restless inventor in him found the high rising waves like his own restless soul. But when it touched the sky at its meeting point in the horizon, Debashish found that there was nothing but peace and beauty.



This led to the creation of **Gandharvi** - the rendezvous of bass and treble representing the restless earth and overpowering sky; the birth place of the celestial beauty belonging to Gandharva Loka. Melting the golden tones of Saraswathi-veena, Santoor, Sarangi and the acoustics of 12- string-guitar into one mould and reshaping it into the second of the Trinity of guitars achieved this.

Think about this: What would you like to ask Pandit ji about his instruments?
Write your questions to: admin@sangeet4all.com