

Dr. Madan Gopal Singh and ChaarYaar

India

Dr. Madan Gopal Singh's doctoral dissertation is the first known semiotic study of some of the seminal texts from Indian cinema. He has written and lectured extensively on cinema, art and cultural history. He teaches English Literature at Satyawati College (Evening Classes) and is currently Senior Fellow at the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, Teen Murti.

He delivered the keynote address at the Third Cinema Focus Symposium as part of the Birmingham International Film Festival in 1991. He also introduced a package of films on

Ritwik Ghatak and His Tradition at ICA, London with a historical perspective on Indian cinema. He also conducted a five-day workshop on Tarkovsky at the World Literature Centre in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

- Served as Executive Editor, Journal of Arts and Ideas, New Delhi for nearly a decade.
- Served as a Contributing Editor, Cinemaya – the Asian Film Quarterly, for a number of years.
- Member, HOD's Committee on the Inaugural Show for the Frankfurt World Book Fair, 2006
- Member, General Council of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, 2006
- Visitor's nominee to Mahatma Gandhi International Hindi University, 2006

Dr. Singh is a scriptwriter, having written films like Rasayatra on the well-known Hindustani classical vocalist Mallikarjun Mansur - a film that won the National Award for the best short film in 1995. The film was directed by Nandan Kudhyadi. He wrote the screenplay (jointly with the director of the film, Anup Singh), dialogues and lyrics for a feature-length film, Name of a River, (2002), based on the life of the late Ritwik Kumar Ghatak. The film has won the G. Arvandan Award, and the Silver Dhow at the Zanzibar International Film Festival 2002.

He also wrote the Toona adaptation from Baba Bulle Shah which was rendered by Shubha Mudgal for Mira Nair's Kama Sutra: A Tale of Love, and he wrote dialogues for Kaya Taran, a film based on the 1984 anti-Sikh riots. The film was directed by Sashi Kumar and won the G Arvandan Award 2004.

Wrote lyrics for the Aman Ali Ayan Ali album of lounge music, Truth, produced by Times Music, 2007.

Wrote lyrics for Ustad Amjad Ali Khan's compositions sung by Pankaj Udhaas, Yaara produced by Music Today October 2007.

## Music

He is a singer of Sufi texts and has sung for films like Kumar Shahani's Kasba and Khayalgatha and Mani Kaul's Idiot. As a singer, he travelled with the legendary Kurdo-Persian singer Shahram Nazeri to ancient Sufi towns such as Isfahan, Hamadan & Kermenshah. He also performed at the 2nd Sufi Soul World Music Festival held in Lahore, Pakistan in 2001.

Singh was invited to the Smithsonian Folklife Festival 2002, Washington as a presenter- performer. In all, he gave/made/conducted 28 concerts, presentations and workshops. He also composed music for the documentary film on Kashmir- Paradise on a River of Hell directed by Meenu Gaur and Abir Bazaz.

He also composed music for Sabiha Sumar's celebrated Khamosh Pani – a French-German-Pakistan coproduction. The film has been widely acclaimed and shown the world over. It won the Best Film award at the Locarno Film Festival, 2003.