

Reference code

BS

Title

SADAA: Baluji Shrivastav

Dates of creation

1983-2003

Level of description

Collection

Extent

1 box

Name of creator

Shrivastav, Baluji

Administrative/biographical history

Baluji Shrivastav is an Indian classical musician and composer who specialises in a number of instruments, including the sitar and tabla. He is known as a solo performer, but also as an accompanist to many popular dancers and performers. Shrivastav was born on 23rd June 1951 in Usmanpur, Uttar Pradesh, India. As a baby he lost his sight, but was still able to develop an early gift for music, which was recognised by his teachers and cultivated. He went on to achieve a BA in Sitar and Vocal Studies from Lucknow University at the young age of 14, and then an MA at Allahabad University.

Baluji came to London via Paris in 1982 where he quickly became part of the South Asian arts scene, becoming Musical Director of Tara Arts in 1984-85. He is notable for several compositions, especially 'Portraits of the Dark', a semi-autobiographical piece which explores the life of a blind sitar player and is one of his most personal works. As a composer he created scores for several touring productions as well as soundtracks for film and television. Shrivastav became more visible nationally in collaborations with pop stars like Annie Lennox and Kylie Minogue. In addition, he developed his own style of music, a blend of jazz and traditional music and formed a group, Jazz Orient with his wife Linda Shanovitch and Chris Conway. In 1992 he was also invited to join the collective orchestra Grand Union Orchestra, with which he has taken part in several national tours. Baluji continues to take his work to a world-wide audience as well as taking part in educational projects in the UK.

Immediate source of acquisition

The collection was deposited as part of the SADAA (formerly SALIDAA) archive.

Scope and content

The collection focuses on the biography, music and career of the Indian musician Baluji Shrivastav between 1983 – 2003.

Accruals

Collection is complete.

System of arrangement

Numbered files.

Access conditions

Available to researchers, by appointment. Please email: special.collections@brunel.ac.uk, giving at least two working days notice.

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Language of material

The collection is principally in English with some few items in German, French, Spanish and Finnish.

Physical characteristics

The material of the collection is chiefly paper and card. Many of the press cuttings are photocopies and of poor quality. The collection also contains some music and image CD's, which will require special equipment to view them. The collection also contains a floppy disc which will require a special drive to access it.

Finding aids

A finding aid is available for the manuscript material.

Existence of copies

Digitised copies of some of his material are available on VADS (Visual Arts Data Service)

<http://www.vads.ac.uk>

Archivist's note

Described by Joanne McPhie

Rules or conventions

ISAD (G) 2nd ed.

Date(s) of description

June 2014

Indexing

Persons

Baker, Nick
Bell, Clive
Bennett, Stuart
Bodmin, Christopher
Camara, Juldeh
Chatterjee, Anindo
Conway, Chris
DJ Badmarsh
Gilbert, John
Graff, Folo
Hall, Fernau
Hunt, Gerry
Kalsi, Barinder
Kangutkar, Vijay
Kelly, Kate
Khan, Ustad Faiyaz
Khan, Yousuf Ali
Kingston, Jeremy
Kouyate, N'Faly
Lennox, Annie
Lion, Margaret
Marinelli, Dario
Mehta, Narendra
Minogue, Kylie
Mukherjee, Partha Sarathi
Nugent, Ann
Patel, Vandana
Rafia, Manjit Singh
Rea, Kenneth
Renton, Alex
Rodger, Sarah
Sabri, Sarwar
Sahai, Sanju
Savra, Gulam Sabri
Shanovitch, Linda
Shrivastav, Baluji
Sirishkumar
Trewin, Mark

Corporate bodies

Allahabad University
ARC Music Studios
Asian Age
Bar Mary, Borga, Finland
The Bhavan Centre
Birmingham Post & Mail
Blue Moon Studios, London
Bush Hall, London
Centre for Transcultural Studies
City of Leeds College of Music (CLCM)
Co-operative Arts Theatre
Culture Shock
Daily Telegraph
De La Warr Pavillon, Bexhill
Derby Evening Telegraph
Eastern Eye
Edinburgh Mela
European Dance Development Centre, Dusseldorf
Evening Standard
Eye of Shiva Promotions
Festival of Brent
Grand Union Orchestra
Guardian Newspaper
Ham & High
Harlow Star
The Hawth, Crawley
Hounslow Borough Recorder
Independent
India Today International
India Weekly
Islington Council
Islington Gazette
Jazz Orient
Le Gendre, Kevin
Leicester Mercury
Lewisham Studio
London Arts Board
Lucknow University
Meadowbank Centre, Edinburgh
Metro
North West Asian News
Ocean, Hackney
The Place Theatre
Phoenix Arts Theatre, Leicester

BS: Collection Level Description

Purcell Room
Queen Elizabeth Hall
SADAA (formerly SALIDAA)
Sadler's Wells
Savoy Theatre, Finland
Shape London
Southbank Centre
Spilsby Theatre, Lincolnshire
The Stage
SUNRA Centre
Sutton House, London
Treaty Centre
Tara Arts
Timeout
Times, The
Times Educational Supplement
Union Chapel
Victoria Embankment Gardens
Willesden Green Library
Wimbledon Guardian
The Wire
Zee Premiere

Subjects

Indian Classical Music
Indian Musicians
Jazz Orient (Musical group)
Ragas--India
Re-Orient (Musical group)
Shrivastav, Baluji
Sitar
Sitar and surbahar music
Sitar and tabla music