GRAND PRIZE

Name: Ravi SHANKAR

Date of Birth: April 7, 1920 (Age: 71)

Citizenship: India

PROFILE

Pandit Ravi Shankar was born in 1920 in Varanasi, North India. At the age of ten, he travelled to France as a dancer in his elder brother's, Uday, dance company. By the age of 18, he had joined various tours throughout Europe as a member of the troupe. These experiences in the West had an immense influence on his artistic activities later in life.

After his return to India, he studied Indian traditional music intensively with Ustad Allauddin Khan. His talent increasingly blossomed as he vigorously involved himself in performing many concerts, while composing numerous stage music and film scores. His beautiful and poignant music for Satyajit Ray's film, "The Apu Trilogy," impressed audiences throughout the world and drew broad attention and honest evaluation of ethnic music. He also appeared in concerts with great masters of Western classical music such as violinist Yehudi Menuhin proving that the Indian musical instrument, the sitar, can play harmoniously with Western music.

Pandit Shankar's rich talent is also seen in his role as a teacher. While teaching at universities in the United States, he founded several music schools. In doing so, he is actively associating with the future musicians of the world.

His extensive music activities are being unfolded throughout the world, generating new encounters with classical orchestras, rock bands, Japanese traditional music, progressive music and many other styles.

MAJOR WORKS

Film Scores:

The Apu Trilogy directed by Satyajit Ray (1955, 56, 59)

Ghandi directed by Richard Attenborough (1985)

Compositions:

Raga Jogeshwari (1969)

Concerto for Sitar No.1 (1970)

Concerto for Sitar No.2 (1980)

Homage to Mahatma Gandhi (1982)

Ghanashyam (opera:1989)

Publication:

My Music, My Life (1969)