



Dr. Deepti Navaratna

Neuroscientist & Musician

Address: 454, 9th Cross, Girinagar, Bangalore – 560085

Email: navaratna.deepti@gmail.com

Phone: +918277419235

Dr. Deepti Navaratna is a musician and neuroscientist interested in an alchemy of research and performance. After several years of neuroscience research at Harvard Medical School, USA, her current research interests span neuroscience, arts and humanities; exploring new frontiers of interdisciplinary knowledge such as cognitive hermeneutics, neuropsychology and empirical musicology. She is a Chevening Clore Fellow (2021-23), recognized by the UK Government as one of the most creative artists and dynamic leaders across the globe.

Until, recently she served as the Regional Director, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, Ministry of Culture, Government of India, Bengaluru, India. She directed the centre's research, academic and outreach activities at the intersection of science and humanities - with a focus on Indian knowledge systems. Under her leadership the centre was deemed a 'Centre for Excellence' under the Bangalore University and initiated a one-of-a-kind Post Graduate Diploma in Manuscriptology and Paleography. She served as the Chairman, Board of Studies, IGNCA Bangalore for curriculum development across music research, manuscriptology and paleography. As an arts curator, she has curated over a thousand academic/outreach events such as seminars, symposiums and public engagements. While at IGNCA she was instrumental in the scientific documentation of several vanishing art forms such as the Kinnal art, Kerala Mural paintings and Ayyanar Terracotta Votive Art. In 2018, she created the Raaga Laboratory, a first-of-its-kind laboratory studying Indian music from neuroscientific and cultural perspectives. The laboratory undertakes interdisciplinary research in Cognitive Musicology, Science of Raagas, Chants and Rhythm, Brain body computer interfaces for special needs and performance and Hermeneutics of Indian Music Cognition – study of texts of Nada Yoga & Natyashastra. Deepti holds a doctorate degree in Neuroscience and has authored over twenty original scientific research papers, book chapters to her credit.

An accomplished South Indian Classical musician, her music has been presented at premiere performing spaces in the United States such as Asia Society (New York City), Symphony Space (New York City), Jordan Hall (Boston), Harvard Arts Museum (Cambridge), Museum of Fine Arts (Boston), Yale School of music (New Haven, CT), Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) Sri Lanka, Central Conservatory, Beijing and Tsing Hua University, Taiwan among others. From South Indian classical music to avant garde to world music, her music embodies a rare mix of versatility, classical wisdom and virtuosity that is distinctly her own. She has received several distinctions as a traditional musician such as the India Foundation for the Arts - Research Grant (2016), Cambridge Arts Council Education and Access Grant (2011 & 2015), Emerging Artist Award from St. Botolph Foundation (2011) and the Traditional & Ethnic Arts Fellowship from the Utah Arts Council (2009), Cambridge Arts Council Fellowship (2014) among others. She is the director of 'The Carnatic Alchemy Project'; a non-profit organization dedicated to taking South Indian Classical music to diverse audiences across the globe.

Academic Qualifications:

Bachelor of Science, Bangalore University, India (2000)

Master of Science, Bangalore University, India (2002)

Doctor of Philosophy (Neuroscience), University of New Mexico, U.S.A (2008) Master of Music (Contemporary Improvisation), New England Conservatory of Music, USA (2012-2016)

Work Experience:

2019 - 2021	Regional director, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, Bengaluru
2016 -2019	Executive Director, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, Bengaluru
2011 - 2013	Assistant Neuroscientist, Dept. of Radiology and Neurology, Massachusetts, General Hospital - Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts, USA
2008 - 2011	Post-doctoral fellow, Dept. of Radiology and Neurology, Massachusetts General Hospital - Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts, USA

Professional Recognitions:

1. **Chevening – Clore International Fellowship 2021-2022:** A global recognition for artist-scholars who are forging exciting new interdisciplinary careers in arts and culture
2. **India Foundation for the Arts, Arts Research and Documentation Award 2018:** Supported a study of Carnatic intercultural encounters with the West.
3. **New England Conservatory Scholarship:** First Carnatic musician to be invited to study at the prestigious conservatory in Boston, USA
4. **Cambridge Arts Council Project Grant, 2010, 2013:** Given to established scholar-artists to research and produce a performance of Indian classical music in Cambridge, USA
5. **St. Botolph Emerging Artist Award,** St. Botolph Foundation, 2009
6. **Traditional and Ethnic Arts Project Grant,** Utah Arts Council 2008
7. **All India Radio National Music Award,** 1999 & 2000
8. American Heart Founder's Affiliate Fellowship Grant
9. 2008 Excellence in research, Sigma Xi Society, USA

Book Chapters:

1. **Navaratna Deepti.**(2018) Cultural entrepreneurship as Inclusive leadership :Successes, Perspectives and Future Directions In: Swami Bodhananda, Tilak Agerwala, Sangeetha Menon (eds) Inclusive Leadership: Perspectives from Tradition and Modernity, Routledge, UK
2. **Navaratna Deepti.**(2017)The Alchemy of Musical Memory: Connecting Culture to Cognition. In: Menon S., Nagaraj N., Binoy V. (eds) Self, Culture and Consciousness. Springer, Singapore
3. 'Vascular Mechanisms in CNS Trauma' Josephine Lok, Xiaoying Wang, Klaus Vanleyen, **Deepti Navaratna** and Eng H. Lo. Editor: Eng H. Lo, Josephine Lok, MingMing Ning, Michael J. Whalen. Springer 2014
4. Brain angiogenesis after stroke'. Kazuhide Hayakawa, Ji Hae Seo, Nobukazu Miyamoto, Loc-Duyen D.Pharm, **Deepti Navaratna**, Eng H. Lo and Ken Arai. Book Chapter, Springer Press May 2013.
5. 'Beyond VEGF–Other Factors Important in Retinal Neovascularization: Potential Targets in Proliferative Diabetic Retinopathy'. Arup Das, **Deepti Navaratna** and Paul G. McGuire, In Diabetic Retinopathy, Editor: E. Duh, Humana Press, 2007

Monographs and Books:

1. Music Cognition in the Natyashastra, Routledge India, In press
2. The Royal Orchestra of Mysore: Routledge India, March 2022 (In Press)
3. The Maverick Maharaja; The Life and Times of Maharaja Jayachamarajendra Wadiyar, Harper Collins India, February 2022