

## Sacred Sound



Musical Manifestations of the Sacred  
between Theory and Practice

Workshop  
**From Sacred Hymns  
to Devotional Songs.**  
A Diachronic and Transcultural Study  
of Religious Singing in India

17/18 January 2020  
Pfleghofsaal, Schulberg 2

Organized by Project B2  
**Prof. Dr. Heike Oberlin**  
**Peter Gietz M. A.**

Institute of Asian and Oriental Studies  
Dept. of Indology and Comparative Religion

Philosophische Fakultät  
Musikwissenschaftliches Institut  
Exploration Full Fund Sacred Sound  
Gefördert mit Mitteln der Exzellenzstrategie  
der Universität Tübingen



## Program

### Friday, 17th January 2020

14:00: Heike Oberlin & Peter Gietz: *Introduction*

14:15: Finnian Gerety: *Sound and Reflection: The Construction of the Sacred Syllable OM in Ancient India*

14:45: Borayin Larios: *When Sacred Sound is Worthy of Worship – Songs for the Vedas in the Tradition of Guru Gaṅgeśvarānand Mahārāj (1881-1992)*

15:15: Guy L. Beck: *Continuity between Theory and Practice of Sacred Sound in Indian Music: OM and Nāda-Brahman as Expressed in the Vocal Compositions of Dhrupad and Khayal*

16:15: Heike Oberlin: *Sacred Sound in Kūṭiyāṭṭam: Singing, Recitation and Drumming in Traditional Sanskrit Theatre*

16:45: Annette Wilke: *Reciting, Teaching, and Singing Advaita-Vedāntic 'Bodiless Knowledge' – Old and New Soundscapes in the Chinmaya Mission*

17:15: Irfan Zuberi: *Qawwālī: Method of Worship or Music in Context Par Excellence?*

18:15: Erika Caranti: *Beyond Music and Words: Texts of Hindustānī Music*

**18:45-19:45: Vidya Rao: *Singing Bhakti Poetry* – Lecture-Demonstration**

### Saturday, 18th January 2020

09:00: Lara Pearson: *Discourses on Sound, India, and the Sacred: Tendencies Towards Essentialism and Reductionism*

09:30: Vivek Virani: *Pierced by the Arrow of the Bhajan: The Epistemology of Musical Experience in South Asian Spiritual Communities*

10:00: Bernard Bel: *"This is our Veda!": Recording, Processing and Preserving a Large Corpus of Songs by Indian Peasant Women in Maharashtra*

10:30: Peter Gietz: *Bhajans – A Transcultural Phenomenon and How to Use DH Methods for its Study*

11:15-12:30: Discussion

#### Principle Investigators

**Prof. Dr. Stefan Morent (Sprecher) · Prof. Dr. Robert Horres**  
**Prof. Dr. Volker Leppin · Prof. Dr. Heike Oberlin**  
**Prof. Dr. Johanna Rahner · Prof. Dr. Thomas Schipperges**

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