

**Adrian McNeil**

B.A. Hons (Monash)

Ph.D. (Monash)

**Research Interests:**

Music in India: Performance, Aesthetics, Cultural Histories and Ownership.

Ethnomusicology: Musical Improvisation, Intercultural Musics, Political Economy and Music, Philosophy and Music, Ethnography.

**Principal Publications:**

*Book:*

*Inventing the Sarod: A Cultural History*

Kolkata: Seagull, 2004.

*Selected refereed journal articles:*

- Making Modernity Audible: Sarodiyas and their Strategies' *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies*, December 2004.
- "Representing Indian Music in Australia" *Currency Press Companion to Australian Music*, (Sydney: Currency Press 2003).
- "Indian Music in the West: An Australian Perspective on Issues of Definition, Representation and Cultural Ownership" Conference Proceedings, *Sangeet Research Academy*, Bombay, 1996.
- "Politicising a Musical Tradition: Religious Fundamentalism and Musicians in North India, *Context* 11 (Winter) 1996.
- "A Mouse, a Frog, the Hawaiian Guitar and World Music Aesthetics" *Perfect Beat: The Pacific Journal of Research into Contemporary Music and Popular Culture* Vol 2 (3) 1995.
- "Why Hindustani Musicians are Good Cooks: Analogies Between Music and Food in North India", *Asian Music*, Vol. 25, Fall 1993-94.
- "Australia maiñ Hindustani Sangeet aur uska Itihas" (Hindi) *Devanagari*, Vol.1. No.1. 1992 (The History of Indian Music in Australia).

*Forthcoming:*

- "A Cross Cultural Perspective on Improvisation" Mumbai: Journal of the Indian Musicological Society.
- "Courtesans, Military Musicians and Shi'a ideology in Nineteenth Century Lucknow" London: Ethnomusicology Forum.

**Editorships of journals:**

2005 Guest editor for *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies*

**External Grants**

2000 Visiting Research Fellow, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

1999 Australia Council for the Arts (individual development grant)

1998 Japan Foundation (conference on globalisation and music)

1996 Australian Research Council Post-doctoral fellowship

1992 Australia Council for the Arts (individual development grant)

**Conferences Convened:**

Principal convenor of national Indian conference entitled, *Music in the Age of Reproduction: Tradition, Innovation and Enterprise*, held at the Centre for Social Sciences, Calcutta, 17th-18th June, 1999.

Principal convenor convenor of an international conference *The Cultural Consequences of Globalisation: The Case of Music* held at the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta 4th - 6th February 1998.

**Thesis Areas Supervised:**

South Asian Music  
Intercultural Music  
Musical Improvisation  
Musical Aesthetics  
Theory and Ethnomusicology

**Principal Creative Works:**

“Morning Ragas: Basant Mukhari and Bhairavi”  
New Delhi Underscore Records: 2006.

“Aasha”

Sydney: Veda Records, 2001

**Selected Reviews of Performances:**

- *A scintillating sarod performance at the India International Centre*  
**The Times of India** (New Delhi).
- *The sequences with unblemished tonality of his swaras revealed taste, an urge for expression and a feeling for tone modulations; . . . a high sense of emotional vehemence; . . . revealed a sensitive mind. And this in my opinion is of vital significance.*  
**The Hindu** (New Delhi).
- *My mind was out of my body ... floating in a large expanse of bliss*  
**The Australian**
- *Incendiary*  
**Sydney Morning Herald.**

*Solo performances recorded by:*

ABC radio national  
All India Radio  
National Indian Television (Doordarshan)  
CNN Asia  
Zee TV (Mumbai)

**Research in-progress:**

Religious Fundamentalism, Violence and Music in North India (paper)

The Social Organisation of Musicians in 19<sup>th</sup> Century Hindustan (book)

**Related activities**

Co-director of Sangeet Australia

[www.sangeetaustralia.org](http://www.sangeetaustralia.org)