



Indian Raga Music

The Alap

Debashish Bhattacharjee:

To me Raga is the art of life in which we breathe in and breathe out, so when I play an Alap absolutely I'm in a mood of to find the maximum power of the Raga itself, I want to relate my soul with the mood of the Raga, with the existence of the Raga.

Indian Raga music is essentially music of the mind, and very close to the mind is the voice, so essentially it starts from the voice, from the vocal. Anything you hum you can have absolute control in your mind you can have absolute image in your mind to download to any other instrument and form.. like...

(he sings)

Raga alap doesn't directly ... relate (to) the dialogue but is an illusion of dialoguing between two human beings. If I can play you I can illustrate better...(plays music)...the answer.....(plays music)... question... (plays music)... answer. So they're co-related with each dialogue...like ... (plays music)... the next... (plays music). And also you can give the reference of story telling. You can start at one point... there was a king, the king had two queens, those queens had eight kids, the prince and princess, so we start elaborating, holding the focus to the king, towards the all directions of the king, the king fought a great fight, so this is how the Alap also spread.