



NILADRI KUMAR

Akademi Award: Creative & Experimental Music

Born on 9 April 1973 at Kolkata in West Bengal, Shri Niladri Kumar received his training in Sitar from his father and guru Kartick Kumar. He belongs to the Dhaka, Imdad Khani and Maihar gharana.

Shri Niladri Kumar is considered the maverick classical musician of the country. He is a celebrated ambassador and an Indian music icon. He is the creator of the Zitar, an electric Sitar. He has gained an in-depth understanding, technique and unmatched mastery over the Sitar and developed his own distinct style. A top-grade artist of All India Radio, Shri Niladri Kumar has made a large contribution and mega impact in all spheres from classical music to film music. He has created many albums and given music to many films including *Chup Chup Ke*, *Bheegi Bheegi*, *Crazy Kiya Re*, *Bahubali*, *Aashique 2*, *Life in a Metro*, and a few others. Shri Niladri Kumar has conducted many seminars and workshops in India and overseas. He has associated with many prestigious cultural institutions such as Board of ISAMRA and Lata Mangeshkar University Board.

Shri Niladri Kumar has received many titles and awards. These include the MTD Immies (2004), the Sangeet Natak Akademi Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar (2007), the Gima Award (twice in 2011 & 2015), the Kumar Gandharva Award conferred by the Government of Madhya Pradesh, the Radio Mirchi Award (2018), and the Filmfare- RD Burman Music Composer Award (2019).

Shri Niladri Kumar receives the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for the year 2023 for his contribution to Creative and Experimental music.