



Spring 1 - 2023

Bishi Bhattacharya

Victor Olagunju , Music Lead

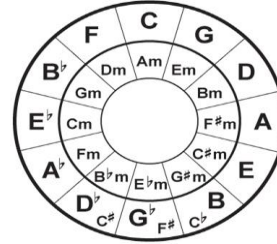
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# Elements of Music

**Pitch**



**Tonality**



**Harmony**



**Metre**



**Rhythm**



**Pulse/Tempo**



**Dynamics**



**Texture/Instrumentation**



**Structure**





# Knowing more, remembering more



Let's recap our previous composer **Tchaikovsky**

What was the name of his famous composition that accompanied a ballet?



# Knowing more, remembering more







Let's recap our previous composer Tchaikovsky

## Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy



# Vocabulary

<b>Indian Classical Music</b>	Indian Classical Music is an ancient form of traditional music (over 6000 years old). The music is typically passed down orally and is very connected to nature.	 <p>What is Indian classical music?</p>
<b>Tonality</b>	Tonality refers to the system of organizing music around a central pitch, or tonic. Major (happy) and Minor (sad) are the most common tonalities in western music.	
<b>Sitar</b>	An Indian Classical stringed instrument	
<b>Synthesizer</b>	A synthesizer is an electronic musical instrument that generates audio signals. It can be used to create a wide range of sounds, from imitations of traditional instruments like pianos and violins to entirely new and unique sounds. Synthesizers can be played using a keyboard, and many models also have controls for adjusting various parameters such as the pitch, tone, and timbre of the sound	





# Who is Bishi Bhattacharya?

**Bishi Bhattacharya** is a British, London-based, singer-composer, multi-instrumentalist, multimedia performer, producer, composer and DJ of Bengali heritage.

She is the artistic director and co-founder of WITCiH, the Women in Technology Creative Industries Hub, a platform to increase the visibility women at the intersection of music, creative technology and STEM. Bishi was first recognised in 2001 as the central DJ and 'face' of London's experimental underground venue, Kash Point.

Her aim was to link her Indian Classical heritage to western pop/electronic music!

Here is a quick introduction to traditional Indian Classical instruments (the **Sitar** and **Tabla**) also played by **Bishi Bhattacharya**



# Timbre (tone)



**How would you describe the timbre of the sitar?  
How would you describe the timbre of the tabla?**

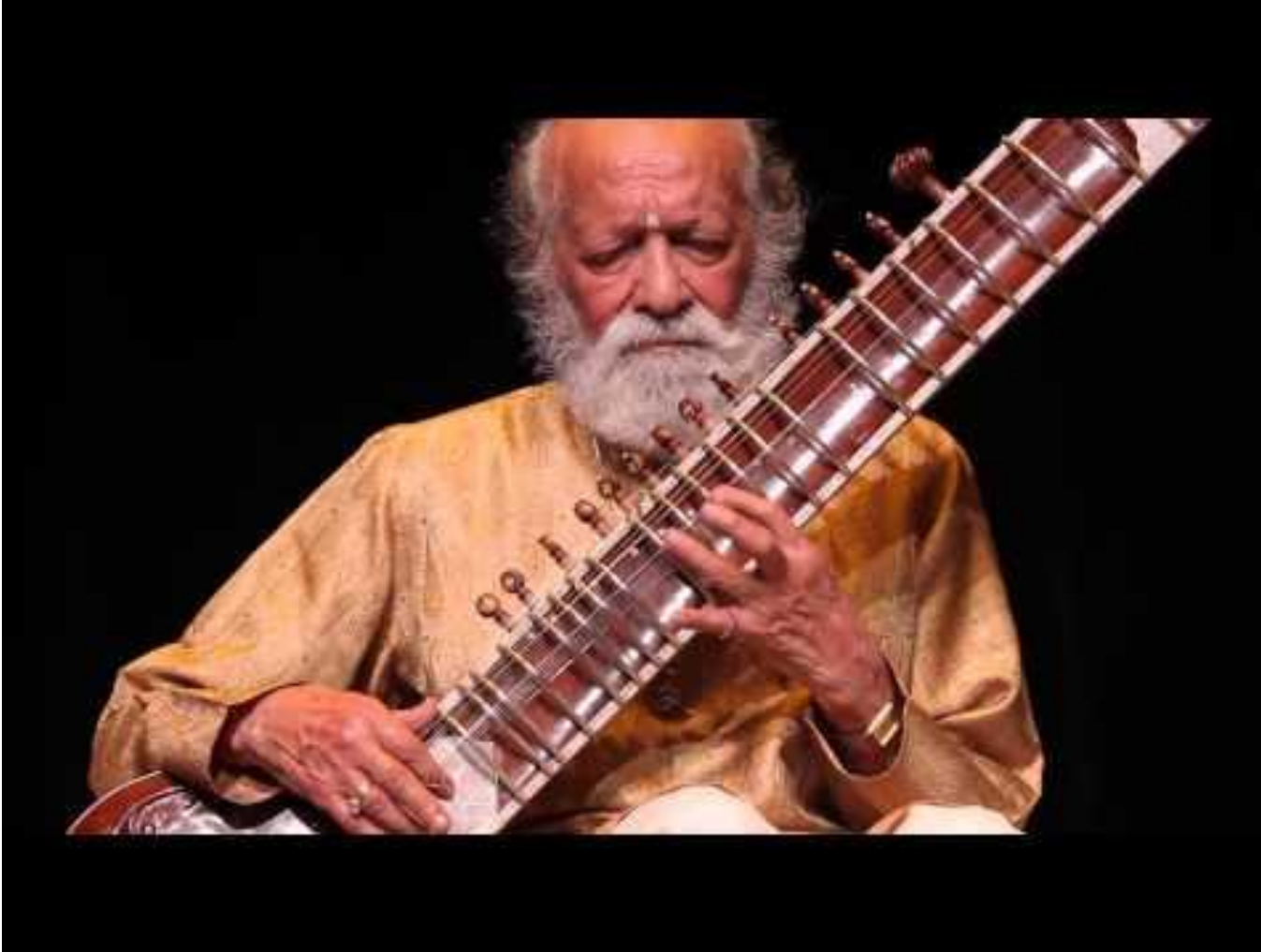


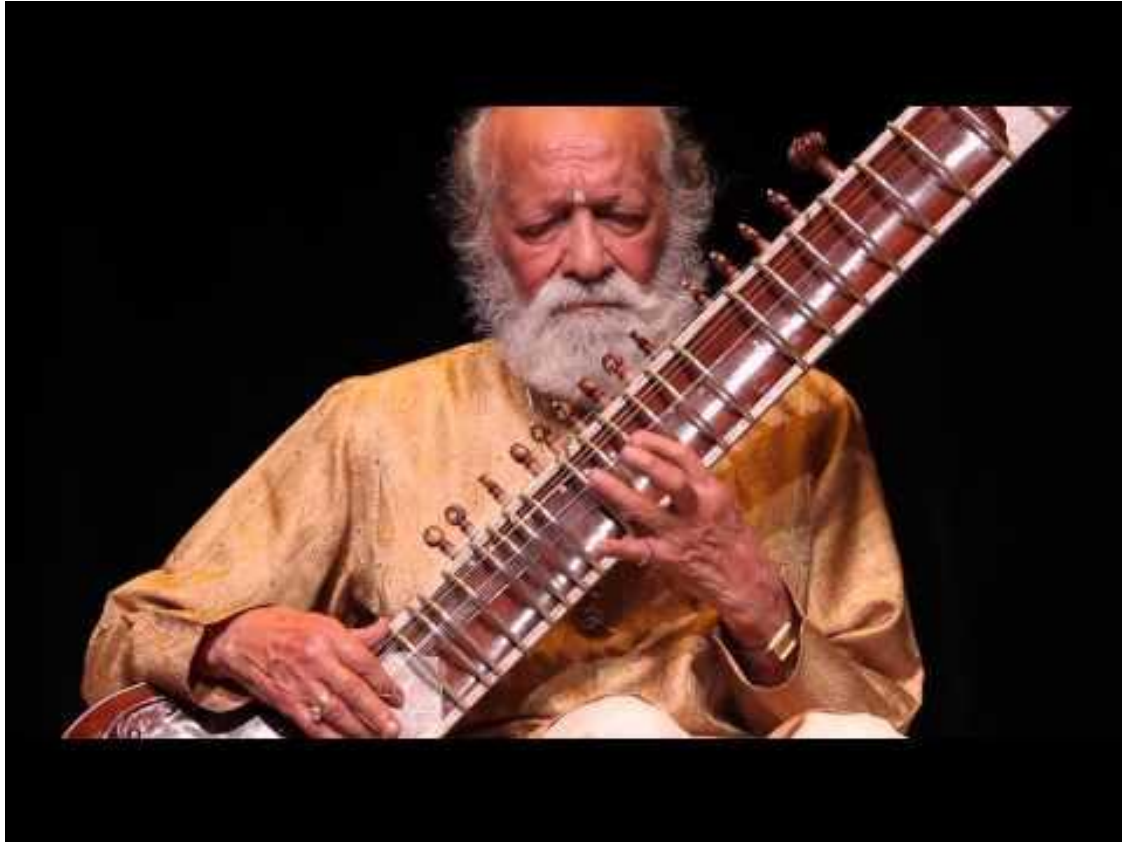
- Brassy
- Thick
- Cold
- Breathy
- Bright
- Clean
- Distorted
- Piercing
- Rich
- Warm
- Heavy
- Dull
- Thin





Before we begin, let's explore what traditional **Indian Classical Music** sounds like by revisiting a previous composer Ravi Shankar





## You'll notice that in Indian Classical Music

- 1) They perform sitting on the floor to be connected with nature
  - 1) The performance is improvised (made up on the spot)
- 1) The sitar takes the lead by performing the melody
- 1) A second Sitar will sustain a drone (a low sustained note that doesn't change)

**What else do you notice?**

# Listen to **Language is an Ocean** by Bishi Bhattacharya.



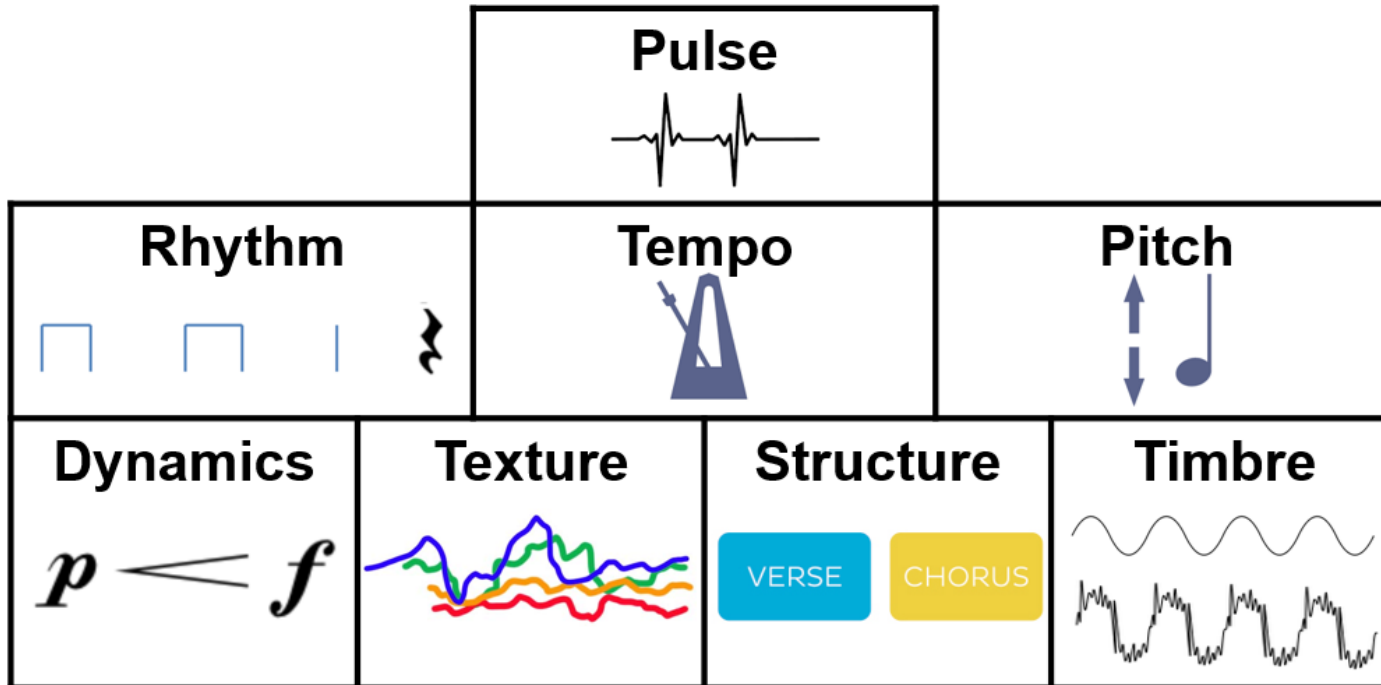
What do you think she means by  
“Language is an ocean?”

Describe the tonality (major - happy), (minor - sad)  
How has she incorporated Indian Classical elements into the music?

- What instruments did you hear?
- What quality of sound was created – the timbre?
- How would you describe the *tempo* of the piece?
- Allegro – Fast?
- Moderato – moderate?
- Lento – slow?
- Is the pitch high or low?

# Summary:

What did you enjoy most about this piece?



Can you use any of the elements of music in your answer?





## Model:

I enjoyed the piece because it uses a range of musical features. Bishi Bhattacharya uses Indian Classical instruments such as the Sitar on Pop/Electronic records. She utilises the minor scale in this piece which gives it a sad tonality. The timbre of the synthesizers are warm and bright giving it a full sound. The tempo was allegro (fast) which makes you feel excited!

# Summary

What do we know and remember?

# Test the Knowledge

1. What is a Sitar?
2. What do we mean by the word “Synthesizer”
3. Where do most Indian Classical performers like to perform?
4. How has Bishi Bhattacharya utilised Indian Classical within western Pop/Electronic music?



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Bishi Bhattacharya

Marian Switonski, Assistant Headteacher

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