Sargam Gīt

The piece of music that we are going to learn is a vocal composition, called Sargam Gīt. The word sargam is derived using the first four notes of the Indian scale: sā, re, ga and ma and refers to the svar or notes of the Indian scale. Gīt simply means song.

As Indian music may be unfamiliar to you, for Indian Takeaway - Rāg and Tāl Basics you will not have to sing in an Indian language. Instead, Sargam Gīt simply features the notes of the scale, instead of words.

This Sargam Gīt has been composed in Rāg Bhupālī, which features a pentatonic scale and comes under the kalyān thāṭ. The notes used in Rāg Bhupālī are: sā, re, ga, pa, dha and sā. It is interesting that Rāg Bhupālī can, as far as only the notes are concerned, be thought to belong to either the bilāval thāṭ or khamāj thāṭ, the former because it features all the svaras are those of the Western major scale, and the latter because Rāg Bhupālī does not feature the komal nī (the diminished seventh note) that is part of the Khamāj thāṭ.

Using this video clip and notation for support, learn the Sargam Gīt gradually. Note the following:
- the Sargam Gīt, like many Indian music compositions, consists of two parts – the asthāi and antrā
- this particular Sargam Gīt starts on the ninth mātrā, known as the khāli
- learn the composition in lengths of eight mātrās, repeating as many times as necessary