

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 *sva*r 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 thāt*. 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 thāt* or *khamāj thāt*, 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 thāt*.

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