

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

140
N.Y. Press &
Indian Correspondent

No. 24

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 31, 1955

Shanta Rao, one of India's most famous classical dancers, and Ali Akbar Khan, renowned player of the ancient stringed instrument, the sarod, will arrive in New York on Friday, April 1, for their first performances in this country. Miss Shanta Rao's accompanists include a vocalist, a drummer and one other artist and Mr. Ali Akbar Khan will be accompanied by a tabla player. (ARRIVAL TIME: 9:50 a.m. Idlewild Airport, Flight 521, British Overseas Airways Corporation.)

The party of six Indian artists, who will perform at the Museum of Modern Art and on an Omnibus Television program in April, will be met by Miss Mary Aherne, Research Editor at Omnibus, and Miss Ann Resor and Mrs. Carleton Sprague Smith of the Museum of Modern Art's Junior Council who are sponsoring the Museum dance and music concerts. The Indian Consulate will be represented by Mr. A. Mohan and one other staff member.

The Museum appearances will be held in connection with a major exhibition, "Textiles and Ornamental Arts of India" which opens at the Museum, 11 West 53 St., on April 13. Ali Akbar Khan will be introduced to the Museum audience on Tuesday evening, April 19 by Yehudi Menuhin, violinist, and Miss Shanta Rao will dance at the Museum on Tuesday, April 26. All the Indian artists and Mr. Menuhin will appear on the final Omnibus program of this season on April 10 at 5 p.m. EST, CBS Channel 2.

During their stay in New York, their first visit to America, the Indian artists will live at the Hotel Van Dorn, 150 West 58 Street. Miss Shanta Rao will be accompanied by Miss Vasanti Rao Naturanjan, Mr. Venkataraman, vocalist, and Mr. Nethappa, drummer. Ali Akbar Khan will be accompanied by Mr. Chatur Lal, tabla player.

The trip, which began in New Delhi on Sunday, March 27, and the American performances, have been arranged by the Omnibus Television program and the Junior Council of the Museum of Modern Art. It is hoped that other personal and television appearances can be arranged during their stay in this country.