

*"Mantras are magical passwords that transform the mundane into the sacred."* -Deva Premal

### **TRACKS**

1. Mangalam
2. Shyam!
3. Sri Nanda-Nandanastakam
4. Narasimha
5. Mere Gurudev
6. Nandana Gopala
7. Om Dhara
8. Aham Prema
- Bonus Track
9. Shyam! (Prabhu Mix)

## 1. MANGALAM

mangalam bhagavan vishnum  
mangalam garudadhvajah  
mangalam pundareekaksham  
mangalaya tano hari

*Beloved Lord Vishnu is auspicious.  
Auspicious is His vehicle Garuda, the image on His flag.  
Auspicious are His lotus-like eyes-  
So auspicious, His manifestation.*

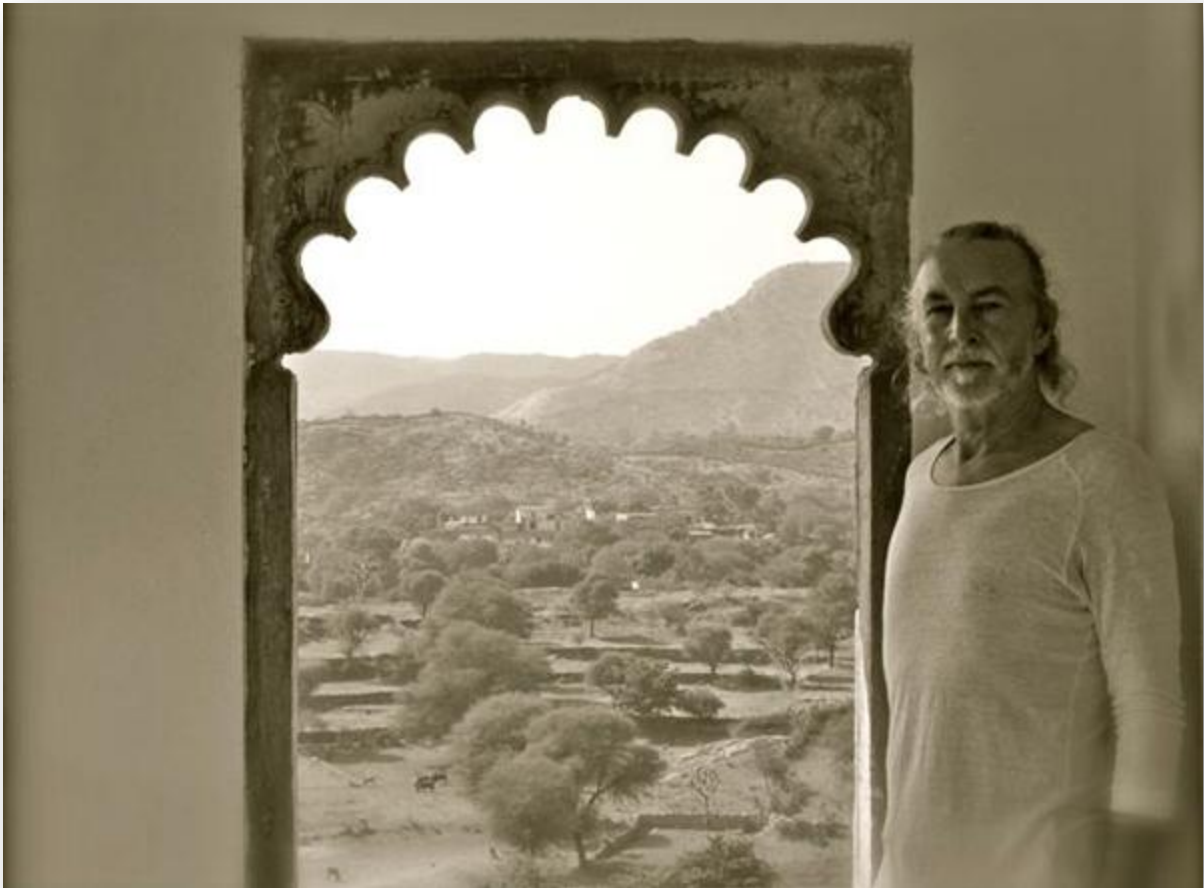
I love the word “auspicious.” It reminds me of the divinity and the mystery that is behind the obvious, something that’s just in the air and can be experienced as a pointer to the bigger picture.

With this mantra we celebrate Vishnu, the essence of sustaining, preserving, protecting, mercy and goodness.









## 2. SHYAM!

shyama naye  
darshana dina  
naye, darshana dina  
shyama naye  
bela bho prabhu

arpana garchu  
pauma parchu  
mero shyam  
mero shyam  
he prabhu, he prabhu  
prabhu

manama mero shyam

*Why haven't you come?  
Why haven't you let me gaze upon your beauty?  
Isn't it the time?*

*My heart is yours, beloved.  
I lay my head at your feet  
My Shyam, my Shyam  
O my Lord, O my Lord*

*I finally behold you - the Lord of my innermost realm.*

We often look beyond ourselves for the answer.  
We usually imagine the goal is in some far off place, when in fact,  
it is inside us all the time.

Ever present.

All we have to do, is to turn our gaze inwards.





### 3. SRI NANDA-NANDANASTAKAM

1) sucharu vaktra mandalam  
sukarna ratna kundalam  
sucharchitanga chandanam  
namami nanda-nandanam

2) sudirgha netra pankajam  
sikhi sikhanda murdhajam  
ananga koti mohanam  
namami nanda-nandanam

3) sunasikagra mauktikam  
svacchanda danta panktikam  
navambudanga chikkanam  
namami nanda-nandanam

4) karena venu ranjitam  
gati karindra ganjitam  
dukula pita shobhanam  
namami nanda-nandanam

5) tribhanga deha sundaram  
nakha dyuti sudhakaram  
amulya ratna bhusanam  
namami nanda-nandanam

6) sugandha anga saurabham  
uroviraji kaustubham  
sphuracchri vatsalanchanam  
namami nanda-nandanam

7) vrindavana sunagaram  
vilasanuga vasasam  
surendra garva mochanam  
namami nanda-nandanam

8) vrajangana sunayakam  
sada sukha pradayakam  
jagan manah pralobhanam  
namami nanda-nandanam

9) sri nanda-nandanastakam  
pathed ya sraddhayanvitah tared bhavabdhim  
dustaram labhet tadanghri-yugmakam





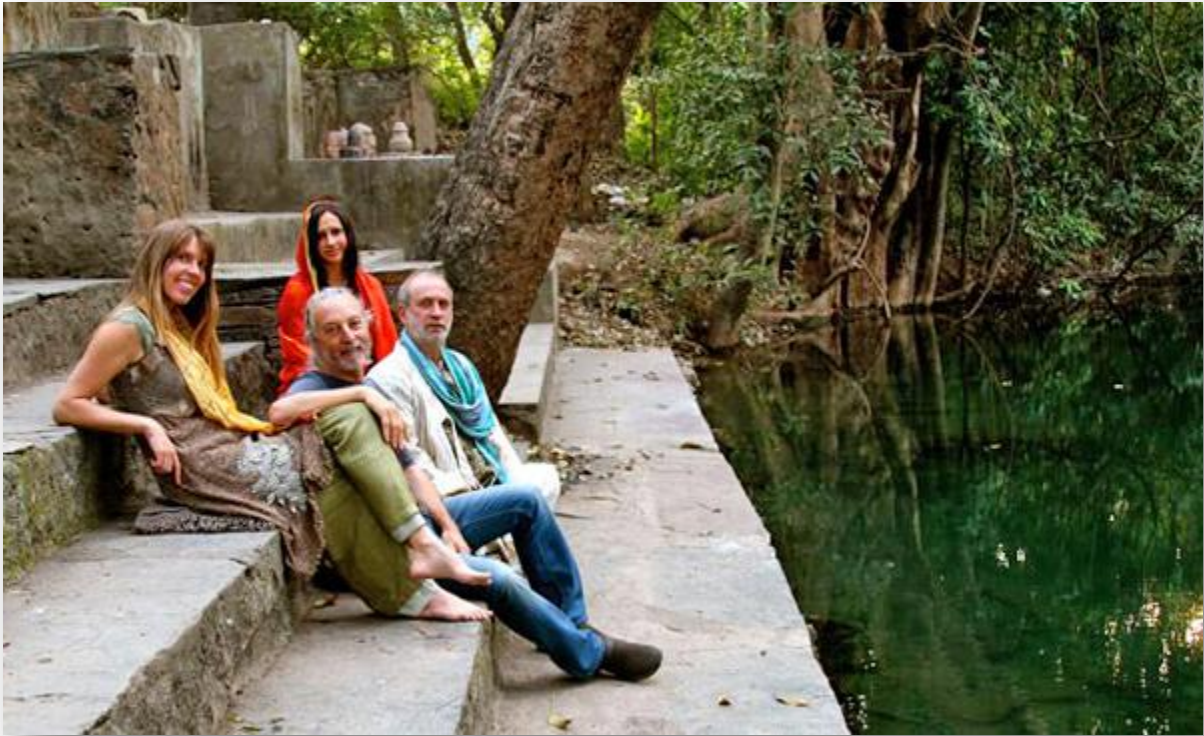
- 1) *I offer salutations to Nandanandana, whose face is extremely delightful, in whose beautiful ears hang jeweled earrings and whose entire body is anointed with fragrant Candana.*
- 2) *I offer salutations to Nandanandana, whose eyes are more beautiful than the fully bloomed lotus, whose head is beautifully adorned with an arrangement of peacock feathers and who enchants millions of Cupids.*
- 3) *I offer salutations to Nandanandana, from whose beautiful nose hangs an elephant-pearl, whose teeth are immensely effulgent, whose bodily complexion is more beautiful and lustrous than a fresh rain cloud.*
- 4) *I offer salutations to Nandanandana, whose lotus hands hold the flute, whose lingering gait defeats even that of an impassioned elephant and whose dark limbs are beautified by a yellow shawl.*
- 5) *I offer salutations to Nandanandana, whose threefold-bending posture is exquisitely elegant, the effulgence of whose toe-nails puts to shame even the moon, and who wears invaluable jewels and ornaments.*
- 6) *I offer salutations to Nandanandana, whose body exudes an especially beautiful fragrance, and whose broad chest is adorned with the Kaustubha jewel and the mark of Srivatsa.*
- 7) *I offer salutations to Nandanandana, the expert lover of Vrindavan who performs immaculate pastimes and who is attired in clothes which are suitable for those pastimes and who pulverized the pride of Indra.*
- 8) *I offer salutations to Nandanandana, who as the lover of the Vraja gopis perpetually delights them and who enchants the minds of all living entities.*
- 9) *Whoever recites this regularly will easily cross the insurmountable ocean of material existence and attain to the lotus feet of Shri Krishna.*

A hymn to Lord Krishna. The name used for him here is Nanda-Nandana which means “the son (nandana) of Nanda.”

Since the word “nanda” also means joy and comes from “ananda” which means bliss, I sing this as a hymn that celebrates those qualities.

When you look at the description of Krishna in this strotra (hymn of praise), it is truly a perfect picture of what bliss would look like.

This is a good moment to thank our beloved friend Shyamdas, who has led Miten and I deeply into the world of Krishna devotion during our journey to Vrindavan, which was right in the middle of making this album. He has also helped me with many of the translations on this album.



#### 4. NARASIMHA

narasimha ta va da so hum

A powerful mantra for protection from negative influences  
of those on the path to the light.

Our dear friend Praful (the composer of Om Namoh Bhagavate, Om Tare and many more) was inspired to put this mantra to a very gentle melody. For me the serene quality of the composition is a reminder that protection need not, necessarily, be hard or tough. It can be “the strength of a rose” - as Miten says. Thank you, Praful, for the beautiful music you have shared with us all over the years!





## 5. MERE GURUDEV

mere gurudev, charanon par sumana shraddha ke arpita hai.  
tere hee dena hai jo hai wahi tujha ko samarapita hai.  
na priti hai pratiti hai, na hi puja ki shakti hai.  
meraa yaha man, meraa yaha tan, meraa kan kan samarapita hai.  
tuma hee ho bhaava men mere, vicharon mein, pukaron mein.  
banaale yantra ab mujhko mere saravatra samarapita hai

*My Gurudev I offer these flowers of my faith at your feet  
Whatever you have given to me I dedicate to you.  
I lack devotion nor do I recognize you.  
I have no strength to worship you -  
But my heart, body and absolutely everything I have is dedicated to you.  
Your love fills my heart, my thoughts and my song.  
Now make me your instrument...  
All I have I offer to you.*

In the west, the Guru-disciple relationship is something very unfamiliar – and even often mistaken for a master/slave relationship. The truth is this unique and mysterious relationship is the doorway to transformation and central to the Eastern path to liberation. To be surrendered in love to one's guru is indeed a dangerous love – it leads us beyond what we know – beyond our comfort zone. Pure devotion itself is enough to enlighten our path. With gratitude to Krishna Das, who gave me his blessings to record this beautiful song.



## 6. NANDANA GOPALA

nandana gopala  
ananda svarupa

tejasvi moha haro  
karuna sagara prema bharo

gali gali hi nay tere dhwara  
karuna rasa prema bahara

*O Nanda Gopal!  
Brilliant blissful One  
Ocean of compassion  
Fill me with love*

*Dispel all my confusion  
Every path has your door  
Compassionate nectar One  
You are a pure spring of love*

Gopala, the name of Krishna as a baby, is the joyful presence of pure love.

Blissful, compassionate, dispeller of confusion.

This song celebrates the sweet delight of being in 'his' presence.



## 7. OM DHARA

om dhara dharayei namaha  
om dharayei namaha  
om bhū devyēi namaha

*Om and salutations to Divine Mother who is the support of the earth.  
Om and salutations to Divine Mother who is the Earth.  
Honouring Mother Earth as the goddess she is.*

These three mantras celebrate the Divine Mother that is the earth, the power/the shakti that supports her and helps us be attuned to her.

Mother Earth herself is seen as an evolving being and as we chant these mantras we support her in her own journey - and also go some way to balance the challenges we put her through by our presence.

Apart from “going lightly on this fragile earth” (another one of Miten’s songs), by making sure we live consciously on all levels, we can carry this mantra within us, make it part of our daily practice, and through the chant remember the divine presence of the earth under our feet. A gift that is there every second of the day!





## 8. AHAM PREMA

Aham Prema  
*I am love.*

The Beatles sang “All you need is love.”

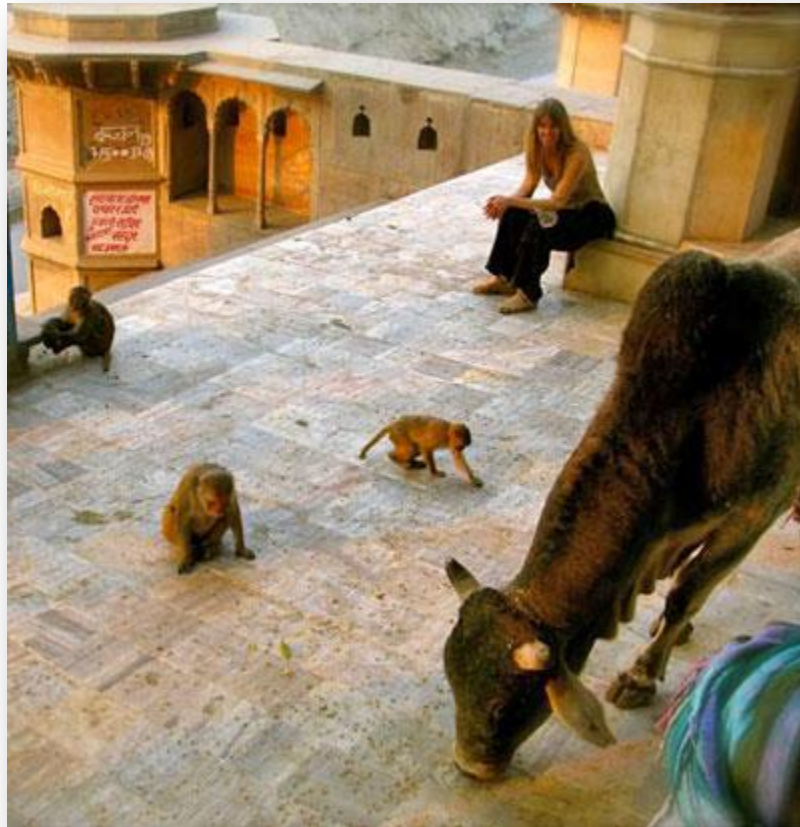
This mantra goes one step further -

I AM love!

I included this mantra as an offering to be chanted 108 times,  
together with the musicians.

*“Love those who inspire you to love The Beloved.”*

-Surdas [15th century mystic from Braj, India]







## 9. SHYAM! (Prabhu Mix)

A deeper and more mysterious expression of the longing for the Beloved.





## MUSICIANS

Deva Premal – vocals, tanpura, keyboard (Aham Prema)  
Miten – vocals, guitar  
Manose – bansuri, vocals  
Boe Larsen – keyboards, piano  
Lars Danielsson (SE) - acoustic and electric bass, grand piano, cello  
Morten Lund - drums, percussion  
Rishi – drum programming, keyboards  
Manish Vyas – tabla, santoor  
Jørgen Lauritsen - string arrangements and string recordings  
Prem Joshua – sitar (Mangalam)  
Gustaf Ljunggren - acoustic guitars, slide guitar (Mangalam)  
Lars Danielsson (DK) - bass (Mangalam)  
Peter Düring - drums (Mangalam)  
Rainer Scheurenbrand – acoustic guitar, poim poim  
(Om Dhara, Sri Nanda-Nandanastakam)  
Søren Reiff Jr. - electric guitar (Shyam, Mere Gurudev)  
Bindu – acoustic guitar (Sri Nanda-Nandanastakam)  
Jalalo – backing vocals (Sri Nanda-Nandanastakam)  
Yasmin – backing vocals (Sri Nanda-Nandanastakam)  
Eliel Lazo - congas, bata (Shyam)  
Moussa Diallo - bass (Om Dhara)  
Klaus Menzer - drums (Om Dhara)



## **CREDITS**

Mangalam (Manose/Miten)

Shyam! (Manose/Miten)

Sri Nanda-Nandanastakam (traditional, arranged by Miten/Manose)

Narasimha (Praful)

Aham Prema (Miten/Manose)

Mere Gurudev (Krishna Das)

Nandana Gopala (Manose/Miten)

Om Dhara (Manose/Miten)



Produced by Rishi and Miten  
a prabhu production

Recorded by Rishi, Boe Larsen at the Millfactory Copenhagen Denmark

Additional recordings:

Kamal Engels at ArtofAudio, Byron Bay, Australia,

Sakha at Viten's Pad, Nuernberg, Germany

Mixed by Rishi, Boe Larsen (Millfactory - DK)

Mastered by Björn Engelman (Cuttingroom, Stockholm)

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