

# ***Haimanti Rakshit Mann***

The 9<sup>th</sup> of October 2004, Jatin-Lalit Talent Hunt, a massive competition organized in India where over 1500 singers competed. In the final program at the City Science Auditorium in Kolkata a Bangladeshi talent was called upon the stage as a surprise to perform with Udit Narayan, Alaka Yagnik, Babul Supriyo, Kumar Shanu and Sunity Chouhan. This explains what Haimanti is and tells what recognition she has gained.

Haimanti- what a name, what a legacy. Although she is not the Haimanti Shukla that we know today but she is from Chittagong and considered to be pretty close. This Haimanti is a god-gifted vocalist, a sensational stage performer.

At a tender age of six she started performing and at eight she had her first stage performance. She inherits the voice of her grandmother late Chitra Rakshit (Kinna Datta), a famous Bhajan singer, who's was play-back recorded in 1932 by Colmodia Company.



Haimanti is a singer by training. She began taking proper lessons from Ustad Bani Chowdhury. She also took lessons from Ustad Nirod Boron Barua, Basudev Ghose, Sobhan Khan and Anup Barua.

Haimanti is popular for a bubbly, remix singer of popular, old-days songs. She gives a new colour and texture to the popular Bangla songs, both from Bangladesh and India. Because of her ability as a prolific singer she also surprises her audiences with occasional Urdu and Hindi delights.

Her first album (1995) was Dakpion, followed by Mone Pore Tomake (1998) and Premer Choya (2000). After that she went for many solo CDs and sung for many movies as a play-back singer.

Haimanti is an enlisted singer of several TV and Radio channels in Bangladesh. We often hear her on BTV World.