

197 There Are Numerous Strings

♩ = 100 *Unison* *Refrain*
 There are nu-mer-ous strings in your
 lute, let me add my own a-mong them.
 1. Then when you smite your
 chords, my heart will break its si-lence, and my

Words & music: Rabindranath Tagore, 1861-1941
 © Harmony by Betty Jo Angilvarn, 1991-
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TAGORE
 Irregular

A page from Singing the Living Tradition (published by the Unitarian Universalist Association), featuring a song by Tagore.

SPONSORS (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

- ❖ Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana
- ❖ Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, UIUC, India Studies Fund
- ❖ Channing Murray Foundation, Urbana
- ❖ Comparative & World Literature, UIUC
- ❖ East Central Illinois Bengali Association
- ❖ Indian Cultural Society
- ❖ Kalarte Gallery
- ❖ WEFT

*The image in the front is that of a wooden seal containing the Bengali initials of Tagore's name: **ra** and **tha**.
 (Courtesy: Wikipedia)

BACKGROUND

Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941) visited Urbana twice, in 1912-13 and in 1916-1917. He had sent his son Rathindranath to study Agriculture at the University of Illinois. Rathindranath received his Bachelor's Degree, returned a few years later to pursue graduate studies, but had to go back to India before he could finish the work needed for his Degree. During his stay in Urbana, Rathindranath found Urbana an expanding community of international scholars. Driven by the vision to expand the alliance among peers beyond the classroom, he co-founded an international students' organization – the Cosmopolitan Club – that still has a vibrant presence on campus. When Rabindranath Tagore visited Urbana in 1912 he was received with great warmth and enthusiasm by the University and the local community. When the poet returned to Urbana for a second visit in 1916, he was much more of a celebrity – a Nobel Laureate (the first non-European/American to receive the Nobel Prize in Literature) and a powerful voice against the 'Great War.' The chapel that hosted Tagore's first lectures is now a National Historical Building that houses the Channing-Murray Foundation, which has celebrated an **Annual Tagore Festival** since 1989. The foundation is proud to commemorate the creative, spiritual, and political genius of India's greatest poet, and his legacy in the current global context.

In 2017, the Board of Governors of the foundation renamed the renovated chapel '**Honorary Tagore Chapel**,' to commemorate Tagore's visit and his first lecture in Urbana in November 12, 1912. This was Tagore's first public lecture in the US. The full text of the lecture is not available, but the revised contents of his six lectures in Urbana were later published as Sadhana: the Realisation of Life. A handwritten note from 1912 (possibly by Arthur Seymour), preserved at the University Archives, mentions six lectures by Tagore between November 10 and December 1 of 1912.

Welcome to the XXX Annual

Tagore Festival



14 September, 2019

100 Years after Jallianwala Bagh

**Channing Murray Foundation
 1209 W. Oregon Street
 Urbana, IL 61801**

office@channingmurray.org

PROGRAM

4:30 pm: Reception

5:00 pm: Song

Aditi Das

University of Illinois

Welcome Speech by Dr. Nani Bhowmik
President of **ECIBA**

5:20 pm:

Welcome from Channing Murray Foundation

5:30 pm: Keynote Speech

100 Years after Jallianwala Bagh

Pradeep Barua

Professor of History

University of Nebraska, Kearney

2019 marks the 100th Anniversary of the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre in Amritsar. This tragedy was a watershed moment in the relations between colonial Indians and their British masters and it proved to be a significant catalyst for the nationalist movement led by Gandhi. In addition to analyzing the massacre's historical context and profound legacy, the 2019 Tagore keynote address also examines Rabindranath Tagore's unique intervention in 1919 to publicize to India and the world the heinous nature of the massacre.

Rini B. Mehta will introduce the speaker

6:30 pm

Performance by

SPICMACAY

Karthik Hedge

Vaibhav Tipnis

Aniket Ravan

6:50 pm

Songs by members of

Gaan Control

Sohang Kundu

Setu Chakraborty

Purba Chatterjee

Sambarta Chatterjee



7:15 pm

Manobotabad: A Song of Awakening

Swarnali Sanyal

Ragini Chakraborty

Reshmi Dani

Sulagna Chakraborty

Sushmita Das

Titly Dhar

Sreejan Sengupta



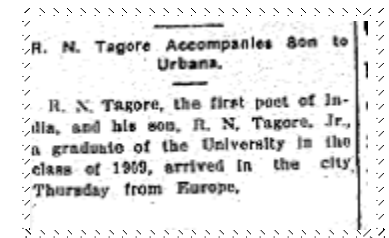
7:40 pm: Dinner

\$15 for adults

\$12 for students

**The Dinner is catered by Signature Grill,
Champaign**

Special thanks to Krishna Bhowmik for
Hall Decoration and Event Publicity.



Courier-Herald, November 2, 1912, page 3.