

Singers Perform at the Institute of International Social Development 2017 Award Ceremony

The Singers from *Sri Chinmoy: The Peace Meditation at the United Nations* were invited to perform songs composed by Sri Chinmoy, dedicated to the UN and peace, for the 2017 Award Ceremony of the Institute of International Social Development (IISD), an NGO in special consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council.

Sharon Hamilton-Getz, Vice President of IISD, emceed the programme, held at the Tillman Chapel of the Church Center for the United Nations on 17 November 2017, during which she and IISD President Shomik Chaudhury presented the Awards. The honorees were Mrs. Salwa Kader, President and Founder of the US Federation for Middle East Peace and Sustainable Development; and Nayaswamis Jyotish and Devi, emissaries of Paramahansa Yogananda, author of *Autobiography of a Yogi*.

For the opening musical interlude, Kamalakanta Nieves played his own interpretation on the synthesizer of Sri Chinmoy's music. The Singers then performed several of Sri Chinmoy's songs of peace, as arranged and conducted by Paree Atkin, accompanied by harmonium and synthesizer. For the closing musical interlude, they performed songs by Sri Chinmoy dedicated to oneness and gratitude, including one in Sri Chinmoy's native Bengali.

The Singers had also previously performed at the 2016 IISD 20th Anniversary Award Ceremony, held on 17 November 2016. Following was the video that aired subsequently on ITV: ITV Presentation of the IISD 2016 Awards.



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