

Music Manjari - Malar 1

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Washington D.C.

A newsletter from SRGMPDN- your Forum for Carnatic Music!

Concert In Review:

28th Annual Thyagaraja festival

The 28th Annual Thyagaraja festival organized by the Sri Siva Vishnu Temple, Lanham, Maryland featured concerts, several lec-dems, thematic presentations, and a carnatic music quiz.

The Raju Soundararajan Memorial Concert was presented by vidwan Madurai Sri. Sundar. The concert was well attended and had the right combination of creativity, wholesomeness and aesthetically pleasing bhavam. It was an all Thyagaraja concert that had a mix of familiar and rare compositions. Having joined the pancharatnam rendition in the morning, he rendered a couple of kritis that featured in the morning session - Sri Ganapatini in Sowrashtram and Guruleka etuvanti in Gowrimanohari. The ragas of the pancharatna kritis were aesthetically woven into a very creative ragamalika Ragam Tanam Pallavi.

The main piece preceding the pallavi was in Thodi, a quintessential Carnatic raga in which Thyagaraja has composed most number of kritis. The kriti, "Enduku dayaraaduraa" in misra chapu exhibited Sundar's mastery over layam (reminiscent of his guru T.N.Seshagopalan) that included patterns in different nadais (gathis). The rare ragam Ganavaridhi (Daya choochutaku), a janyam of the vivadi mela Naganandini was presented earlier.

Srikant Mallajosyula's sensitive violin support and Rajna Swaminathan's spirited mridangam support that matched Sundar's laya patterns and Vivek Chellappa's inspired Kanjira accompaniment added to the high quality of the concert.

The concert lasted about 3 hours though most rasikas would have gladly sat for an additional hour or two.



Upcoming Events and Concerts:

1. Cleveland Aradhana:
April 21 - May 1
2. CMANA 35th year celebration
April 16 and 17
Details: <http://www.cmana.org/>
3. Sangeetha Lahari, Virginia.
www.sangeetalahari.org/trinity.htm
4. SSVT Concerts in April & May
Vidwans Ganesh & Kumaresh
Vidushi Nithyashree Mahadevan
Vidwan T.M. Krishna
Details: www.ssvt.org

News & Awards:

- Padma Bushan: R.K. Srikantan
- Padma Shri: Shri S.R. Janakiraman
- Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards: Suguna Purushothaman, Mysore Nagamani Srinath; Nagai R. Muralidharan; Srimushnam V. Raja Rao; S. Rajeswari (music for Bharatanatyam)
- Recently issued commemorative stamps:
T N Rajarathinam Pillai, T Bala - saraswathi, and veena Dhanmmal.

Obituary:

- Renowned mridangist Sri. Dandamudi Rammohan Rao passed away recently. A senior disciple of Sri. Pazhani Subramania Pillai, he served as a staff artiste of Akashvani, Vijayawada for five decades.
- Doyen of Hindustani vocal music Pandit Bhimsen Joshi passed away on January 24th. He was recipient of Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award. His rendition of "Mile sur mera tumara" and other gems will ever reverberate in our ears.

Quiz time! Identify the artists in the photo below:

Answers will be revealed in the next edition



Thukkadas:

- The first December music season started in 1927.
- Sri. T.V. Subba Rao was the first ever to be conferred the sangeetha Kalanidhi award. This was in the year 1929. He holds the record for being the youngest music personality to have ever presided over the Music Academy's annual conference. He was also the first person to be given the honor.

Kadi Korner:

பாகவதர்: என்ன ஓய், உம்ம கிட்டே இருந்து கிச்சடி வாசனை வருதே?

ம்ருதங்க வித்வான் சீனி: மாமா, மன்னிக்கணும், ஆத்துகாரி எல்லா ரவாயையும் எடுத்து கிச்சடி பண்ணிட்டா. ம்ருதங்க தொப்பிக்கு வச்சுக்க ரவா இல்ல, அதுதான் அவோ பண்ணின கிச்சடிய இன்னிக்கு ம்ருதங்கதுக்கு வச்சுட்டேன்!

பாகவதர்: பேஷ்! இன்னைக்கு உன் வாசிப்பு மணமா இருக்க போறதுன்னு சொல்லு!

Kuttis' Korner: Cartoon by Nithin Ramesh

EVOLUTION OF LEARNING CARNATIC MUSIC



SRGMFDN welcomes feedback and articles for the newsletter.