

# Music Manjari - Malar 2

May/June 2011  
Washington D.C.

A newsletter from SRGMPDN- your Forum for Carnatic Music!

## Concert In Review:

### A March Thodi evening.....

It was one of those bright days in March when the weather was very pleasant and the audience was treated with a pleasant experience of a delightful vocal concert by Mr. Siddharth Kumar. He was accompanied by Kamal Kiran Vinjumori on the violin, Ajay Ravichandhran on the mridangam and Vivek Chellapa on Kanjira. This was held in Rama and Murali's residence in North Potomac, MD on March 20th.

Siddharth started off with an Ata-tala Varnam in Reethi Gowlai that set a beautiful precedent of what was to follow. Then a not so often heard Syama Sasthri Krithi, Pahimam Janani in Nattai followed by crisp swarams. This paved the way for a beautiful Lathagi Alapana - he really excelled in the higher octaves - Kamal Kiran followed with a beautiful response. Siddharth rendered the all popular Papanasam Sivan Krithi Venkataramana followed with swarams.

The fourth offering was another nice selection of popular kriti Mokshamu Galatha in raga Saramathi set to Adi tala - this was preceded by a quick alapana. This bought out the bakthi and emotions that the song is so laden with. Then followed a racy Bogindhra Sayinam in Kunthalavarali in Tala Kanda Chapu by Swathi Thirunal.

This was followed by the piece de resistance and the main offering in Raga Thodi - an elaborate alapana (which included Graha Bedham) bought out the emotions that only a Raga like Thodi can bring and Siddharth did full justice to it. He was well assisted in the violin. Muthuswami Dikshithar's Shri Krishnam, Tala: Adi followed with Neravals and Swarams taking the concert to a crescendo. Special mention must be made about the thani performed by the Ajay and Vivek. I felt the Siddharth's rendition of Thodi reminded me a lot of TNS's rendition of Thodi.

This followed by a quick Oothukadu krithi Alayipayuthe in Kanada. The final piece was a pleasant Thillana in Bhimplas by Swathi Thirunal followed by Managalam. Siddharth ensured that he covered the breath of composers.

It was quite an experience to the audience that these young artists not only gave high quality performance but also assured the future of Carnatic music is bright and strong in their hands. The organizers have to be congratulated for organizing this unique event celebrating young carnatic musicians and the great spiritual path of music.

### Upcoming Events and Concerts:

SSVT Concerts in June & July  
June 4th - Harikatha by T.N. Seshagopalan  
June 12th - "Laya Ensemble" by Ghatam Karthik and local artists  
June 26th - Flute Concert by K. Bhaskaran  
July 2nd - Bharatanatyam by Shravanti Satish  
July 9th - Vocal concert by K. Gayatri

Details: [www.ssvt.org](http://www.ssvt.org)

*Quiz time! Identify the artists in the photo below:*

*Answers will be revealed in the next edition*



Answer to quiz in the last newsletter: T.R.Mahalingam on Flute, Chembai Vaidhyanatha Bagavathara on Violin and Maharajapuram Viswanatha Iyer on Mrudangam.

### ***SIRIEMPDN*** (சிரிகமபதநி):

அரியக்குடி ராமானுஜ ஐயங்கார், ஒரு சிறந்த சங்கீத வித்வான் மட்டுமல்ல. நல்ல நகைச்சுவை உணர்ச்சி கொண்டவர். ஒரு முறை ஐயங்கார் கச்சேரி. அன்றைக்கு அவரது தொண்டை கொஞ்சம் மக்கர். இருந்தாலும், அவரது வித்வத்தின் சிறப்பினால் கச்சேரி நன்றாகவே அமைந்தது. ஒரு ரசிகர் அவரிடம் வந்து சொன்னார். ராக ஆலபனை, ஸ்வரப்ரஸ்தாரம் எல்லாம் அபாரம். ஆனால், காதுக்கு தொண்டை தான் கொஞ்சம் கம்மலாயிருந்த மாதிரி..... அவர் முடிப்பதற்குள் பளிச்சென்று பதில் சொன்னார் சிரித்தபடி! "காதுக்கு கம்மல் தான் அழகு!"

*SREMPDN welcomes feedback and articles for the newsletter.*

***Thukkadas:*** Music Academy now offers a 3-year Diploma Program in Carnatic Music  
<http://musicacademymadras.in/news.php>

T.M.Krishna in Concert:  
<http://www.thehindu.com/arts/music/article2062959.ece>

### ***Kuttis' Korner:***

1. Which instrument is called the Rajavadhyam?
2. Which instrument is called the Devavadhyam?
3. Which instrument is called the Mangalavadhyam?

### ***Answers in the next Issue***

### ***News & Awards:***

- Sangeetha Kalanidhi **T.K. Govinda Rao** was conferred with 'Thiyaga Brahma Nadha Ratna' by Nadhasudha.
- Sikkil **Mala Chandrasekhar**, flautist, has been honoured by Sahara Family with Lifetime Achievement Award
- Sangeetha Kalanidhi **M.S. Gopalakrishnan** (below) turns 80.

