

MUSICAL BIODATA

KALAIMAMANI Dr. S. SUNDER

Date of Birth : 10th February 1960
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TRAINING IN MUSIC

Carnatic Music

1971 – 74 : Sri. Vaidyanatha Iyer (Mumbai)
 1974 – 76 : Palghat Sri. T.S.Anantharaman (Mumbai) `
 1975 : Smt. T.Brinda
 1976 – 77 : Trichy Sri. Swaminatha Iyer (Mumbai)
 1978 – 91 : Sangeetha Kalanidhi Vidwan Sri.D.K.Jayaraman
 1992 – 93 : Sangeetha Kalanidhi Vidwan Sri.T.K.Govinda Rao
 2001 : Thanjavur Sankara Iyer

Tamil Devotional music

1995 : Perumpaana Nambi Thiru Kodilingam

Hindustani Bhajans

1980 – 85 : Smt. Seetha Narayanan

Rabindra Sangeeth

1972 – 75 : Sri. Malloy Ghose (Mumbai)

Music Theory

1982 – 85 : Ambattur Sri.P.K. Rajagopala Iyer

TITLES IN MUSIC

“PERUM PAANA NAMBI” - Naadu Kaan Kuzhu, Lalgudi
 KALAIMAAMANI - Govt of Tamil Nadu November 2003
 VAIDYA SASTRA PARANGATHA SANGEETHA KALAMANI given by TAMBRAS
 GANA KALA VIPANCHEE – 2007
 ASTHANA VIDWAN OF KANCHI KAMAKOTI MUTT – 2008

QUALIFICATION IN MUSIC

B.A. in *In Indian Music* from the Madras University(1985 – 88)

PRIZES

Won over 50 prizes in intercollegiate competitions and those
 Conducted by Sabhas like the Music Academy, Music Triangle Bombay,
 Bharatiya Fine Arts Society (Gold medallist), Mylapore Fine Arts
 Society, Indian Fine Arts Society, and Saraswathi.

AWARDS IN MUSIC:

1983: *Best concert in Junior Category – Krishna Gana Sabha*

2003: *Award for Best concert in Subsenior Category – Music Academy*

2003: *Best Male vocalist in December concert series – Music Academy*

2004: *Sangam Kala Group award for outstanding contributions in music.*

Felicitated by IMA, Chennai, and Kodambakkam, Nadabrummam, and Irai pani manram, for musical achievement.

Vocational excellence award – given by the Rotary club of Madras Chenna Patna

SCHOLARSHIPS IN MUSIC

Did a two year project on “Notation in Carnatic Music” Sponsored by the Vipanchi Trust, Mumbai in 1984 – 86

TV Production: Since October 2009 started running a serial on Sankara TV titled MAITHREEM BHAJATHA on Carnatic Music which is featured every Saturday between 9 pm & 9.30pm

CASSETTES GIVEN

- **Individual**
 - *Sangeet Milan – songs in Hindustani and Carnatic Music.*
 - *Navagraha Kritis – December 1998.*
 - *Kritis Popularised by D.K. Jayaraman – 1999*
 - *CHOWKAM SOWKHYAM*
 - *PAAMALAI - Compilation of Thanjavoor Sankara Iyers songs*
 - *PAAMALAI – Thanjavoor Sankara Iyers songs second volume*
 - *PRABANDHA PAAMALAI – Compilation of Divya Prabandhams*
 - *PURANDARA PAAMAALAI – Compilation of Purandara Dasar’s compositions*
- **Choral Music**
 - *Melodysey – choral music in an ensemble*
 - *Vande Mataram – choral music with Bharat Bala Productions*
 - *Utsava Sampradaya Kritis – Archives of All India Radio*
 - *Ramananjali – A set of 5 cassettes on Ramana Maharishi*
 - *Kudumba Sametham– choral film music*

BOOKS WRITTEN/ EDITORSHIP / WRITINGS

Syllabus in 7 grades for the Canada organization Tamizh Isai Kala Manram
FAQ’S IN CARNATIC MUSIC

Founder Editor of DHWANI a newsletter (1987-90), brought out by the Youth Association of classical music.

Music Critic for NEWS TODAY during Music Festivals

Cartoonist for the issues of DHWANI

EXAMINERSHIP / TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS

Has been examiner for the practical paper in B.A. Music 1998

Has set the question papers for the exams held in Canada

Faculty member for the postgraduate music course conducted by the International Vedanta university

PIONEERING WORK ON MUSIC APPRECIATION

Know our Music – Produced by YACM

LEARNING TO APPRECIATE CARNATIC MUSIC – double cassette album brought out by HMV

PAPERS PRESENTED

“The Influence of Western Music on Carnatic Music” at

The Commonwealth Music Society 1993

The Music Academy 1994

Naadanjali, Mumbai 1999

“Occupation related Musculoskeletal Disorders among Musicians”

Indian Association of Occupational Health State Conference, Chennai 1997

IAOH National Conference, Mumbai 1998

Indian Association of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation National Conference, Bhubaneshwar 1998

Music Academy, 1998

“Muthuswami Dikshitar – the Versatile Genius” – at

Divyadhvani 1998

Mumbai 1998

Irai Pani Manram 2000

“Tukkadas” – Mudhra, June 1999

“Cure of Diseases in Thevaram”

Coimbatore, August 1999

Music Academy mini hall, January 2000

“Music in the new Millenium”

The Hindu High School, November 1999

Compositions in the Raga Dhanyasi organised by Carnatica on 10.3.2000

“Music and its influence on the Brain’ national level conference organized by Indira Nagar Sangeetha Sabha, Bangalore

Musical Aptitude of Visually Impaired children – Dec 2007 at the Music Academy

LECTURES AND SPEECHES GIVEN

- *Spoken on State and Fate of Carnatic Music at Sruti seminar*
- *Music as a profession – YACM festival*
- *Tradition and Innovation in Music at Mudhras festival 1998*
- *The state of Carnatic music at the Hindu high school*
- *Spoke on the beauty of Carnatic music at Pechu Kacheri, a program on Doordarshan.*
- **‘Globalization of Indian music’ WORLD MUSIC DAY 24.6.02, organized by Carnatica and KFI**
- *took part in a debate on Carnatic music at Coimbatore Jan’03*
- *debate on Carnatic music organized by Carnatica in 2005 Narada Gana Sabha*
- *spoke on Bani in 2008 along with Prof.Vavesu, Shashikiran, Manakkal Sriram*

MUSICAL AWARENESS AND PROPAGATION

- **Anchoring a serial titled “Maithreem Bhajatha” for Sankara TV, being launched on Diwali day - 17th of Oct. 2009**
- **CONVENOR OF THE MUSIC FORUM CHENNAI [details below]**
- **Has done pioneering work in the propagation of classical music –Given over 50 lecture demonstrations in schools and colleges on “Appreciation of Carnatic Music” since 1987**
- **Music resource person for AMBALAM, an organisation to promote musical awareness 1994 - 95.**
- **Lectured to the employees of the Shriram Group, Ashok Leyland Finance on Raga identification.**
- **Given talks at Hindu School, iflex solutions, Carnatica, Rotary club Chennai towers on Music appreciation**
- **Conducted Novel musical games at the YACM Anniversary.**
- **Organized the 3rd anniversary of the magazine DHWANI**
- **Organized an inter school & college music competition on Thanjavur Sankara Iyer’s compositions on the 15th of Aug.2003**

MUSIC FORUM ACTIVITIES

CONVENOR of the **Music Forum, Chennai Chapter** and was invited to two international music conferences in Mumbai.

Made a presentation on **“Riyaz (practice) in Carnatic Music”** to an international audience at the conference conducted by the Sangeet Research Academy in December 1999

Organised a very successful seminar on **COMPUTERS, INTERNET, CARNATIC MUSIC AND YOU**, in Chennai during the December music festival 2000

MEGA WORKSHOPS ON MUSIC APPRECIATION FOR CHILDREN

- **Organised a one day free workshop for over 500 college and school students on February 26th 2005 at Rani Seethai hall on ‘DEMYSTIFYING CARNATIC MUSIC’**
- **Organised a one day free workshop for over 500 college and school students on August 28th 2005 at Rani Seethai hall on ‘Carnatic music appreciation’ with famous speakers and concert by Vijay Siva**
- **Mega workshop at Rani Seethai Hall - 19th August 2006**
- **Mega workshop at Rani Seethai Hall - 10th of Feb 2007**
- **August 19th 2007 - Mega workshop Mayavaram**
- **September 1 2007 - Mega workshop Chennai**
- **September 29th 2007 - Mega workshop Trichy**
- **Feb 2nd 2008 - Mega workshop in Neyveli**
- **20th of April 2008 - Mega workshop in Bidadi, Bangalore**
- **6th of September 2008 - Mega workshop in Tiruvarur**
- **20th September 2008- Mega workshop in Chennai**
- **11th of October 2008- Mega workshop in Thanjavur**
- **Workshop on New composers Indira nagar, Bangalore**
- **5th of July 2009 at Vellore on Music appreciation**
- **15th of August 2009 in Thiruvaiyaru on Musical forms**
- **16th of August 2009 in Mayavaram on Compositions and Composers**
- **3rd of October 2009 in Kumbakonam on Music appreciation**
- **13th of Feb 2010 in Tiruvarur & Tiruvaiyaru**
- **17th July 2010 in Tirunelveli**
- **18th July 2010 in Trichi**

MONTHLY WORKSHOPS

TRAIL BLAZING CONCEPT - MONTHLY LECTURES ON MUSIC APPRECIATION with well known guest speakers

- October 15th 2006 - How to appreciate a concert
- November 19th 2006 - How to identify a raga I
- December 17th 2006 - How to identify a raga II
- Jan 21st 2007 - How to identify a raga III
- Feb 18th 2007 - Compositions
- April 15th 2007 - Saint Thyagaraja
- May 20th 2007 - How to appreciate Thani Avarthanam
- June 24th 2007 - Evolution of Carnatic music
- July 2007 - Evolution of Carnatic music Part 2
- September 16th - Muthuswami Dikshitar
- Oct 28th 2007 - The Melakarta Scheme
- Dec 2nd 2007 - Appreciation of Music for IT professionals
- Ganapathy Sachidananda Ashram, Nada Sudha
- Kolaperumal Chetty School
- June 15th 2008 - Bird's eye view of Shri.Muthuswamy Dikshitar's Compositions
- What is the need of the hour - 29.12.08
- Neyveli Santhanagopalan a musical tribute to the Trinity
- Vidya Shankar 22 srutis
- Bani in Carnatic Music-21.6.09
- A session on Gopalakrishna Bharathi - 19th July 2009
- GURUVANDANAM - ON SARASWATHI POOJA DAY 27TH September 2009, where 9 acharyas Vedavalli, T.K.Govinda Rao, V.Subramaniam, Chengelpet Ranganathan, Seetha Narayanan, Suguna Purushottaman, P.S.Narayanaswamy, T.N.Seshagopalan, B.Krishnamurthy were honored with a purse and their disciples sang songs taught by them.
- Session on Ragam Tanam & Pallavi on the 9th of October 2009
- Session on understanding Ragas on 14th of Feb 2010
- 23rd May - Workshop on Ragam Tanam Pllavi by Chengelpet Shri.Ranganathan
- 12th June - Workshop on Narayana Theerthar by Mythili Kannan

Interviews on TV

Interviewed on **Vanakkam Thamizhagam** , A popular programme on SUN TV in December 2000 on my various achievements in music.

Interviewed on **Naiyandi Durbar** , a popular programme on VIJAY TV in April 2001 on my various achievements in music.

Featured in Sandhippoma - a popular show in SUN TV

Interviewed on SCV CHANNEL, a popular programme on teaching of music

Interviewed on Doordarshan on having been awarded the Kalaimamani title

Featured in Arangetram - program on aahaa fm 91.9 fm channel

Participated in a debate on music in Doordarshan

TEACHING OF MUSIC

Currently teaching five students, two of whom **Keerthana and Sruthi Sagar**, are undergoing intense training and have won several prizes in competitions and have **bagged the Central Government Scholarship for young musicians.**

Sruthi has had his arangetram in July 2006, and has been selected to perform under the lyal isai nataka manram scheme. He is on the way to becoming a star in the field. Sruthi Sagar has also bagged the First prize in the All India Radio competition in the year 2007 and is currently a B high graded artist of AIR. Keerthana bagged the Thambura prize for the year 2007 awarded by the Indian Fine Arts Society, Chennai and also had her arangetram in 2008. She has also been selected to perform under the lyal isai nataka manram scheme and is also a graded artist of AIR.

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Invited to be a judge at several music competitions

Has sung for dance programs in 1984

Recently featured as judge in the popular "Saptaswarangal" program in SUN TV

Featured as a judge at the Music Academy for their annual competitions

Invited as judge by the Central Government under its CCRT scheme - 2008

Invited to be a judge at TAMBRAS competition on August 1 2009

Invited to be the Chief Guest for two Arangetrams in Dance

FEATURES

*was featured in the Article " **Making the most of their musical talent** " THE HINDU*

was one of the 20 young musicians whose biography was published in the book "Isai Vanil Ilam Thendral" by Su. Ra.

*was interviewed for the Hindu under the title "**Parallel Careers**"*

was featured in the Adyar Times in November 1994,

featured in the Indian Express in November 2003 'Perfect blend of Physician and Musician'

featured in Chennai Malar and Kutcheribuzz ,

featured in ISAI EADU a magazine in Tamil

featured in APOORVA RAGAM , a musical magazine

featured in UDAVIKKARAM

SALUTE - Frozen Thoughts - March 2004

Performances Given

Carnatic Music - given over 400 performances all over the country

- Krishna Gana Sabha
- Ragasudha, Coimbatore
- Tamil Isai Sangam, Karaikudi
- Indian Fine Arts
- IIC, Delhi
- Kalalaya, Erode
- Ranipet Sangeetha Sabha
- Neyveli Sangeetha Sabha
- Sadguru Sangeeta Samajam, Madurai
- Fifty - Fifty Sabha
- Kalalaya, Salem
- IIBC, Bangalore
- Ganabharati, Mysore
- Carnatic Music Society, Goa
- Rasika Ranjani Sabha, Mumbai
- Sadguru Sangeetha Sabha, Chennai
- Bharati Tamil Sangam, Eloor
- Ayodhya Mandapam
- Music Club, IIT
- INTACH
- Mylapore Fine Arts Society
- YACM Series
- Bharatiya Kala Sangam, Jamshedpur
- Sarvani Sangeeta Sabha
- Saraswathi
- Nada Brahman, Mumbai
- Music Academy

- Asthika Samajam
- TYME
- Gandharva Gana Sabha
- Nadopasana
- Singapore Broadcasting Corporation
- Nellore Thyagaraja Sabha
- Nanganallur Thyagaraja Samajam
- Narada Gana Sabha
- Nandanjali, Mumbai
- Subramania Samaj, Mumbai
- Tamil Isai Sangam, Aurangabad
- NCPA, Mumbai
- Palghat Fine Arts
- Swati Musi Dais, Calicut
- Suswaraa
- Irai Pani Manram
- Sangeet Kalopasak Sabha, Amravati
- Kartik Fine Arts
- Nadu Kan Kuzhu, Lalgudi
- Ramana Kendra, Bangalore
- Krishna Gana Sabha, Tanjore
- Ramalingar Pani Manram
- Anjaneyar Temple, Nanganallur
- Rani Seethai Hall
- Viswanatha Iyer Trust
- Hamsadhwani
- Ragapriya, Madurai
- Bhairavi Pondicherry
- Bhavani
- Divyadhvani
- Dept of music Annamalai university
- Rukmani arts
- THE MUSIC ACADEMY - TTD ANNAMACHARYA FESTIVAL
- Vaikom temple - Ashtami
- Singapore Fine Arts
- Chamber concert Malaysia
- Vidwath Samajam
- Chennai Fine Arts
- Vinayakar temple Toronto
- Chamber concert - Toronto
- Indian cultural association - Toronto
- SIFA - Singapore
- Navaratri pooja - Kuala Lumpur
- Devi temple - Houston
- Naada Sudha
- Shanthi Fine Arts
- Vipanchee
- Sankara Mutt, Kanchipuram
- Jakarta Ayyappa samajam
- Thriumuruga Bhakta Jana Sabha, Trivandrum
- Thyagaraja Vidwat Samajam, Nanganallur
- Sathya Sai Baba temple, RA Puram, Chennai.

Performances Given [Contd]

- **Hindustani Bhajans** Given over 5 performances
- **Rabindra Sangeeth** Given over 10 choral music concerts
- **Advertisement Jingles -** Has sung Ad jingles for Chik Shampoo, Aspee Knapsack

A.I.R

Graded **B HIGH** in Carnatic Music and given over 80 radio Concerts
 Graded **B** in Hindustani Bhajans from 1988 - 92.
 Was one of the few Carnatic Vocalists selected for the archival recordings of Utsava Sampradaya Kritis on AIR.

Doordarshan / Satellite Television

Given 4 Carnatic concerts, 3 Hindustani Bhajan, 3 Choral Music Programs, and 1 National Network Music Program.
 Programme host for a music serial AKSHARA ANTADI on VIJAY TV
 Rendered a concert on Vijay TV 3.11.00.

REPERTOIRE

HAS INHERITED THE INIMITABLE STYLE OF MASTER SHRI D.K.JAYARAMAN AND LEARNT SEVERAL HUNDREDS OF SONGS FROM HIM AND OTHERS

Can perform **Full Length Concerts** in compositions by:

- Saint Tyagaraja
- Syama Sastry
- Swathi Tirunal
- Appar thevarams
- Divyaprabandhams
- Annamacharya
- Pattanam Subramania Iyer
- Muthuswamy Dikshitar
- Papanasam Sivan
- Muthiah Bhagavathar
- Sundarar thevarams
- Gopalakrishna Bharati
- Tanjavur Sankara Iyer
- Purandaradasa

REVIEWS

"One does not know whether the entry of S. Sunder of Chennai, a doctor by profession in to the realm of music as a performing vocalist is a loss to the medical profession or not, but without a moments hesitation one can hazard a safe guess that carnatic music is certainly going to be the gainer."

- **Indian Express, Madurai 1983**

"A soft mellifluous voice, and classical foundation, impeccable pronunciation of Sahitya, and total surrender to music characterized his Karnatak vocal concert"

Star of Mysore, 1986

"..at the first concert of the day at the Music Academy, Dr. Sunder's alapana of Todi was exemplary..."

- **Dinamani, 1988**

"DHWANI is fast being recognised as the voice of young musicians, it is a serious journal but has a nice sense of humour"

- **Madras Musings, 1991**

"Is there anything in common between medicine and music? So it seemed, when Dr. Sunder (a disciple of the late DKJ) excelled in stylish Raga alapana, telling kriti renderings and not to be outdone in technique, swaras with a strong whiff of Raga"

- **Indian Express, 1991**

"The young vocalist Dr. S. Sunder gave a brilliant account of his taste of classical aesthetic. He chose to render compositions bearing Raga Mudras"

- **The Hindu, 1991**

"The Music Academy deserves credit for spotting an artiste who still finds time to learn more kritis and practice"

- **Indian Express, 1994**

"Dr. Sunder sang Divya Prabandhams in Kacheri style... His Arangisai was like an opera..."

- **Sakthi, 1996**

"Equipped with a nuanced non strident style of vocal artistry, Dr. S. Sunder gave a gratifying account of his accomplishment as a disciplined singer of the younger generation. Scrupulous alignment on the sruti, sensitive modulation of the flow of

vocal expression and sustained concern for avoiding needless phrases were the main factors which contributed to the effectiveness of his recital”

- **The Hindu, 1998**

“Dr. Sunder gave an impeccable rendering of the raga Begada at the Anjaneya Temple at Nanganallur. Equipped with a soft pleasing voice and excellent diction, he enthralled the audience...”

- **The Hindu, 2000**

On Traditional lines: *“Dr.Sunder gave a competent performance at a well attended concert under the auspices of Hamsadhwani.Without indulging in unnecessary frills or gimmicks the artiste followed the well tested traditional route both in alapanas and swara rendering”*

- **The Hindu 30.6.2000**

Varum thalaimurai vazhthum - **Dinamani 15.10.2000**

The perfect blend of a physician & a musician – The Indian Express – Nov.2003