

About the Musicians

Smt. Bama Visveswaran, a distinguished musician amongst the younger generation of Dance Musicians, has carved a niche for herself over the past 20 years in this field. A graduate from Madras University, Bama Visveswaran had training in South Indian Classical Music at the age 10 under her father Kadavasal Sri K.S. Ramachandran. She had given more than 600 concerts in India and abroad. Her natural flair for the arts has flourished under the training and guidance of the doyens of the music field, Smt. Rukmani Rajagopalan, Tanjore Sri S. Kalyanaraman and Dr. M. L. Vasanthakumari. She has the honor of accompanying eminent artistes of the dance field Padmasri Adyar K. Lakshman, Dr. Vyjanthimala Bali and Ms. Lakshmi Viswanathan. Blessed with the mellifluous voice and trained capacity for concert music, Bama Visveswaran is at present a much sought after musician for South Indian Classical Dance.

Smt. Lata Suresh underwent her training in Carnatic Vocal Music under the tutelage of Smt. Meera Nadhan of Shanmukhananda Sabha, Bombay, India. As a budding artiste, Lata has many accolades to her credit. Having acquired a strong foundation, she started performing at major events in the Indian subcontinent including Television. Traveling internationally with her husband enabled Lata to popularize the art form far and wide. She played a pivotal role in premiering the annual Tyagaraja Utsavam in St Louis, Missouri and The All Composers Day in Chicago, Illinois. Aspiring to spread the art form in its purity, Lata has instituted her own music school, *Sangeethalaya*, in West Chester PA. She has performed for dance recitals under the auspices of Smt. Ramaa Ramesh, director of *Nardhana Academy of Dance*. Lata's dedication to excellence, passion for the art form and her student's zeal inspire her to strive for greater heights as an artiste.

Sri. Venkata Ramana is a seasoned flute accompanist for Bharathanatyam dance, having pursued this career for over twenty years. He was trained under his father, Shri P. Vishwanatha Rao and later under Dr. P.Sita Ram. He is a graded artist and has given several solo performances at various cultural centers in Chennai. He has accompanied eminent artists like Dr. Vyjayanthimala Bali, Padmashri Adyar K.Lakshman and Uduppi Shri Lakshmi Narayanan in their performances and productions. His flute is an asset to all other artists. He is also teaching Carnatic music in Chennai.

A disciple of Kumbakonam M.Rajappa Iyear, an eminent tutor in Chennai, **Sri Mayuram J. Shankar** hails from the family of musicians. He had his debut in 1981 presided over by violin maestro, Prof.T.N.Krishnan. Since then he has been accompanying both for carnatic music and Bharatanatyam performance. He is a graded artiste in All India Radio. He has given lecture demonstration on Mirudhangam in India and abroad. He has participated in Festival of India in Russia and France and recently toured South Africa for dance recitals organized by Indian Council for Cultural Relations. He has accompanied many Bharatanatyam artistes like Dr. Padma Subramanyam, Ms. Lakshmi Viswanathan, and Padmashri. Smt Chitra Visweswaran. He is a very sought after Mridhangist in India.

Mudikondan S. N. Ramesh was born in a family with a musical tradition. He commenced his training in the veena at the tender age of nine from his father Sri. S. Narayanaswamy Iyer, a senior disciple of Sangeetha Kalanidhi Mudikondan Sri Venkatarama Iyer. Ramesh is also a talented vocalist besides being a vainika. A versatile artist with an excellent professional record, Ramesh has been performing since 1985. He has received several awards and has also been honored as the Asthana Vidwan of Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam and Sringeri Sri Sarada Peetam by their holiness. He is an 'A' Grade Artist of AIR, Chennai and performs frequently on air, Dhoor Darshan, and other satellite channels. Apart from his performances all over India, he has also visited Australia on a solo concert tour in August 2002. He has also visited Sri Lanka on a concert in March 2003 and visited Europe on a concert tour in May 2003. He is performing in Vadhyalahari, an instrumental ensemble with Kalaimani Kum. A. Kanyakumari and Mambalam Sri. M. K. S. Siva.