



INDIAN CLASSICAL MUSICIANS

Archana Upadhyaya and Samanvi, popularly known as the Lathangi Sisters, are celebrated Carnatic vocalists whose artistry blends youthful dynamism with scholarly depth. Though not filial sisters, their musical bond and synchrony have earned them a distinct identity in the Carnatic music fraternity.

Their training began under Vid. Vasanthalakshmi Hebbar and Dr. V. Aravinda Hebbar in 2008, with early immersion in the Gurukula vasa tradition at “Lathangi” house in Udupi. They also trained briefly under the late Smt. Ranjani Hebbar, before continuing their rigorous education under the Hebbar family. A defining milestone came in 2015, when maestro Chitravina N. Ravikiran accepted them as disciples, shaping their music with his scholarly guidance.

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Concerts & Performances

The sisters have performed over 200 concerts across India and internationally. Their maiden US tour in 2025 included appearances at the Cleveland Thyagaraja Festival and Chicago.

Thyagaraja Utsavam, along with concerts in Los Angeles, Denver, San Jose, Seattle, Houston, Phoenix, and Delaware. They have also captivated audiences in Dubai and Germany, further establishing their global presence.

A major highlight of their career is that both Archana and Samanvi were awarded direct "A" grades as artistes of All India Radio, a rare distinction that underscores their standing among the finest of their generation.

Their artistry has been recognized with numerous awards, including the Mani Krishnaswamy Annual Award (2018), Raga Dhana Pallavi Prashasthi (2018), Raga Laya Prabha Award (2021), and the MS Subbulakshmi Fellowship Award (2021–2023). In 2024, they were inducted into Chennai's Live4You Hall of Fame, and they continue to receive scholarships from the Ranjani Memorial Trust and the Karnataka Sangitha Nrithya Academy.

Beyond performance, the sisters have contributed to scholarship and pedagogy. They co-authored Keerthanas of Karnataka (2018), released multiple CDs, and recorded 101 Dasa's compositions under the Daasaarchane Project. They have presented lecture demonstrations on advanced Carnatic concepts such as Grahabhedhas, and their thematic concerts on Dasa kritis and Shyama Shastri's 262nd birth anniversary have been widely appreciated.



Further, Archana holds an MSc Physics degree from Madras University, while Samanvi an MA Degree at the same institution. Together, they embody the blend of scholarly rigor, soulful expression, and international reach, making them torchbearers of Indian classical music for years to come.

The duo has performed over 200 concerts across India and the USA. Prestigious stages include:

- The Music Academy, Chennai
- Parthasarathy Swami Sabha, Brahma Gana Sabha, Krishna Gana Sabha, Rasika Ranjani Sabha, Chennai Fine Arts
- Cleveland Thyagaraja Festival (USA), Chicago Thyagaraja Utsavam (USA)
- Tours across Los Angeles, Denver, San Jose, Seattle, Houston, Phoenix, Delaware

They have also collaborated with renowned storyteller Sri Vinay Varanasi, performing in India, Dubai, and Germany.



Awards & Scholarships

Archana and Samanvi have received numerous recognitions, including:

- Mani Krishnaswamy Annual Award (2018)
- Raga Dhana Pallavi Prashasthi (2018)
- Raga Laya Prabha Award (2021)
- MS Subbulakshmi Fellowship Award (2021–2023)
- Live4You Hall of Fame Induction (2024)
- Gana Ratnam Title (Priya Fine Arts Trust, Chennai)
- Scholarships from Ranjani Memorial Trust and Karnataka Sangitha Nrithya Academy

Both are **A-graded artistes of All India Radio.**

Competitions

- Winners of Yuva Sangeeta Samrat Competition (2016)
- Multiple prizes in Times Thyagaraja Award Contest (2020–2021)
- MS Subbulakshmi Voice of the Year Award (2022, The Hindu, Chennai)
- Best Vocalist Prize from Kala Prashala Annual Festival (2023)



Publications & Projects

- Co-authored Keerthanas of Karnataka (2018)
- Released two CDs (2014, 2018)
- Recorded 101 Dasa's compositions under the Daasaarchane Project
- Featured in thematic concerts on Dasa kritis and Shyama Shastri's 262nd birth anniversary (2024)

Media & Teaching

The sisters are regularly featured in leading newspapers and broadcast media. They also present lecture-demonstrations on advanced Carnatic concepts such as Grahabhedhas.

As passionate Gurus, they mentor students worldwide, nurturing the next generation of Carnatic musicians.

Academic Background

- Archana: MSc graduate, Madras University
- Samanvi: MA student, Madras University



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