PROFILES OF CONCERT ARTISTS

Vijay Siva (Muthuswami Dikshitar)—is a top-rung Carnatic music artiste. A disciple of the renowned D.K.Jayaraman and D.K.Pattammal, he has also trained in Mridangam under Kumbakonam Rajappa Iyer and Srirangarajapuram Jayaraman. He has sung in all major sabhas in India, as also in USA, Canada and Singapore. A recipient of more than 100 awards, he has released several music albums. No stranger to drama, Vijay Siva played recently a pivotal role in "Bharathi Yaar?"





Gayathri Venkataraghavan (Lalitha)---is a senior concert musician. Initially trained by Smt. Rajalakshmi, she received advanced tutelage under A. Sundaresan, and has been under the guidance more recently of P.S.Narayanaswami. She is a "TOP" grade artiste of A.I.R. and a recipient of numerous awards. She has performed extensively in India, USA, Canada, New Zealand, Singapore and Middle East, and released many music albums.

Dr. S. Sunder (Thyagaraja)—is a Kalaimamani awardee, and one of the foremost musicians and musicologists in Carnatic music. He is a very senior disciple of the great D.K.Jayaraman and T.K.Govinda Rao. A professional physiatrist and ergonomic consultant, he has given more than 500 concerts all over the world.





Vikram Raghavan (Vadivelu) - is an upcoming vocalist in the world of Carnatic Music. He had his initial training from Smt. Rajalakshmi Ramachandran and has been under the guidance of T.M. Krishna since 2003. Vikram has performed extensively in Chennai, across India and in North America over the past 10 years. He is a graded artist of the All India Radio and has been awarded several prizes from prestigious institutions.

Bharath Narayan (Sivanandam)—is the son and disciple of noted Vidushi Dr. G. Baby Sreeram from Thiruvananthapuram. Starting to learn music at age 4, he released a CD of Dikshitar's Navagraha Kritis when he was 8. He has won many prizes & awards. He dons "grease paint" for the first time.





Abhinav Shankar (Ponnaiah)—a disciple of well-known musician, Sikkil C. Gurucharan, he juggles between corporate life and music. He has sung at several concerts in Chennai, and has lent his singing "persona" to The Madras Players' production of "Madaiah the Cobbler", directed by Prasanna Ramaswamy recently.

Aryamba Sriram (Seethamma)—is an accomplished Bharathanatyam dancer, having received advanced training in Kalakshetra. She has been part of a few internationally renowned dance ensembles, and has performed all over India, Japan, Australia, Cambodia, Germany and Malaysia. A winner of many awards and recognitions, she has in addition actively learnt and performed Carnatic music.





Sanjay Nag (Ananda) - was initiated into music at the tender age of 4 by his mother, Vidushi Sowbhagya Ravishankar, and continued his learning from Vidwan Dr. K Varadarangan. Currently, he is under the tutelage of Vidwan Abhishek Raghuram. He has been awarded Prathibhakankshi from Sree Ramaseva Mandali, CCRT scholarship, and directly graded "B-High" from All India Radio. He has been performing throughout India and abroad.

Shilpa Sadagopan (Kamalam) - is a 22-year-old musician, who just graduated from the University of Southern California's Pop music program and Business School. She has been learning Carnatic music since the age of 3 - from Kasthuri Shivakumar and Chitravina Ravikiran. She has won numerous prizes in competitions around the US, and has performed concerts in India. She also performs and songwrites American pop music, and currently is doing a sync licensing deal with Sony music and working on an RnB project.

