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Entertainment

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For aspiring classical learners



Kosmic Music 1463C, 1473C, 1483C - Carnatic Classical - Basic Classical Lessons - ThattuVarisais and Geethams - S. Rajeswari and disciples - Rs. 50 each.

S. RAJESWARI, an experienced guru, has in this album released by Kosmic Music, taught six of her disciples four Thattu Varisais in the 15th Mela Mayamalavagowla set to Adi talam and four Geethams in ragas Anandabhairavi, Kambhoji, Saveri and Arabhi.

The first two are in Adi talam, the third in Roopakam and the last in Tisra jati triputa. The practise of Thattu Varisais helps the student improve the tonal quality. The Geethams, with beautiful lyrics extolling various deities in the Hindu pantheon stand out for clarity of diction.

The beginner gets to learn about the subtle gamakas, anuswaras and its charming swarupa. Rajeshwari, with her crystal clear singing in

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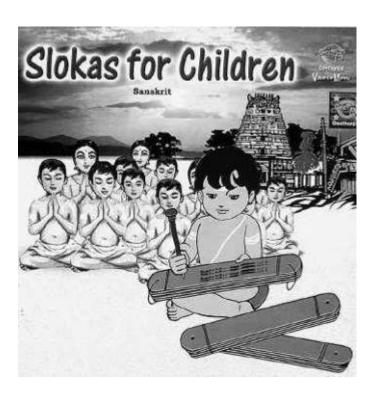
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the different kalapramanams, motivates the young vocalists to follow her example of singing with perfect alignment to the shruti and strict adherence to the supporting notes — very worthwhile for aspiring youth.



Geethanjali CD SA178 - Fusion - Instrumental - R. Sivaramakrishna Rao (Sitar) Janardhan (Saxophone) - Rs. 200.

Geethanjali's CD comprising six compositions with B. Sivaramakrishna Rao and Janardhan on the sitar and saxopone respectively, is a pleasant attempt to combine the nuances of the stringed Hindustani sitar and the western key instrument, the saxophone.

The keyboard, mridangam, thavil, ghatam and also Konnakkol (oral expressions of jathis) form the orchestral backdrop.

A theme in Hindolam by Sasidhar, Tyagaraja's "Varagana Lola" in Sankarabharanam, a Madyamavati composition by Sasidhar, a Sai bhajan in Ahirbhairav, a piece in Sallabam and Balamurali Krishna's tillana in Brindavana Saranga make the programme worth listening. A couple of errors in the spellings of ragas could have been eschewed.

Instead of including both Hindolam and Sallabam that are very similar except for the Gandharam, a composition sporting a Prati Madhyamam would have added colour and variety.

S.P.

New releases

Vedu's Music Mind has released two new CDs, `Arul Isai Amudham' and `Engamuthu Mariamma'.

The former contains lilting devotionals rendered by Anuradha Krishnamurthi.

The latter is a collection of songs on Mariamman sung by Swarnalatha, Srinivas and Harini. Both the CDs are priced at Rs. 150.

Geethanjali (Ph: 5214 0068/5214 0069) has released a new CD, `Slokas for Children' which comprises Sanskrit slokas on different deities like Ganesha, Shiva, Dakshinamurthy, Saraswati, Hayagriva, Rama, Krishna and Subramanya.

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