

Today's Program

Guru Vandanam: 5pm

Sri Mahesh Radhakrishnan (**Vocal**)

Sri Sriram Panyam (**Violin**)

Sri Shyam Balasubramanian (**Mrudangam**)

Main concert: 6pm

Smt Shanta Balasubramanian (**Vocal**)

Sri Mohan Ayyar (**Synthesizer**)

Sri Shyam Balasubramanian (**Mrudangam**)

Future Programs — 2008

- Shri Suresh Easwaran (vocal) will give the main concert in February 2008. More details will be posted on the website.
- The annual Thyaagaraja Aradhanai will be held in March 2008. Please stay tuned for announcements and/or visit our website for more details about this program.

Sponsors

Sponsors contribute \$50 towards hall rental costs. Sydney Music Circle requires 6-7 sponsors every month to cover the hall rental and sound system maintenance costs. Please contact us to sponsor a future program.

The sponsors for this month are:

1. Smt Usha and Shri Janakiraman
2. Smt Sujatha and Shri Jayshankar
3. Smt Sita and Shri Sriram Panyam
4. Smt Jayshree and Sri Jagannath
5. Sri Badri Narayan
6. Smt Priya & Sri Subramanyam

Thank you to all the music lovers who have generously contributed to Sydney Music Circle.

Email Changes

Please advise us if your email address has changed or is no longer in use. This will enable us to send you timely and updated information on Sydney Music Circle events.

SMC Organisers:

Vandana Narayan **Ph: 9614 5788**
Subha Harinath **Ph: 9980 5516**
Lakshman Prasad **Ph: 9746 7161**
Krishna Ramarathinam **Ph: 8814 7016**

Alternatively, you can email us on:
sydneymusiccircle@yahoo.com.au



Sydney Music Circle



Saturday
November 24th 2007

Visit us at:
www.smc.does.it

Artists Profiles

Mahesh Radhakrishnan is a versatile vocalist, songwriter and lover of all things musical. Soon after migrating to Australia with his parents as a child he began learning Karnatic singing from Smt Lakshmi Raman. In 1992 he commenced learning from Dr M.S. Ramanathan. In 2002 Mahesh spent three months in Chennai learning from Sri Vaikkal Gnanaskandan. During that time he had the privilege of performing a short concert at the Narada Gana Sabha. Mahesh continues to learn Karnatic singing from Dr Ramanathan and participates at annual Karnatic music concert events held in Sydney. Throughout his journey as a singer Mahesh has also maintained an active passion for cross-cultural musical explorations. He has started up a range of musical initiatives such as Tapestries of Sound a collective exploring traditional Celtic, Indian and Eastern European styles.

Sriram Panyam initially started learning vocal music from Dr Mrs Rama Rao in Melbourne. He later got interested in violin playing and became a student of violin master Sri Murali Kumar (Melbourne) in 2001. He considers himself fortunate to have received advanced training in Chennai from Violin Vidwan Sri Kanchi Janardhanan and later from Sri M.A. Sundareshwaran. He is currently continuing his musical education from Dr. M.S. Ramanathan. He has accompanied many senior artistes in Sydney.

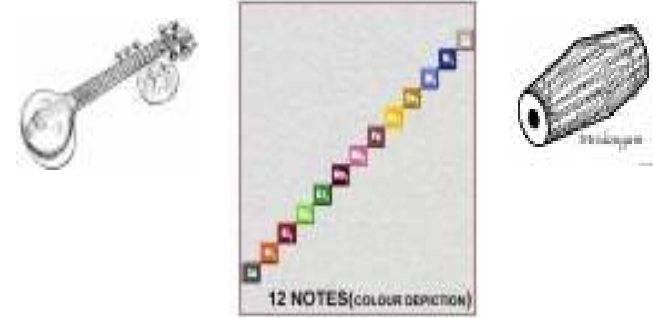
Shantha Balasubramanian learnt classical carnatic music (Vocal and Violin) from Smt. Savithri Satyapurthy, Mumbai for 20 years. She later took advanced music courses (vocal and violin) from Shri. N. Purushottaman, Darpana Academy of Music and Fine Arts, Ahmedabad for 6 years (1979-1985). Shantha Balasubramanian has won several awards and gained numerous accolades in the field of carnatic music. She received a gold medal for winning the first prize in the Carnatic Vocal Music Competition conducted by the renowned Shanmukhananda Fine Arts Society, Mumbai in 1969. She received several silver mementoes for winning the pancharatna kirtana competitions conducted by Bharatiya Music Academy, Mumbai from 1965-1970.

She was also felicitated by the Lions club of Mulund, Mumbai in 1996 and by the South Indian Organisation, Mulund, Mumbai in 1998 in recognition of the support and contribution given to the organization in promoting music talent in students and amateur artistes in the suburbs of Mumbai. An all India vocal artiste for the last 40 years. Shantha has for the last 5 years, upgraded as a 'B High' artiste. And she has given several other concerts in Mumbai and Ahmedabad performing in an array of temples and musical academies rendering devotional songs along with her husband. Shantha Balasubramanian is also an accomplished violinist and has accompanied various artists on AIR, music academies, temples and danseuse artistes such as Hema Malini and the famous Mohini Attam dancer, Smt Geeta Radhakrishnan.

Mohan Ayyar is a well-known musician who has developed his own technique to bring out the subtle nuances of Carnatic music on this Western instrument. Mohan has received training in vocal music under Smt Prema Anantakrishnan and Smt Hemalatha Ganesan. He has performed across Australia and has also accompanied a number of local and visiting artistes. Recently, Mohan has composed music for a number of dance dramas such as *Prakriti*.

Shyam Balasubramanian obtained training in mridangam under Guru Shri Karaikudi R.Chandramouli under the aegis of Mulund Fine Arts, Mumbai and from Shri S. Shankaranarayanan, one of the senior most disciples of Guru Shri Chandramouli, and an accomplished mridangam artiste. Shyam won the prestigious Pandit Vishnu Digambar Paluskar Award for carnatic percussion at the hands of Padmashree Begum Parveen Sultana in the year 1999 in the competition organised by Sharada Sangeeta Vidyalaya, Mumbai. Shyam has also won numerous awards in various inter collegiate festivals and Won a prize at the hands of Smt Vani Jayaram at the inter-bank singing competition in Chennai in December 2002. Shyam has accompanied several senior artistes such as Smt Aruna Sairam, Palakkad Shri Anatharama Bhagavathar, Coimbatore Shri Krishnamurthy, Vainika Vidushi as well as provided accompaniment for several music associations and dance programs. Shyam has recently transferred to Sydney and is currently employed with Societe Generale, Corporate & Investment Bank.

SMC CELEBRATES 25 YEARS!!!



After a very long and successful journey, the SMC has reached its quarter century landmark and we would all like to celebrate the special occasion in the very manner it deserves!

The special event is to commemorate SMC since its first initial steps to the large and well known community organisation it is today. Mostly, we would like to emphasise the carnatic music that has emulated from this musical society since day one and now 25 years later! SMC has provided us all with so many opportunities to evolve our musical knowledge through vocal and instrumental forms. The younger and older generation are coming together to enthusiastically take part in preserving, promoting and celebrating the carnatic music in the SMC.

We invite you all to place in ideas and suggestions for the special event so that we can come up with the right form of celebration for this very memorable day!

There will be a SUGGESTION BOX placed outside the foyer for each monthly concert right through till early next year. Please keep the ideas coming in and we look forward to making this special event a community based celebration!

*If there are any problems or issues, please do not hesitate to contact one of the current organisers of SMC.