



SRUTI

The India Music and Dance Society

1436 Joel Drive, Ambler, PA 19002

Presents
Carnatic Vocal Concert
by

ARUNA SAIRAM

Accompanied by
B.V. Raghavendra Rao (Violin), J. Vaidyanathan (Mridangam)



**Saturday, March 29, 2003
6:30 PM**

Julia Ball Auditorium
Gwynedd-Mercy College
1325 Sumneytown Pike, Gwynedd, PA

Tickets: Members: \$13, Non-members: \$16, Students with ID: \$10, Under 16: free.
For Tickets and Information, please call

Viji Swaminathan (215-643-2145) Balu Balakrishnan (610-358-1673)
Rungun Ramanathan (610-668-3691) Mani Lakshminarayanan (610-280-9437)

Sruti concerts are supported in part by The Philadelphia Music Project, Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, and The Philadelphia Foundation.

Artist Profiles

Aruna Sairam

Aruna Sairam was born in Bombay - a city whose rich cultural life embraces the majority of India's artistic fields - into a family of Tamil stock with a deep love of music. Her mother, Smt. Rajalakshmi Sethuraman, was her first teacher in the art of Carnatic music, while her father, a fine and knowledgeable connoisseur, established their house as a favourite guest home for the greatest musicians and dancers from both Northern and Southern India, such as the dancer Smt. T. Balaraswati, the Khayal singer Ustad Amir Khan and the Carnatic flutist Sri. T. R. Mahalingam, Sangita Kalanidhi Smt. M. S. Subbulakshmi. It was in this propitious atmosphere, which was fundamental to the development of her art, that Aruna Sairam met Sangita Kalanidhi Smt. T. Brinda, who taught her for the next several years, training her in the style of her own mentor, the great Veena Dhanammal, one of the most outstanding figures in Carnatic music, still today a source of profound inspiration for Southern India's leading musicians.

Drawing on her long concert career and a number of significant encounters with other great musicians, Aruna Sairam is known for her own style. Today Aruna occupies an important place in the Carnatic music world.

B.V. Raghavendra Rao hails from a distinguished family of musicians. He was initiated into the niceties of music at an early age of five by his father B. Sudarsana Rao. Attracted by the lure of classical music from his childhood, he trained rigorously on the violin for several years under Guru Shri Balan, Shri Sangeetham Meerasahib and became the disciple of the violin maestro Sangeetha Kalanidhi Shri T.N. Krishnan. Later he received invaluable guidance and concert experience from Dr. M. Balamuralikrishna. He has won several prizes and awards from various sabhas in Madras. He has participated in the prestigious Music festivals organized all over India. He has participated in many festivals of ICCR and the prestigious "Festival of India" programs. He has widely traveled all over the world, including the US, Canada, France, Germany, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Mauritius and the Middle Eastern Countries.

J. Vaidyanathan, son of Sangitha Kalanidhi Late Shri D.K.Jayaraman, had his advanced training from Sangitha Kalanidhi Dr. T.K. Murthy. He has won several prizes and awards. He regularly accompanies many top ranking artists throughout India. He has given performances in US, USSR, Singapore, Muscat, Mauritius, Australia and this is his fifth US and Canada tour.

Directions to Julia Ball Auditorium, Gwynedd-Mercy College

1325 Sumneytown Pike, Gwynedd Valley, PA 19437

From the Schuylkill Expressway:

From the Schuylkill Expressway follow 476 North to signs for Pennsylvania Turnpike. Follow turnpike East to New Jersey. Exit 26 Ambler/Fort Washington. Follow signs for Route 309 North, exit at Spring House/Norristown Road. Turn LEFT at light onto Norristown Road. Drive 2 miles straight ahead to the college on the right*

From the Pennsylvania Turnpike:

Take PA Turnpike to Exit 26 (Fort Washington.) Follow signs for Route 309 North. Follow directions below.

From Route 309 North:

Exit at Springhouse, Norristown Road. Turn LEFT at light onto Norristown Road. Drive 2 miles straight ahead to college on the right*.

From Route 309 South:

Follow 309 South into Montgomeryville (approx. 45 min./1 hr. from Bethlehem.) Take Right onto 202 South. (Montgomery Mall on your right and TGI Friday's on your right corner and Kinko's will be on your left.) Follow 202 South to the 5th traffic light and turn LEFT onto Summneytown Pike (William Penn Inn on your right.) Gwynedd-Mercy will be on your left (about a 1 mile).

From Rt. 202 North:

From 202 N make a right at the William Penn Inn onto Sumneytown Pike and at the 2nd Traffic Light make a left into Gwynedd Mercy college.

From Route 9 Northeast Extension:

Follow turnpike East to exit 26, Ambler/Fort Washington.

Follow signs for 309 North, exit at Spring House/Norristown Road. Turn LEFT at light onto Norristown Road. Drive 2 miles straight ahead to college on the right.

* Don't be concerned about the name change: Norristown Road becomes Sumneytown Pike after crossing over Bethlehem Pike at the Spring House intersection.