



**SRUTI**

**The India Music and Dance Society**

1240 Normandy Drive, Blue Bell, PA 19422 • www.Sruti.Org

**Presents a Carnatic Vocal Concert**

*In memory of Mr. Sankaran*

**Ms. Sowmya**

*with*

**Mr. R.K. Shriramkumar—Violin**

**Mr. Neyveli Narayanan—Mridangam**



*at the Bharatiya Temple Auditorium*

*1612 County Line Rd, Montgomeryville PA*

**At 6:30 P.M. on Saturday April 8, 2006.**

This program is in memory of Mr. Sankaran, a Carnatic music connoisseur and steadfast supporter of SRUTI. For the past 19 years, Mr. Sankaran had volunteered and served SRUTI in various capacities. In his demise, SRUTI has lost a committed leader and an ardent Carnatic music fan, and several families in the Greater Delaware Valley, a very dear friend. In honor of Mr. Sankaran's love for music by G.N. Balasubramanian (GNB), Ms. Sowmya will sing compositions and songs made popular by GNB.

*This concert is made possible by many generous donations from family, friends and colleagues of the Sankaran family.*

***For more information call Usha Bala at 215-699-2827***

***Donations are welcome !!!***

## Artist Profiles

A Carnatic musician by profession, **Sowmya's** life has been soaked in melody from the very beginning. Growing up in a traditional South Indian family, she had her initial tutelage in music from her father Dr. Srinivasan, a Chemical Engineer with an enduring passion for Carnatic Music. Later she was singularly fortunate to be taken under the wings of *Sangita Kalanidhi* Dr. S. Ramanathan - exemplary musician, esteemed musicologist and extraordinary human being. Her musical instincts were further honed by Smt. T. Muktha, of the legendary Brinda-Muktha duo. She attributes her success and achievements till today to these individuals and to the bountiful blessings of her beloved *Ambal*, the Goddess Kamakshi of Kanchipuram. The desire to propagate the traditions of South Indian music worldwide led her to associate with her friend and vocalist [Shashikiran](#), to establish [Carnatica](#), an institution dedicated to music & dance instruction, archival, talent search and other related activities. Carnatica's web portal is now a popular online destination for music-related information, products, courses and discussions. In addition to being an accomplished musician, Sowmya also has excellent academic credentials. She is a double postgraduate (Master's in Chemistry as well as Indian Music) and was a top-ranked scholar at the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IIT-M) and the University of Madras. Discontinuing her doctoral research program at IIT to concentrate on her music, she is now a widely traveled, popular vocalist who strives to adhere to the strict classical values imbibed from her gurus Dr. Ramanathan and Smt. Mukta.

**R. K. Shriramkumar**, grandson of veteran violinist 'Sangita Kalaratna' Shri R.K. Venkatrama Sastri, learnt initially under Smt Savitri Satyamurthy, later under his grandfather, and had advanced guidance from Professor VV Subramanyam. He has also had training in vocal music from Sangita Kalanidhi Late Shri D.K. Jayaraman. Shriramkumar has given many solo violin concerts and has accompanied doyens like Semmangudi, MS Subbulakshmi, DK Pattammal, DK Jayaraman, T. Brinda, KV Narayanaswamy, TV Sankaranarayanan, TN Seshagopalan, Dr. N. Ramani, and Dr. M. Balamuralikrishna. Shriramkumar has toured internationally in countries such as US and UK.

**Neyveli Narayanan** was initiated by Sri. S.K. Ganesa Pillai and later honed his skills under late Thanjavur Sri Upendran of the Thanjavur style. Narayanan is currently a disciple of Padmashri Umayalpuram Sri K. Sivaraman. Narayanan has accompanied veterans such as Madurai T.N. Seshagopalan, T.V. Sankaranarayanan, T.R. Subramanian, K.V. Narayanaswamy, Mandolin Srinivas, Ravikiran and N. Ramani. He has performed in leading sabhas in India, has toured internationally and has participated in many national and international festivals like the Festival of Asia (London), National Arts Council (Singapore). He is an AIR graded artiste and is the recipient of awards such as "Best Mridangam Player" (1995, 1997-98) by the Music Academy.

## Directions to the Bharatiya Temple Auditorium

### From the West:

1. Take the Pennsylvania Turnpike traveling East
2. Get off at Exit # 339 (Ft. Washington).
3. After tolls merge on to 309 North (towards Ambler)
4. Travel about 8 miles on 309 and make a right on to Stump Road
5. After about 2.4 miles right on to County Line Road
6. Temple is on your right.

### From North Jersey:

1. Travel on NJ Turnpike and take exit # 6 to Pennsylvania Turnpike
2. Travel West on PA Turnpike (276 W).
3. Get off at Exit # 339 (Ft. Washington).
4. After tolls merge on to 309 North (towards Ambler)
5. Travel about 8 miles on 309 and make a right on to Stump Road
6. After about 2.4 miles right on to County Line Road
7. Temple is on your right.

### From Philadelphia, South Jersey:

1. Take 76 East (Schuylkill Expressway) towards Valley Forge
2. After about 11 miles, take exit for 476 North towards Plymouth Meeting.
3. Travel about 4 miles and merge on to 276 East/Pennsylvania Turnpike towards New Jersey.
4. Travel for about 4 miles and get off at first Exit (# 339— Ft. Washington).
5. After tolls, merge on to 309 North (towards Ambler)
6. Travel about 8 miles on 309 and make a right on to Stump Road
7. After about 2.4 miles right on to County Line Road
8. Temple is on your right.

### Upcoming Sruti Concerts

7:00 PM., Saturday May 6 2006—Mandolin Srinivas and Rajesh  
3:00 PM, Sunday May 21 2006—Ranjani & Gayatri—Vocal  
6:30 PM, Saturday June 3 2006—M Balamuralikrishna—Vocal

*Mapquest users — Please use 1612 County Line Road, Chalfont, PA 18914-1201 for the "to" address*