



# SRUTI

*The India Music and Dance Society*

proudly presents a Carnatic music concert by

<b>Ms. S. Sowmya</b>	-	Vocal
<b>Ms. M. Narmada</b>	-	Violin
<b>Mr. Melakkaveri K. Balaji</b>	-	Mridangam



**on Saturday, November 4, 1995  
afternoon at 1.30 P.M.**

**at Lincoln Lecture Hall, Camden County College, Blackwood, NJ**

*for more information please call*

Renuka @ 215-542-8596, Ramana @ 610-277-8955, Narayanan @ 610-526-0615  
Ramanathan @ 609-424-6428, Sudhakara @ 609-586-6696, Prabhakar @ 609-987-9716, Sundar @ 609-589-3768

**Admission: Member \$12.00, Guest \$15.00, Student: \$5.00**

(Members with expired season passes pay \$10.00 and children under 15 are admitted free)



### **Ms. S. Sowmya:**

Sowmya is the worthy disciple of the great musicologist, the late Sangeetha Kalanidhi Prof. S. Ramanathan. Her other guru is the revered Smt. T. Muktha. She was conferred the title "Yuva Kala Bharathi" by Bharat Kalachar, Madras in 1990, the MLV award for outstanding young vocalist in 1986, the D.K. Pattammal and T.V. Subba Rao award in 1990 by the Madras Music Academy. She is an A-Grade artist of All India Radio and is a regular performer on both AIR and Doordarshan, Madras. She has given more than 400 concerts all over India and has released several Cassettes, CD's, and double albums. Sowmya is a rank holder and gold medalist in her under-graduate degree in chemistry from the University of Madras and also has a masters in chemistry from I.I.T Madras.

*"I heard Sowmya sing a Papanasam Sivan song. I was captivated by her sweeter than nightingale's voice, the clarity of the lyrics, and the devotion. I saw her face light up at the word Ramanujar. I have not seen this specialty in any other young artist." (Subbudu).*

### **Ms. M. Narmada:**

Narmada started her initial training in violin at the age of 6 from her revered grandfather, the late Parur A Sundaram Iyer. Since then she has continuously trained in both Hindusthani and Carnatic music from her father, the violin virtuoso Padma Shri M.S. Gopalakrishnan. She is also a good vocalist and is taking advanced training in vocal music from Shri T.M.Thyagarajan. A Madras University First Rank holder in both her under-graduate and graduate degrees in music, she is presently completing her doctoral thesis in music on the subject of Ragas of Indian Music, at the Faculty of Music and Fine Arts, Delhi University. Her research guide and guru in Hindusthani music is Prof. Debu Chaudhury a well known Sitar player. Narmada has been performing for over 15 years and has accompanied leading musicians including Dr. Balamuralikrishna, Smt. D.K.Pattammal, Smt. T.Brinda, Smt. M.L.Vasanthakumari, Sri Voleti Venkateswarulu etc.

*"M. Narmada on the violin followed Sowmya like a shadow, she gave to the Ragas stringed richness with well modulated gana naya touches. The ideal match between Sowmya's impulses and the violinist's response was invigorating and mutually inspirational." (The Hindu - December 1994).*

### **Mr. Melakkaveri K. Balaji:**

Balaji has been since age 9 a student of his father the renowned mridanga vidwan Sr. Melakkaveri K. Krishnamurthy. He is a full-time mridangam artist accompanying all leading musicians for the last 10 years. He is a high B-grade artist at All India Radio, Madras. He has been conferred "LAYA GNANA ILA MANI" in August 1994 by the Tiruvaiyaru Tamil Isai Mandram, Kumbakonam. He is a regular participant in the December Music festival at the Music Academy, Indian Fine Arts Society, Tamil Isai Sangam, Bharat Kalachar, Mylapore Fine Arts and Karthik Fine Arts. He accompanied the Violin duet by Sri M.S.Gopalakrishnan and M. Narmada on their tour of Hongkong and Singapore in 1994.

*"I must commend Melakkaveri Balaji's adroit and understanding mridangam support. He has the gift of effectively utilizing the Thoppi which gives third dimension to his playing." (Subbudu).*



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