**Rasya Ramesh & Accompanying Artists**

**SRUTI Bala Bhavam Series Dance Performance – November 8, 2025**

**Rasya Ramesh** is currently an MBA student at Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA, in the accelerated BS/MBA program. Rasya started learning Bharatanatyam at the age of 5 from her mother, Ramaa Ramesh, Founder & Director of Nardhana Academy of Dance, and completed her Arangetram (graduation) in 2019. She has been performing for and representing Nardhana and Daksha Dance Troupe (Bollywood/Bhangra Dance Instituition) in prestigious cultural events in the East Coast for many years. Rasya enjoys teaching dance for both Nardhana and Daksha, and helps with administrative work as well. Apart from dance, Rasya has been training as a competitive figure skater since she was three years old. With an ardent love for music, she has also pursued piano and vocal Carnatic music. With a natural flair for musical compositions, she has experimented with a few of her own unique creations. Born in the family of the Tamil Poet/ Freedom Fighter, Mahakavi Subramania Bharatiyar, she hopes to continue with his legacy.

**Vocal**

**Vignesh Ravichandran** is a Carnatic Vocalist and a published writer in the NY/NJ area. Vignesh holds a masters in fine arts (MFA) degree in carnatic vocal from Annamalai University and is a student of Kalaimamani V. S. Balamurali of Pondicherry and Shanmuga Sangeetha Sironmani Vishnudev Namboothiri, Chennai. He has won various awards and accolades for his performances. In addition to solo concerts, Vignesh frequently sings for Bharatanatyam and Kuchipudi dance performances and Arangetrams. Many of his poetry has been set to tune by him and other musicians and adapted in Carnatic vocal concerts and Bharatanatyam dance productions.

**Vocal & Nattuvangam**

**Rathi Ramesh Sandilya**, a graduate of Villanova University School of Business, with an MBA from Drexel University and working in Entertainment Analytics & Insights for a large Telecom Company in Philadelphia, is the daughter and a senior disciple of Ramaa Ramesh, director of Nardhana Academy of Dance. She is an accomplished Bharatanatyam dancer, teacher and choreographer and continues to represent Nardhana Academy of Dance at numerous prestigious performances and charity shows, locally and internationally. Rathi was the team captain of the premier Bollywood Fusion Dance Team at Villanova, and has led the team to perform at many championships, including World of Dance. She along with her husband Dhruv has recently started ‘Daksha’, a Bollywood, Bhangra, and Fusion dance school. Rathi’s passion for music, initiated by Lata Suresh, was furthered by Veena artist Kalaimamani. Mudikondan S.N. Ramesh and vocalist, Bama Visveswaran. Always drawn to the Nattuvangam, Rathi has also learned to wield the cymbals, in the traditional method from percussionist Mayuram J. Shankar.

**Mridangam**

**Murali Balachandran** hails from a family of dancers and musicians. He studied mridangam under his father, Dr. C.G. Balachandran, and was introduced to Bharatanatyam by his mother, Usha. Murali is a versatile percussionist who is equally at ease playing traditional Indian percussion instruments like the mridangam, the kanjera, the tabla, the ghatam and the morsing. Murali has performed in countries including New Zealand, Canada, and Indonesia. He has performed on Broadway and at major venues like the Lincoln Center, the American Museum of Natural History, the Smithsonian and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Murali is based in New York City and has had the privilege of accompanying leading Indian musicians and dancers including Padmashri Adayar Lakshman, Padmashri Ramli Ibrahim, Padmashri. Chitra Visweswaran, Padma Bhushan Shobana, Padma Bhushan Trichur Ramachandran, Padma Bhushan Kamala Laksmi Narayanan, and Padma Vibushan KJ Yesudas.

**Flute**

**N Visveshwar** is an acclaimed A-grade flutist and one of the youngest recipients of this prestigious grading from All India Radio. Now based in New Jersey, Visveshwar has left his musical imprint across continents. Starting his journey at the tender age of nine, Visveshwar has played over 1,200 concerts in the past 17 years. His performances transcend boundaries, seamlessly spanning pure Carnatic concerts, Classical and Bollywood music for weddings, supporting music for dance productions, and Indian Jazz fusion music with his band at international music festivals. Visveshwar owes his initial training and inspiration to his grandfather, Singanallur Ramaraja Iyer. His talent was recognized early on when, at the age of 14, he was bestowed the "Best Instrumentalist Prize" by the esteemed Madras Music Academy. His artistic journey is decorated with numerous prestigious titles, including ‘Venu Gana Rathna’, ‘Venu Ila Mamani’, ‘Vamshi Kaladhara’, and ‘Bala Kala Rathna’ and as a recognition of his prowess he was awarded a cultural scholarship by the government of India. An alumnus of Cornell University, he currently works as a cloud product manager, seamlessly balancing his artistic pursuits with his professional commitments.

**Swetha Narasimhan – Violin**

**Swetha Narasimhan** is a senior student of Late Gowri Ramakrishnan, from whom she was privileged to learn for 16 years. Swetha started learning violin at the age of 6 from Dr. Narayan Raman, and was taught by several violinists, including Purnachander Rao and Lalgudi Vijayalakshmi, with whom she is currently continuing to learn. For the past 15 years, Swetha has enjoyed playing for Carnatic vocal, instrumental, Bharathanatyam, and Kuchipudi programs around the world, and has taken pride in encouraging upcoming young artists as well as working with several senior artists in the field. Swetha works to support adult education and the growth and development of educators in Philadelphia.