# ലെല്ലാലെല്ലാല്ലാല്ലാല് K. Vrinda Acharya ഷേശ്ശേഷങ്ങൾ ന്നെ

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Vrinda has been recognised as one of the best Carnatic vocalists of Karnataka. Emphasis on bhava and clarity of sahitya, adherence to classical authenticity, eye for intricate nuances, wide repertoire and

enthusiastic rendering of kritis are her special attributes which, coupled with a rich mellifluous voice, have groomed her into a proficient performer representing a purely classical school of music.

Vrinda's musical aptitute was noticed at a very young age, when she would impress many musicians with her innate flair for singing, and get their appreciation and blessings. She had her initial training in Carnatic Vocal Music from Vid. Shaila Subramanyam. She then came under the tutelage of Sangeetha Kalarathna Karnataka Kalashri Vid. NEELA RAMGOPAL. She also receives guidance from her husband Mridangam Maestro Vid. ARJUN KUMAR.



#### که Awards

- 'ANANYA YUVA PURASKARA' and 'VID. ALATHUR SRINIVASA IYER MEMORIAL AWARD' by Ananya, Malleshwaram for the year 2015
- 'BEST VOCALIST' and 'SMT. D.N.PARVATHAMMA MEMORIAL AWARD' in the 'NADAKISHOROTSAVA – Youth Music Festival' conducted by Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha, Mysore for the year 2008.
- 'ARYABHATA AWARD' for the year 2005.
- 'BEST VOCALIST' and 'PRATIBHA PRASHASTI' by Sri Nadajyothi Thyagaraja Swami Bhajana Sabha, Malleshwaram for the year 2004.
- 'BEST YOUTH ARTIST' by Sri Rama Seva Mandali, Chamarajpet for the year 2000.
- 'PRATIBHA PURASKARA' by Sri Vivekananda Kala Kendra.
- 'BEST ALL ROUNDER' from Jain Group of Educational Institutions, Bangalore.

### « Performances »

Vrinda has over two decades of concert experience. She has been giving concerts at prestigious sabhas, institutions and music festivals, prominent among them being The Madras Music Academy, Bangalore Gayana Samaja, Karnataka Ganakala Parishat, Shanmukhananda Sangeetha Sabha(Mumbai), Ananya-GML Cultural Academy, Mysore Ganabharathi, Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha, Bidaram Krishnappa Rama Mandira, Sri Rama Seva Mandali, Devagiri Sangeetha Sabha, Sri Thyagaraja Gana Sabha, Mysore Dasara Festival, Malleshwaram Sangeetha Sabha, Seshadripuram Ramotsava Samithi, Mudhra, Brahma Gana Sabha, Karthik Fine Arts, Indian Fine Arts Society, Sri Guruvayurappan Bhajan Samaj Trust, Edapally Sangeetha Sadas(Cochin) and at several other platforms across the country. She has extensively toured the US giving concerts, lectures at universities and conducting workshops.

She has also given lectems and presented papers at several esteemed national and international music and vedic conferences on varied topics like

- Carnatic Classical Music for entertainment, refinement and enlightenment
- Laya in Ragalapana
- Shringara in Carnatic Music
- Krishna Leela Tarangini of Sri Narayana Theertha
- Compositional forms in Carnatic Music
- Composers of Karnataka
- Women composers of Carnatic Music
- Tamil compositions in Carnatic Music
- 'Kanaka Kanda Hari' based on Haribhaktisara of Sri Kanakadasa

Besides, she is an integral part of a special musical ensemble 'Swaralaya Sammelana' directed and led by her husband Vid. Arjun Kumar.

## ➢ Radio & Television ↔

Vrinda is a **B-High graded artist** (both in Carnatic Classical and Devotional categories) of All India Radio, Bangalore. She has given several programmes on television channels including Doordarshan, Udaya TV, Amritha TV, Sankara TV, SVBC and Suvarna TV.

# Scholarships & Examinations

She is a recipient of Central Scholarship from the Department of Culture, Government of India and State Scholarship from Karnataka Sangeetha Nritya Academy. She has also secured **2nd Rank in the Vidwat Music Examination** conducted by Karnataka Secondary Education Board. She has been awarded the fellowship from Karnataka Government for her research on **'Pre-trinity Sanskrit Compositions in Carnatic Music'**.

### reviews 🐟

- "Vrinda's composed pace added to the melody of her singing....Good planning and good execution stood out" Indian Express, April 27, 2004
- "Vrinda has a good voice and sings with confidence. She presented a number of good compositions with good feeling" Deccan Herald, May 29, 2006
- "...the young artiste exhibited remarkable versatility....she created a bright melodic experience....she expanded Varali dexterously maneuvering through intricate, but melodic sancharas with strict adherence to shruti. Clear accents, distinct pauses, meaningful neraval and decorative swaraprastara rendered her recital comprehendible, meaningful and pleasing." The Hindu, June 27, 2008
- "...Her melodious voice retaining its timbre irrespective of the octaves. Her approach to ragas and the kritis, clear diction, proper accents and apt gamakas held the audience under sway.... necessary pauses and tuneful nilugades complemented the import of the composition; and the sense of shruthi enhanced the melody." The Hindu, April 10, 2009

- "Vrinda was at her best during the concert and showed her proficiency in executing the nuances of the ragas...exhilarating rendition of kritis... Vrinda was so natural and clear in her presentation and only a few artistes have these qualities" Deccan Herald, March 22, 2011
- "Vrinda Acharya's concert was proof of ample talent augmented by assiduous training... The artiste's rich and pliant voice was employed to great advantage in the fairly detailed elaboration of Saraswathi raga, with clear sancharas in the mandra sthayi and sparkling brighas around the thara shadja and rishabha... for the raga-tana-pallavi in Todi, the alapana was systematic, leisurely, and comprehensive, with halts at all the important junctures and replete with gamaka-laden phrases...her free flowing manodharma highlighted the multiple shades of the raga and its immense scope...the rendition was embellished with intricate sangathis and well ordered kalpana swaras which were indicative of her laya prowess" The Hindu, June 10, 2011

#### Albums 🦻

Vrinda has to her credit five CDs;

- 'Sri Hayavadana' exclusively featuring rare kritis of Sri Vadiraja Swamiji
- 'Sri Vadiraja Suprabhatam'
- 'Vande Vasudevam' A Collection of Stotras
- 'Swara Koumudee' Carnatic Classical Melodies
- 'Keerthana Manjari' A collection of multi-lingual bhakti kritis of saint composers

Her evocative renderings in these have won her good acclaim from connoisseurs and rasikas alike.

## ➢ Competitions ↔

During her younger days, Vrinda won several prizes in music competitions conducted by prestigious institutions including the National level Carnatic Music competition conducted by Raga Dhana, Udupi, State level Classical Music competition conducted by Sangeetha Bharathi Trust, Kundapur (with Gold Medal), State level Classical Music competition conducted by Indian Institute of Music and Arts, Pallavi singing competition conducted by Bangalore Gayana Samaja, Malleshwaram Sangeetha Sabha and so on.

#### « Other Details »

Besides music, she has consistently shown her brilliance in academics, culminating in a Post-Graduation in Commerce (M.Com) with I Rank, Bangalore University (Gold Medalist). After many successful years of imparting education in management, finance and corporate laws as a whole-time faculty with the Jain University and National School of Business, Vrinda decided to dedicate her time and efforts exclusively to Carnatic Music. Her equal passion for ancient Indian literature gave her a Post-Graduate degree (M.A) in Sanskrit. Being a good writer, she has been continuously contributing articles pertaining to Indian Culture, Music and Philosophy to various reputed magazines and websites. She is a lively and experienced teacher training several students in music, in India as well as abroad. The music workshops conducted by her at several places world over have gained immense commendation and popularity. She is also well-versed with the Sampradaya Bhajana Paddhati. She is the Vice-President and Managing trustee of 'Anubhooti' – an organisation founded by her along with Vid. Arjun Kumar, for the promotion and propagation of Indian traditional arts and cultural heritage.