



**SRI PARTHASARATHY SWAMI SABHA**

*Bharat Nritya Utsav*

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## A good beginning!

As part of the Margazhi festival, the Bharat Nritya Utsav – the dance festival of Sri Parthasarathy Swami Sabha was inaugurated last week on 19 Jan at Narada Gana Sabha.

Padmashri Chitra Visweswaran and Prof Sudharani Raghupathy presented the Natya Kalasarathy Award to senior dancers – Kalaimamani Dr. Lakshmi Ramaswamy and Padmashri Aruna Mohanty for their significant contribution in the field of dance. Sri. Shenoy Vishwanath Vittal, “Executive Director, Indian Bank, inaugurated the festival. Sri. Krishnamurthy, Secretary of the Sabha anchored the event and shared the activities of the 120 year old sabha. President Dr. Nalli Kuppaswami Chetti also congratulated the sabha through his encouraging speech. Cash awards given from the endowment of Sri. G. Mahalingam and Smt. M. Sundari Endowment instituted by Sri. M. Balasubramaniam



The inaugural function was followed by ‘Govindam Bhaja’, a dance production by senior students of Dr. Lakshmi Ramaswamy’s Sri Mudhraalaya.



*Photos by Santosh Kumar*

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# Shakthi – a solo thematic recital displayed immense energy

AMRUTHA SRIRAM

Varsha J, presented a thematic solo recital 'Shakthi' choreographed by her Guru, Smt. Lakshmi Priya Raja.

She began with a Pushpanjali set to Natai ragam and a melodic Virutham on Lalitha Sahasranamam set to Vasantha.

The Kali kavuthuvam in Gowlai Ragam and Khanda Chapu Talam, composed by Gangai Muthu Nattuvanar took one to the ancient Alangadu where Kali is said to have danced to the beats of Nandi and the music of Narada in accordance to Bharata's 108 talams.

The crowning piece of the performance was Dr. Lalgudi Jayaraman's Angayarkanni Pada Varnam set to a Ragamalika. She moved on to Shakthi Thandavam composed by Sri Jagan and set to music in Hamsadhwani by Sri. Udipi Lakshmi Narayan. The performance concluded with a Thillana composed by Dr. Lalgudi Jayaraman set in Maand Ragam.



Varsha's command over basics of Bharatanatyam coupled with her spirit made the performance lively. She was supported by Smt. Lakshmi Priya Raja on the nattuvangam, Rajeswari Kumar on the vocal, Sridhar Pandian on the mridangam and Ramesh on the flute.



Varisha Narayanan, disciple of Guru K.M. Jayakrishnan & Guru Ambika Buch



Apoorva Natarajan, disciple of Guru Dr. Ananda Shankar Jayant



Poornashri Srivathsan, disciple of Guru Dr. Uma Anand



Sneha Manikandan, disciple of Guru Deepa Ganesh



Lavanya, disciple of Guru Lalitha Ganapathy



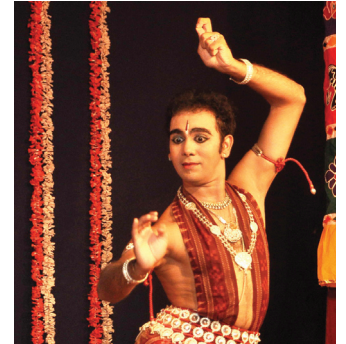
Shruthi Lakshmi, disciple of Guru Dr. Vijay Madhavan



Students of Naya Kala Niketan, disciples of Guru Kavita Srinivasan



Sridevi Rangarajan, Disciple of Guru Akila Subramanyam



Aneesh Raghavan, disciple of Guru Sangeeta Dash



## Brimming with enthusiasm

◆ NIVEDITA RAGHAVAN



A student of Smt Srekala Bharath, Oviya was brimming with enthusiasm.

She began her recital with a high spirited Pushpanjali in Raghav Arabhi, a composition by Dr M Balamurali Krishna. Followed by that was a Kumara kavuttuvam in Ragamalika, composed by Madurai R.Muralidharan.

The next item was a Jatiswaram in Ragamalika and Misrachappu which proved to be a challenging composition.

The varnam was a beautiful composition by Sri Lalgudi G Jayaraman titled Angayar Kaneer Anandam Kondaal in Ragamalika. The orchestra consisted of Chitrambari Krishna Kumar on the vocals, M.Dhananjayan on the mridangam, N.Shikamani on the violin and Smt. Srekala Bharath on the nattuvangam.

The second half of the recital continued with a Javali, Madhura Nagarilo in Ragam Ananda Bhairavi. Looking at the simple interpretation taught to her for this performance, we can expect she will also delve deeper on the lyrics in the years to come. Oviya completed her recital with the lively Thillana in Ragam Kadanakuthalam by Dr M Balamuralikrishna.

## Neat Movements

◆ NIVEDITA RAGHAVAN



The Annual Bharata Nritya Utsav hosted by Sri Parthasarathy Swamy Sabha took off to a great start right after its inauguration, keeping the spirit high throughout the first week of performances. Amongst the line of young, aspiring dancers was Samyuktha Shankar, a disciple of Revathy Narasimhan from Bangalore who decorated the stage very well with her earnest and sincere dancing.

Samyuktha began her recital with a Pushpanjali in Ragam Hamsadhwani followed by a short Ganesha Stuthi. Neat movements coupled with crisp aramandi at the right places set a good precedent for a heavy margam. She then moved on to perform the evergreen Swamiye Vara Cholladi by Sri Dandayudha Pani Pillai in Ragam Purvikalyani. Slow paced jatis and addressing the Lord through many descriptive hands without prolonging the piece was well put together. The emphasis laid on the episode between Muruga (disguised as an old man) and Valli was a good ice breaker to the fast paced recorded music. Jagadodharana, an all-time favourite to both connoisseurs was Samyuktha's next choice. She performed the piece but, with a surfaced level understanding of the Vatsalya bhava with dedication.

The Chief Guest and Guest of Honour Kalaimamani Thiru Ramji and Smt. Sudha Swarnalakshmi were invited on stage to speak a few words. Their short but impactful feedback verified Samyuktha's dedication towards her performance. Although she concluded her recital with a Javali, set to ragam Kapi and composed by Dharmapuri Subbarayar, one did not seem to have missed a Thillana which generally serves as the concluding piece in a Bharatanatyam recital.

## A good team spirit by Sri Kala Ranga School of dance

◆ AMRUTHA SRIRAM

It was a vibrant performance by a team of young dancers from Sri Kala Ranga School of dance, along with their teacher, Dr. Srithika Kasturirangan.

The group comprising Deepa Ramanathan, Manjari Pradeep, Renuka Sugavanam, Anerudh Srinivasan commenced their performance with Natana Poojai Seivom set in Hamsadhwani Ragam and Rupaka Talam.

The team proceeded to the central piece of a repertoire with the famous Swami Naan Undhan Adimai popularly known as the Natakurinji Varnam composed by Sri. Papanasam Sivan. The jathis composed depicted the paraphernalia of the Lord of dance.

Deepa, Renuka and Anerudh moved on to Naan oru vilayatu bommaya composed by Sri. Papanasam Sivan and set to Navarasa Kannada Ragam and Adi Talam. The puppetry movements emulating the essence of the song was an interesting watch.

Valli Kanavan Perai set in Ragam Chenchurutti and Adi Talam performed by Dr. Srithika resonated with Valli's enthusiasm through its crisp adavus and spirited abhinaya.

What else could have given the evening a youthful ending than Dr. Balamurali Krishna's popular Thillana in Kathanakuthalam ragam and Aditalam. The colourful costumes and a good team spirit simply added to the aura.



# An evening of Ashtapadi-s



Last week Parthasarathy Swami Sabha in association with Dr. Lakshmi Ramaswamy's Sri Mudhraalaya organised 'Of Eternal Songs – An Insight to Approach and Visual Presentation of Ashtapadi-s' to bring forward understanding of Ashtapadi-s from the perspective of choreography. Three eminent dancers – Dr. Neena Prasad (Mohiniyattam), Jigyasa Giri (Kathak), Padmashri Aruna Mohanty (Odissi) discussed the approach through their own dance styles.

Dr. Lakshmi Ramaswamy raised the curtain with a snippet from an Ashtapadi while dance critic, Leela Venkatraman was invited to present a special talk – Fragrance and Flavour of Ashtapadi-s.

The audience comprised of dance students and researchers who actively participated in the interactive session.

TIDE – a YouTube channel for all Indian Dance Forms by GIRI also supported the event as the digital partner.



Photos by Santosh Kumar



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Coming up

### 27-1-2020 (Monday)

5.30 pm	Bharatanatyam	Ramya Venkataraman
7.00 pm	Bharatanatyam	Dr. Divyatha Arun

### 28-1-2020 (Tuesday)

5.30 pm	Bharatanatyam	Rukshikaa Elankumaran
7.00 pm	Bharatanatyam	Kavya Muralidaran

### 29-1-2020 (Wednesday)

5.30 pm	Bharatanatyam	Dr. Radha Krishnan & Arabhi Krishnan
7.00 pm	Bharatanatyam	Vaishnavi Anand & Aishwarya Harish

### 30-1-2020 (Thursday)

5.30 pm	Bharatanatyam	Madhumita Prabhakaran
7.00 pm	Bharatanatyam	Students of Kaladiksha

### 31-1-2020 (Friday)

5.30 pm	Bharatanatyam	Riha Giri
7.00 pm	Bharatanatyam	Soumya Tilak Seshadri

### 1-2-2020 (Saturday)

4.00 pm	Bharatanatyam	Nithyasri
5.30 pm	Bharatanatyam	Sarika & Sneha
7.00 pm	Bharatanatyam	Kshiraja

### 2-2-2020 (Sunday)

4.00 pm	Bharatanatyam	Preetha
5.30 pm	Bharatanatyam	Vyomini
7.00 pm	Bharatanatyam	Akshara

The newsletter is available online in our site

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