



Sisters Ranjani-Gayatri awarded The Indira Sivasailam Endowment Medal 2016

October 07, 2016, Chennai: The RaGa Sisters – Ranjani and Gayatri, were conferred the seventh Indira Sivasailam Endowment Medal and Citation at the annual Indira Sivasailam Endowment Concert. This concert is one of the highlight events of The Indira Sivasailam Foundation instituted by *Smt. Mallika Srinivasan*, Chairman & CEO, Tractors and Farm Equipment Limited (TAFE) in memory of her mother *Smt. Indira Sivasailam*. Held at The Music Academy, Madras, Rajani-Gayatri rendered the concert to a packed house of Carnatic music aficionados.

The award presented in association with The Music Academy, Madras, recognizes Carnatic musicians in their prime, encouraging their growth. The recipient is chosen on the basis of clearly defined parameters by an eminent jury constituted by The Music Academy, Madras, and *Smt. Mallika Srinivasan*. This year the award was conferred upon Rajani-Gayatri for their continued excellence in performance, audience appeal, adherence to classical tradition while innovating within its framework, depth of knowledge and demonstrated efforts to disseminate knowledge and the ability to bring about a greater and deeper public appreciation of Carnatic music.

Sri. N. Murali - President of The Music Academy, Madras, welcomed the gathering and spoke about the long standing association between *Smt. Indira Sivasailam* and The Music Academy. He added, "The Indira Sivasailam Endowment Concert, now in its seventh edition, has already established itself as a signature event at The Music Academy during *Navaratri* every year." *Smt. Mallika Srinivasan* felicitated Ranjani-Gayatri and spoke about how for the last seven years The Indira Sivasailam Foundation has focused on preserving and perpetuating Carnatic music for the generations to come. She added that the seventh Indira Sivasailam Endowment Medal has been conferred on Ranjani-Gayatri for having brought about a deeper appreciation for Carnatic music and continuing their excellence in performance.



On receiving the medal, the RaGa Sisters – Ranjani-Gayatri reflecting on the significance of the award said, “*Smt.* Indira Sivasailam epitomized grace and refinement, her love for the finest in Carnatic music and encouragement of talent is something that we value very much. This award in her memory is precious indeed - while it is a coveted recognition for us artistes, it also reminds us of the unending journey ahead, towards perfection and greater heights.

Ardent *rasikas* and music enthusiasts at the event were delighted with the arrangements and reveled in the festive atmosphere and warmth experienced at the Indira Sivasailam Concert.

The award ceremony was followed by one of the best renditions of a Carnatic music concert by Ranjani-Gayatri.

About The Indira Sivasailam Foundation:

The Indira Sivasailam Foundation has been contributing towards perpetuating and promoting our rich culture and tradition and preserving and propagating various art forms. The foundation was established by *Smt.* Mallika *Srinivasan*, Chairman and CEO, TAFE Limited, in the year 2010, in memory of her mother, the Late *Smt.* Indira Sivasailam. The foundation is constantly involved in activities such as care and welfare of senior citizens, women’s empowerment, Hindu philosophy, Sanskrit literature and ‘*annadana*’.

Through the Indira Sivasailam Endowment Fund, under the auspices of The Music Academy, Madras, the foundation organizes The Indira Sivasailam Endowment Concert during the Navaratri season every year, recognizing an outstanding Carnatic musician with The Indira Sivasailam Endowment Medal and citation. Since 2010, renowned and coveted Carnatic musicians like *Smt.* Sudha Ragunathan, *Sri.* Sanjay Subrahmanyam, *Smt.* Aruna Sairam, *Smt.* Bombay Jayashri Ramnath, *Sri.* T. M. Krishna and the Malladi Brothers have been conferred this honor. With the noble aim of preserving and promoting South Indian classical music, the foundation ensures that the concert is open to all, without any fee.



About The Music Academy:

The Music Academy's roots can be traced back to the 1920s, when a group of music lovers united to propagate and promote classical music by establishing an academy in Madras city, marking the inception of the Music Academy of Madras. Over the years the academy thrived to become a venerable center for artists, musicians and *rasikas* of the world to nurture the art and music.

The Music Academy's sole aim of promoting and perpetuating music and culture has played a key role in fostering Carnatic music in the country and abroad. The Academy's burgeoning library houses new books, apart from preservation of rare books and manuscripts. The Academy's awards and recognitions are regarded as an honor to artists at every stage of their musical journey, as to them, an academy performance in itself is a sublime dream and a sense of high achievement.

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