



The Indira Sivasailam Foundation hosts “Anweshā” – Quest for the Best Encouraging a deeper knowledge of Carnatic Music

Chennai, September 16, 2014: Organized as a pre-event to the annual Indira Sivasailam Endowment Concert, The Indira Sivasailam Foundation hosted ‘Anweshā – Quest for the best,’ for Carnatic music lovers on September 16, 2014. It provided a platform for *rasikas* to interact with the winner of this year’s Indira Sivasailam Endowment Medal, Sri. T. M. Krishna, through an interactive questions and answers session on Carnatic music.

‘Anweshā’ in a contest format invited fans to send questions on Carnatic music, of which the top 30 questions were selected and these participants were invited for the event. The contest saw participation from people of all ages and from different parts of the country. The questions dealt with different aspects of Carnatic music like concert formats, deeper understanding of *ragas*, evolution of Carnatic music, usage of instruments, compositions and composers and dwelling briefly on spiritualism, like this question from a contestant, “Introducing or teaching *ragas* to students or laymen by describing their closeness to another *raga* (with respect to the *swarasthaanas* and scales), or referring to its parent or *Melakartha raga* seems to be a common practice. Often students are also warned about the closeness of certain pair of *ragas* and the effort they need to put in to maintain the *raga*’s personality. Isn’t this a dangerous way of teaching or learning a *raga*, since the person’s perspective of the *raga* would be with reference to its ‘close’ or parent *raga*, thus invalidating its uniqueness or personality? If a *raga* is truly unique, does it need crutches in the form of references to similar or parent *ragas*?”

Sri. T. M. Krishna answered the top 30 questions with some inputs from the other panelists Mr. N. Murali, President – The Music Academy Madras, Smt. RithaRajan and Dr. R. S. Jayalakshmi, faculty members at the Advanced School of Carnatic Music, The Music Academy. The event was packed with Carnatic music aficionados and *rasikas*, whose enthusiasm buoyed the spirit of the initiative. The efforts of The Indira Sivasailam Foundation were greatly appreciated by all those attending the event for the opportunity to interact with Sri. T. M. Krishna and gaining new insights into Carnatic music. Another question received referred to Sri. T. M. Krishna’s statement on how there was more to Carnatic Music than just ‘*Kutcheri* music’. The contestant quizzed Sri. Krishna on the aspects and aesthetic forms of Carnatic music that he would like to explore and bring into the traditional *kutcheri* audiences’ consciousness.



Mr.N.Murali, President of the Music Academy welcomed the gathering. Smt. RithaRajan and Dr. R. S. Jayalakshmi, from the Advanced School of Music, as the Anvesha jury members appreciated The Indira Sivasailam Foundation's initiative of creating a dialogue between music enthusiasts and renowned artists to improve their knowledge of Carnatic music for the second consecutive year. The jury shared that objective questions with more focus on traditional and technical aspects of Carnatic music along with other parameters, were considered in the evaluation process.

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 & 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 *Navarathri* season every year, recognizing an outstanding Carnatic musician with The Indira Sivasailam Endowment Medal and citation. The artist is selected by a panel comprising of members from the Endowments Committee of The Music Academy and Smt. Mallika Srinivasan, daughter of Late Shri. A. Sivasailam (Former Chairman - Amalgamations Limited) and the Late Smt. Indira Sivasailam.

Media Contact

Christopher Charles

Concept Public Relations

Email: charles@conceptpr.com

Phone: +91 984 247 5706