



## IN CONVERSATION

# Talking to the Malladi brothers

In a free-wheeling chat, the two singers answered questions from music lovers on a range of subjects

G. SWAMINATHAN

Music aficionados got an opportunity to interact with the Malladi Brothers, this year's recipients of the Indira Sivasailam Endowment Medal. Sreerama Prasad and Ravikumar were happy to talk to the 30-odd rasikas who attended a session titled 'Anweshā', organised by the foundation at an elegant setting in the Raintree Hotel.

Also present were senior musicians Professor Ritha Rajan and Dr. R.S. Jayalakshmi, who served as jurists and selected the questions from among more than 100 entries from countries such as Oman and Malaysia.

'Anweshā' means 'search,' and the programme provided a chance for Carnatic music fans to meet the singers.

The questions covered a range of topics, from the relationship between a raga and tala and how the brothers co-ordinate spontaneously on stage during a performance to the recent tech-driven teaching trends of Skype lessons vis-à-vis the guru-shishya parampara.

The brothers replied with patience and a smile, singing lines from kritis such as 'Paramathmudu' (Vagadheeswari,

Tyagaraja) to explain the composition for niraval or swara, the importance of gamakam and the charm of brigas.

They also spoke of their keenness to revive old, rare ragas, and their training under gurus such as Sripada Pinakapani, Neduneri Krishnamurthy and Voleti Venkateswaralu. They spoke of their evolution as musicians, and each brother's strength — Sreeram's planning skills and Ravi's ingenuity in raga exposition.

The brothers also touched upon issues such as introducing classical music in schools, learning under different gurus, the benefits of referring to books on musicology and learning the art of notation.

### THE EVENT

The Music Academy, Madras, and the Indira Sivasailam Endowment Fund will present the Indira Sivasailam Endowment Medal to the Malladi brothers Sreeram Prasad and Ravikumar this evening at 6 p.m., at The Music Academy. The brothers will present a concert after the ceremony.



The Malladi Brothers with their fans. PHOTO: V. GANESAN

The Hindu - Friday Review Art & Culture - 09.10.2015



#### GENERAL

■ The Music Academy and Indira Sivasailam Endowment Fund: Indira Sivasailam Endowment concert by Malladi Brothers at the music academy on TTK Road at 6 pm.

The New Indian Express - 09.10.2015

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#### CULTURE

The Music Academy, Madras and The Indira Sivasailam Endowment Fund: Presentation of the Indira Sivasailam endowment medal and Indira Sivasailam endowment concert, T.T.K. Rd., Alwarpet, 6 p.m.

The Hindu - 09.10.2015

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மியூசிக் அகாதெமி, இந்திரா சிவசைலம் நினைவு அறக்கட்டளை - விருது வழங்கு விழா: மல்லாடி ஸ்ரீராம பிரசாத், மல்லாடி ரவிக் குமார் பங்கேற்பு, மியூசிக் அகாதெமி, ராதாகிருஷ்ணன் சாலை, மாலை 6:

Dinamani - 09.10.2015