

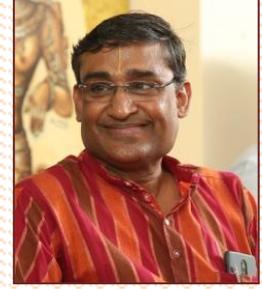


## SIXTEENTH YEAR ANNUAL REPORT

### Chairman's report

Chennai Fine Arts has completed another successful year. We dedicate all the achievements to Lord Hanuman, our presiding deity.

The CFA academy imparting training in classical music is functioning in the heart of the city at Adyar and also at the outskirts of Chennai with about sixty students. The Ministry of Culture, Government of India's Repertory Grant is a pillar of support to the academy. The students are gradually progressing in learning classical music from eminent gurus. They performed during the Rama Navami and Krishna Jayanthi festivals.



A number of activities took place during the year beginning with the Sri Rama Navami Festival - Dasarathi Sangeethotsavam. On 21<sup>st</sup> April, the Birth Anniversary of Palghat Mani Iyer, a legendary Mrdanga Vidwan was celebrated in association with PMI School of Music. Palghat Dr Ramprasad performed a vocal concert on the occasion. A lecture demonstration and thematic concert of the compositions of Walajabad Venkataramana Bhagavata was held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2018. The 90<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Dr M.L. Vasanthakumari was celebrated on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2018. It was a unique program in which only raga alapanas were performed by various senior musicians.

Three Birth Centenaries were celebrated during the year. The first was of Vidwan Shri. Ramnad Krishnan. Smt. Nisha Rajagopal performed on the occasion. The Birth Centenary of Smt. D.K. Pattammal, one of the first recipients of Gotuvadyam Narayana Iyengar Award, was celebrated on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2018 in which her niece Smt. C. Sukanya performed. The other centenary was that of Tadepally Venkatasubramanya Sastri, a multi faceted musician from Andhra Pradesh. A book was released in his memory and his descendants were honoured during the function which was held on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

Every year the Birth Anniversary of Vinjamuri Varadaraja Iyengar is celebrated in association with his memorial trust. This year the event was celebrated on 18<sup>th</sup> August and Vignesh Ishwar performed on the occasion. Another regular event is the concert in memory of Kalaimamani Dr Saraswati in association with Vipanchee, which was performed by K Gayathri this year.

Sarathi Sangeethotsavam series of concerts to celebrate Sri Krishna Jayanthi was held from 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> September. Navaratri Concerts were held on 10, 11 and 12<sup>th</sup> October. The Annual Mangala Isai Music Competition was held on 1<sup>st</sup> December.

One special event this year was the Young Talent Promotion concerts organized jointly with Tamil Nadu Iyal Isai Nataka Mandram. The state academy for cultural promotion recognized CFA as one of the prominent organizations and gave the opportunity to host a nagaswaram and a vocal concert of young performers. This event was held on 30<sup>th</sup> September.

The Annual Music Festival was organised from 21<sup>st</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> December. It was inaugurated by the Honorable Governor of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Banwarilal Purohit. He conferred the title Digvijaya Nadavani and presented the Gotuvadyam Narayana Iyengar Award for Excellence to Tamil Vidwan Haridwaramangalam Dr A.K. Palanivel. The winners of



Mangala Isai Music Competition were also presented awards at the inaugural function. The Governor praised CFA saying though the organization is small, the quality is high!

The final concert of the year was the Viseshha Vadyanubhava performance by 'Chitravina' P Ganesh on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

With every passing year CFA is growing in strengths as an organization known for quality and commitment to the society. We are thankful to God, all the musicians and rasikas who make this possible and give us the zeal to do better always.

### Acknowledgement

My pranams to my guru Shri. Chitravina Narasimhan. It is my pleasure to thank Prof. TN Krishnan, Chitravina N Ravikiran, Haridwaramangalam A.K. Palanivel, R Muthukumar, the Tamil Nadu Iyal Isai Nataka Mandram and the State Academy Directorate of Arts & Culture, Tamil Nadu for their continuous support to the trust in its activities.

Auditor Mr. Ashwin Sridhaaran and our Bankers, Bank of India, Adyar Branch need a special acknowledgement for their services for the smooth functioning of the trust.

A note of appreciation to all the faculties for skillfully training the students of CFA Academy. I also thank Kalaimamani S Gopakumar for his services at Puducherry.

The trust places its appreciation to all the sponsors and donors. Thanks are also due to the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, New Delhi and State Bank of India for extending financial assistance to carry out the object of the trust more effectively and efficiently. All the media friends including Trinity Mirror, Makkal Kural, the New Indian Express, The Hindu, Dinamani, Dinamalar, Online Times, Aboorva Ragam, Samudhra and Sruti Magazine are also thanked profusely for their tremendous support.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees,

P N Muralidharan, Chairman  
Chennai-20.

**Constitution****Board of Trustees**

P N Muralidharan B.Sc., FCA	Founder and Managing Trustee
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**Advisory Panel**

<i>Padmabushan Sangita Kalanidhi</i> Prof. TN Krishnan	Violin Maestro
<i>Padmasri</i> Haridwaramangalam Dr AK Palanivel	Tavil Maestro
<i>Sangita Kalanidhi</i> Chitravina N Ravikiran	Chitravina Maestro & Composer
R Muthukumar	Editor in-chief, Trinity Mirror

**CFA Academy Faculty**

S Nithyasree	Principal / Veena Guru
'Chitravina' P Ganesh	Vocal & Chitravina Artiste
A S Divya	Vocal Artiste
A G Murugan	Tavil Artiste
B Mani	Tavil Artiste
T Venkatesan	Nagaswaram Artiste
S Sivasubramanian	Mrdangam Artiste
R Rajesh	Mrdangam Artiste



## ACTIVITIES OF THE TRUST DURING THE YEAR



### FESTIVALS

Dasarathi Sangeethotsavam  
Sarathy Sangeethotsavam  
Navaratri  
Annual Music Festival



### OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS

Birth Anniversaries of Ramnad Krishnan, DK Pattammal, Tadepally Venkatasubramanya Sastri, Vinjamuri Varadaraja Iyengar, Dr Saraswati, Sruti Pattabhiraman & Gotuvadyam Narayana Iyengar  
Young Talent Promotion concerts with IIN Mandram  
Visesha Vadyanubhava



### CFA ACADEMY

Activities  
Faculty & Students  
Mangala Isai Music Competition



### AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

GOTUVADYAM NARAYANA IYENGAR AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE  
GURU CHITRAVINA NARASIMHAN MERIT SCHOLARSHIP



### SOCIAL ACTIVITIES



**Festivals**

**DASARATHI SANGEETHOTSAVAM**



The year began with Dasarathi Sangeethotsavam concerts commemorating the Rama Navami mahotsavam at Sri Krishna Mandiram in Thiruvanniyur on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2018. Vidushi Smt. Shyamala Venkateswaran presided over the inauguration and blessed the kids who performed that day. The other concerts were by Ragam Sisters Sivaranjani & Nalinakanthi, Tirumalai Brothers Embar Kasturi & PB Srirangachari, Bhavadharini and Allam Durgaprasad (Gotuvadyam).



Students of AS Divya



Students of S Nithyasree



Ragam Sisters



Thirumalai Brothers



Allam Durgaprasad



Bhavadharini

**SARATHY SANGEETHOTSAVAM**



Concerts on the occasion of Sri Krishna Jayanthi. Titled as 'Sarathy Sangeethotsavam', were organised from 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> September. Padmabhushan Awardee Dr. T.V. Gopalakrishnan presided over and inaugurated the festival. There were two concerts each day for five days.



Pravin Pandit - Saxophone



Shankari Subramanyam



Akshay Padmanabhan



R Sowmya



CR Vaidyanathan



Vaishnavi Ramadas



Kishore S



Aravind Balaji



Iyer Sisters

### NAVARATRI

Navaratri is celebrated at the administrative office of Chennai Fine Arts every year. This year there were three concerts during navaratri - Narayanan & Arjun Sambasivan, Chitravina Ganesh and Varshini & Vardhini.



Keyboard Duo



'Chitravina' Ganesh



Thillaisthanam Sisters

### ANNUAL MUSIC FESTIVAL – Supported by Ministry of Culture, Government of India

Annual Music Festival is the main event and a grand music festival celebrated for ten days during the month of December every year. The festival is held from 21<sup>st</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> December and has a grand inaugural function during which a senior musician is presented the Gotuvadyam Narayana Iyengar Award for Excellence comprising Rupees One Lakh cash prize, a gold medal and citation. This year, the festival turned out to be a special one as it was inaugurated by Shri. Banwarilal Purohith, the Honorable Governor of Tamil Nadu. Tavil Vidwan Dr Haridwaramangalam AK Palanivel was presented the GNI Award. There were 35 concerts and 1 lecture demonstration during this year's festival. Four of the concerts were recorded and broadcast by the All India Radio.



The festival was supported by Ministry of Culture, Government of India, New Delhi. All the concerts were open to public.



Dr Rajshri



Hyderabad Brothers



Prapancham Balachandran



Akshay



Hiranmayee



Thoppur Dr Sairam



Pantula Rama



Anayampatti Ganesan



Samyuktha



Archana & Aarti



Iyer Brothers



Dr S Sowmya



Aravind Bhargav



Nandita Ravi



Nagai Muralidharan & Sriram



JB Keertana



G Ramanathan



TV Sankaranarayanan



Aishwarya Sankar



Dr Subhashini Parthasarathy



Injikkudi Subramanyam



SJ Janany



Pattabhiram Pandit



TN Krishnan



Audience



Venkatanagarajan



Dr M Narmada



OS Thyagarajan



Charumathi Ramachandran



Vaibhav



Sruti Sankarkumar



Prarthana Sai



Prithi Narasimhan



Ramana B



Ranjani Sivakumar



VV Subramanyam & Murari

### OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS

#### VAGGEYAKARA VAIBHAVAM



A Vaggeyakara Vaibhavam lecture demonstration and concert featuring the compositions of Walajapet Venkataramana Bhagavatar, a direct disciple of Sri Tyagaraja was held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2018. Dr TR Aravindh, a carnatic music researcher presented the lecture and the concert was by Bombay sisters Smt. C Saroja & Smt C Lalitha accompanied by Vijay Ganesh (Violin), Madipakkam Suresh (Mrdangam) & H Sivaramakrishnan (Ghatam). The duo rendered many rare compositions of Venkataramana Bhagavatar.



## BIRTH ANNIVERSARIES

The following birth centenaries and anniversary concerts were organized during the year.

	<p>21.04.2018 - Palghat Mani Iyer Concert by Palghat Dr Ramprasad with S Varadarajan (Violin), KV Prasad (Mrdangam) &amp; Dr S Karthick (Ghatam)</p>
	<p>25.06.2018 - Ramnad Krishnan Concert by Nisha Rajagopal with L Ramakrishnan (Violin) &amp; Delhi Sairam (Mrdangam)</p>
	<p>29.06.2018 - Dr M.L. Vasantakumari A unique program featuring only raga alapanas by 6 senior musicians</p>
	<p>21.07.2018 - D.K. Pattammal Concert by C Sukanya with Shertalai Sivakumar (Violin), J Vaidyanathan (Mrdangam) &amp; SV Ramani (Ghatam)</p>
	<p>18.08.2018 - Vinjamuri Varadaraja Iyengar Concerts by Vignesh Ishwar with Parur Ananthakrishnan (Violin), Sumesh Narayan (Mrdangam) &amp; Anirudh Athreya (Kanjira)</p>
	<p>15.09.2018 - Tadepally Venkatasubramanya Sastri Concert by Tadepally Srikrishna &amp; Tadepally Rukmini with Melakkaveri Tyagarajan (Violin) &amp; Tanjavur Kumar (Mrdangam)</p>
	<p>06.10.2018 - Kalaimamani Dr Saraswati Concert by K Gayathri with L Ramakrishnan (Violin), Vijay Natesan (Mrdangam) &amp; Chandrasekara Sharma (Ghatam)</p>



### YOUNG TALENT PROMOTION



Two young talent promotion concerts were organised on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018. One was a Nagaswaram recital by Mylai Karthikeyan and the other was a vocal recital by Selvi Jayabhargavi from Trichy. Both these young talented musicians were selected by the State Academy Tamil Nadu Iyal Isai Nataka Mandram, which chose CFA as one of the prominent organisations in the city to host their concert. They presented concert of Tamil Compositions. Dr Thoppur Sairam, Principal of Tamil Nadu Government Music College and Kudandhai Saravanan, Senior lecturer participated as Chief Guests of the program.

### MANGALA ISAI MUSIC COMPETITION



A competition for students of ancient classical instruments Nagaswaram and Taval was held on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2018. About thirty students from various districts of Tamil Nadu participated in it. The students were given breakfast and lunch and also conveyance fee of Rupees Five Hundred each. The details of first three prizes in each category (Taval and Nagaswaram) are as under:

Category	1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize
Nagaswaram	Rs. 2,500/- per month scholarship for an year	Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 5,000/-
Taval	Rs. 2,500/- per month scholarship for an year	Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 5,000/-



Padmasri Awardee Haridwaramangalam Dr AK Palanivel was the judge for the competition. The winners were given prizes by the Honorable Governor on the inaugural day of the Annual Music Festival.

### Visesha Vadyanubhava



A Visesha Vadyanubhava concert was organised on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2019 in which 'Chitravina' Dr. P Ganesh, a top ranking chitravina artist performed accompanied by VVS Murari on the Violin, B Sivaraman on the Mrdangam and N Guruprasad on the Ghatam.

### CFA Academy

CFA Academy is an institution which aims at introducing kids and youngsters to the art of carnatic music. Performance is one aspect of music. Besides, it gives a number of benefits to the learner and the society at large. Hence learning music is a fruitful activity. CFA aims at actively developing an interest in kids to learn and perform classical music - both vocal and instrumental. The academy functions at various places in Chennai and Puducherry. Online classes are also conducted for students residing in other parts of the country and abroad. Training is provided under the categories of Vocal, Chitravina, Veena, Violin, Nagaswaram, Taval, Mrudangam and Arumukhanam.

### Faculty profile

S. Nithyasree	Principal & Veena Guru
Chitravina P. Ganesh	Chitravina & Vocal Artiste
T Venkatesan	Nagaswaram Artiste
B Mani	Taval Artiste
A G Murugan	Taval Artiste
A S Divya	Vocal Artiste
R Rajesh	Mrdangam Artiste
S Sivasubramanian	Mrdangam Artiste

### Area-wise student strength for the academic year 2018-19

Chennai, Tamilnadu	45
Puducherry, Union Territory of India	22
TOTAL	67

### CFA Online

Chennai fine arts has remarkable presence online. The activities of the trust are regularly uploaded in its website [www.chennaifinearts.com](http://www.chennaifinearts.com). The trust is also active in the social media. The photographs of all the performances are available at the facebook link



<https://www.facebook.com/Chennaifinearts>. CFA also started a YouTube channel recently and it can be viewed in the name of Chennai Fine Arts.

(<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmZMfaQlCrZenZciB7GYUaQ>).

### **Social Activities**

CFA is coaching carnatic music to 25 students free of cost, under the traditional GURUKULAM system in the outskirts of Chennai city. It has been donating musical instruments like Violin, Veena, Mrudangam and so on to the deserving students every year. In the past ten years nearly 30 students have been benefitted by this contribution. Every year annadhanam is organized to provide food to the needy students. The trust is also supporting with financial assistance, the economically backward school-going children towards payment of their fees and continues the same till they complete their school final, for the past five years. Chennai Fine Arts aims to reach wider audience and cater to the needs of more deserving people. The trust will continue its activities enthusiastically as ever with support from patrons, audience and the artists.