

Maharajapuram Srinivasan's masterly rendition

- [Gudipoodi Srihari](#)



Srinivasan

The singer's rendition was reminiscent of his illustrious father and grandfather's concerts.

Srinivasan, son of the late Maharajapuram Santhanam and grandson of the legendary Viswanatha Iyer has imbibed the best from both his grandfather and father. Srinivasan is known for his melody filled renditions with right expression of sahitya and he proved that at a concert he gave as part of the annual festival of South Indian Cultural Association (SICA). On this occasion he was accompanied by M.A. Sundaresan on violin, Ananthkrishnan on mridangam and Nemani Somayajulu on ghatam. His son Ganesh Viswanathan was also seen by his side providing vocal support.

Srinivasan opened his concert with *Neranammithi* in Kanada of Ramnadhapuram Srinivasa Iyengar (poochi) and followed it with *Mahaganapathim* in Nata of Dikshitar that he rendered, couching it in bhakti. The swarakalpana tallied with the tempo of the kirtana rendition. After the rendition of *Swaminadhena* of Dikshitar in Brindavanasaranga and *Neebhajanagana Rasikula* in Nayaki he chose to present Pancharatna kirtana of Thyagaraja *Dudukugala Nanne Dora* in Gowla that gave good opportunity to Srinivasan to bring out the beauty of sahitya.

Later Srinivasan rendered *Narayana* in Sudha Dhanyasi of Purandara Dasa and *Bhuvaneswariya nene* in Mohanakalyani of Muthiah Bhagavata and a Tamil composition in Kiravani with ragalpana and swarakalpana, before he took main number of the concert *Sivakameswareem Chintayeham* in Kalyani of Dikshitar. The raga was subtly handled with intermittent flashy images building vivid picture of the raga. The kirtana rendition was full of bhakti bhava in expression. The swarakalpana built in flashes of phrases carried the melodic appeal of the raga and ended with tempo. The contribution of the violinist in his responses to ragas and swaras, complementary in nature, gave a sumptuous feel of melody. The tani avartanam was well built and well carried by percussionists Ananthkrishnan and Somayajulu.

Srinivasan concluded his concert with Purandara Dasa number *Govinda Ninna Namame Chanda*.

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