

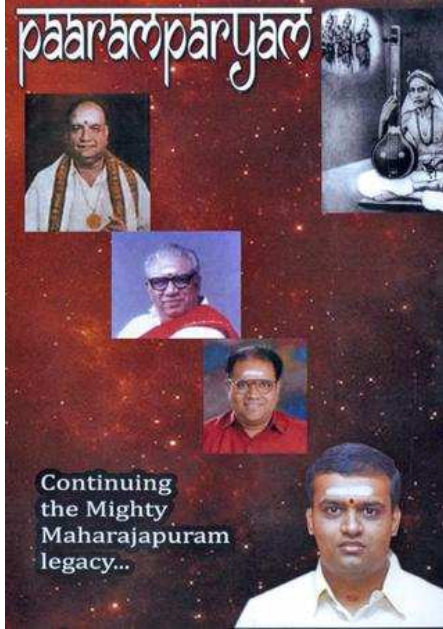
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Adherence to sruti

PVK

CD Ganesh Viswanathan would do well to pay attention to his diction. PVK



Ganesh Viswanathan is the fourth generation vocalist, tracing his lineage to the legendary Maharajapuram Viswanatha Iyer who is his paternal great-grandfather. The striking feature of Ganesh's music is his adherence to sruti sudham. Youthful exuberance is in abundance, which will mellow down in due course of time.

Ganesh is in the company of seasoned accompanists, Nagai S. Muralidharan (violin) and Mannargudi A. Eswaran (mridangam) in this audio compact disc, who provide enthusiastic support.

Mayuram Vishwanatha Sastri's kriti 'Sri Mahaganapathe' (Nattai) is the curtain raiser through which obeisance to the elephant headed Ganesha is paid. The kalpanaswaras for this song are typical of the pattern followed by Ganesh's grandfather, Maharajapuram Santhanam.

Swara passages

Swara passages from Tyagaraja's 'Jagadanandakaraka' are woven into the final solfa swara section. 'Deva Deva Kalayami' (Mayamalavagowla-Swati Tirunal) is the succeeding number sung sans niraval or kalpanaswaras. Ganesh would do well if he pays extra attention to his diction, which will enhance listening pleasure. The word 'Sevanam' in the Mayamalavagowla kriti is sung as 'Sevanow.' Closing the lips while singing such lyrics will have to be given attention to and it would enhance the appeal of the music of this singer who has music in his genes.

A crisp vinyasa of Sudha Dhanyasi serves as a preface to Muthuswami Dikshitar's 'Subramanyena' which has a brief spell of swaras for the anupallavi at 'Prabavama.' Ganesh presents a fair portrayal of Mohanam, followed by Tyagaraja's 'Nannupalimpa.' While the rendition of the kriti is slick, the niraval at 'Karamuna Kodanda' is a trifle hasty. The final korvai for this song is catchy and innovative. Nagai Muralidharan offers a soothing alapana of Mohanam which has a silken finish. The short tani avartanam by Mannargudi Eswaran is to the point and speaks of his rich experience. Ganesh winds up with a thillana in raga 'Basant Bahaar' and a Tiruppugazh in Surutti.

Parampariyam Maharajapuram Ganesh Viswanathan Brindavan Audio MRP: Not mentioned.

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