

and a much sought-after accompanist. He has also been a part of the well-known fusion bands and Jugalbandi concerts in India and abroad. He has had his name featured in several CD and DVD productions.

Rajeev Mukundan began his violin lessons with Shri N. Govindarajan at a very young age. He is currently receiving advanced training from Sangeetha Kalanidhi A. Kanyakumari and has been under able guidance for over a decade. He is an 'A'-grade artiste of the All India Radio. He has received numerous awards from prestigious organizations around the world. Rajeev has travelled extensively on concerts, both in India and abroad. He has given many violin duet concerts with his guru, A. Kanyakumari, and has also accompanied many senior artists. He has been a part of many unique jugalbandis and musical collaborations.

World Music Guest Artists

Sandeep Narayan, vocalist

with

Sri K. Sai Giridhar, mridangam
Rajeev Mukundan, violin

SATURDAY, 7:00 P.M.
NOVEMBER 2, 2019
CAPISTRANO CONCERT HALL

*In keeping with traditional Indian custom, the **raga** (melodic framework) and **tala** (underlying rhythmic framework) will be announced at the beginning of each piece.*

Indian Classical Music

Indian classical music is generally divided into two broad categories; the North Indian Hindustani tradition and the South Indian Carnatic tradition. This evening's event is on music from the South Indian (Carnatic) tradition, which has its emphasis on vocal music. Carnatic music is taught and learned through compositions, which encode many intricate musical details, also providing scope for free improvisation.

The **raga** is the melodic framework of Indian music and is based on a scale of five, six or seven notes. Its characteristics include melodic ornamentations of certain notes, inclusions of microtones, certain characteristic phrases and the existence of certain important notes over others. All of these make the raga recognizable. Each musician tries to elaborate the raga according to his capacity but always staying within the notes applied to the raga.

The **tala** is a rhythmic cycle of a certain number of beats that act as a metrical framework for musical compositions and rhythmical improvisations. The tala is usually kept with different hand gestures such as clapping, counting and waving. The listeners can enjoy the music by anticipating the variations in the gamakas by the performers and expecting how the performers handle the intricate details of different ragas.

Tonight's event is co-sponsored by Sacramento Aradhana.

Sandeep Narayan is regarded as one of the leading vocalists of Carnatic music today. He had his initial training from his mother, Smt. Shubha Narayan, and at the age of 11, took a break from his academic education to undergo advanced training from the revered musicologist, Calcutta Shri K.S. Krishnamurthy in Chennai, India. After Shri Krishnamurthy passed away in 1999, Sandeep began learning from Sangitha Kalanidhi Shri Sanjay Subrahmanyam. Sandeep broke boundaries by being the first US-born and raised musician to move to India to take up music as a full-time career, a trend that is now followed by many other aspiring musicians.

Sandeep has received many titles and recognitions. Most recently, he was awarded the prestigious "Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar" from Sangeet Natak Akademi, the national level academy for performing arts set up by the Government of India. He is also the recipient of the "Kala Ratna" title from the Cleveland Thyagaraja Aradhana in April 2019, Yuva Purandara Award from Indranagar Sangeeth Sabha, Bagalore in January 2019, the Best Ragam-Tanam-Pallavi Award from The Music Academy Madras 2017, "Isai Arasar" title from Trinity Fine Arts 2017, "Shanmukha Sangeetha Shiromani" from Sri Shanmukhananda Sangeetha Sabha, Mumbai in 2016, and the Best Concert & Vocalist Awards from The Music Academy Madras five years consecutively from December 2010 to December 2014.

Sandeep holds an 'A' Grade with All India Radio, Chennai since 2010. Having performed extensively all over the world including concert tours of Australia, Canada, England, Germany, Oman, Singapore, Sri Lanka, United Arab Emirates and the United States of America, Sandeep hopes to continue serving as a cultural link between Carnatic music and audiences worldwide

Sri K.Sai Giridhar, born in the year 1984, is a disciple of guru Sri. M.L.N. Raju and Parupalli. S. Phalgun. An 'A' grade artist of All India Radio, he is also the recipient of the prestigious Bismillah Khan 'Yuva puraskar' for the year 2017, awarded by the Sangeet Natak Akademi. He has travelled extensively within India and also around the world performing at famed theatres and prestigious festivals in USA, UK, Europe alongside legendary artists. He is also a regular with the present upcoming stars of the field

