

Chitravina P Ganesh

Chitravina Ganesh, world-record setting slide instrumentalist and vocalist, is the grandson of the legendary Gottuvadyam Narayana Iyengar. He stormed into the world of carnatic music even at the tender age of two and a half, just like his illustrious cousin, Chitravina N Ravikiran. Trained by Chitravina maestro Narasimhan (his maternal uncle), Ganesh was able to identify and render around 225 Ragas and 175 Talas and answer numerous other technical questions with ease.

Ganesh also had the rare privilege of learning from Sangeeta Kalanidhi T Brinda for a few years and is among the best chitravina performers in the country today. In May 2004, he set a record for the longest concert by any slide instrumentalist in the world by playing non-stop for 32 and half hours in Chennai, India. An A-grade artiste of All India Radio and Doordarshan, Ganesh has performed in tandem with Ravikiran as Asia Brothers and also accompanied top notch artistes like Smt T Mukta, Dr Balamuralikrishna and Smt Sowmya in several concerts and recordings.

Ganesh is also a highly competent vocalist and teams up with his cousin, K N Shashikiran, to present vocal duet concerts as '*Carnatica brothers*'. He has toured the world extensively and performed in major venues all over India, USA, UK, Europe, Canada, Singapore, Malaysia, Australia, New Zealand and the Middle-East. He also holds the world record along with Shashikiran, as the first vocal duo pair to perform non-stop for 24 hours. Ganesh is also much sought after as a teacher, and is presently in the faculty of Carnatica's Gurukulam.

Ganesh has also been featured as a vocalist and chitravina artiste in Ravikiran's melodic ensemble, Vintage Virtuosos. Some of his albums include Music of the world (released in France), Resonating Ragas, Sixth element, Samarpanam, Navagraha Krtis and Rama Vaibhavam. Bahu daari.

Ganesh also plays Hawaiian guitar and has given many fusions and concerts. He has shown a flair for composing as well, having already created few varnams, krtis, tillanas and a few instrumental pieces. He has bagged several awards such as Yuva Kala Bharati (Bharat Kalachar, Chennai), Gandharva Vidya Dhara (Irai Pani Manram, Chennai), Best Pallavi Award (Music Academy, Madras), Best concert Award (Narada Gana Sabha, Chennai and Music Academy Chennai), Best Pallavi Concert Award on the Chitravina (Karnataka Gana Kala Parishad), Maharajapuram Vishwanatha Iyer Award and the Asthana Vidwan of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam, to name a few.

For more details, please visit www.carnaticabrothers.com, www.chitravinaganesh.com

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