

## Flute Jayanth – A Musical Journey

Flute exponent Jayanth is a young musician of national and international repute. A wunderkind, affectionately called Flute Jayanth by thousands was born in a musical family. He was naturally drawn into early training on bamboo flute in the Indian classical music tradition of *guru-shishya parampara*, since age five, from his grandfather and guru, late Kalaimamani Flute T. S. Sankaran, a Sangeeth Natak Academy awardee himself and a prime disciple of the legendary Flute Mali. His grandmother, late vidushi V. S. Sundari grounded him well in vocal music by the age of four.



With his in-born talent, deep passion and primordial training, Flute Jayanth gave his maiden solo concert at the age of seven. His ability to play *rAgam-thAnam-pallavi* (or, RTP) in three speeds (or, *thrikAlam*) at that age, surprised many senior musicians, co-artistes and audience alike.

Jayanth has a unique, virtuoso fingering and flute blowing technique to present his music beautifully even in the very difficult lower octaves on the *bass* and *double-bass*, thick-walled bamboo flutes, while maintaining *shruthi suddham* (perfect pitching) and excellent tonal quality. His expressive, *bhava*-laden rendering brings out the depth and soul of the lyrical aspects of compositions he presents (*gayaki*-form). As a result, Flute Jayanth's over 1600 solo concerts in India and all over the world, have consistently won him lasting appreciation from one and all, including senior musicians, co-artistes, connoisseurs and *rasikas* (or, music lovers). His unique playing virtuosity and lyrical expressivity have inspired many flautists of the current generation and the younger crop to imbibe his style. He is the first carnatic flautist to unveil 106 cms long Double Bass Bansuri flutes in his performances casting a meditative spell on the listeners and also playing on 15 cms long piccolo flutes.

Flute Jayanth has been invited to perform regularly at pre-eminent *sabhas* and venues such as the Madras Music Academy, Swathi Sangeethothsavam, Cleveland Thyagaraja Festival, Shanmukhananda Hall – Mumbai, Kalakshetra Foundation - Siri Fort-New Delhi, Purana Quila - Delhi, Chowdiah Hall – Bangalore, Prashanthi Nilayam – Puttaparthi, Kennedy Center – Washington D.C, Drive East Festival – New York, Darbar Festival - UK, Milap Festival - UK, Sydney Music Festival, DUCTAC Auditorium - Dubai, Reitberg Museum - Zurich, to name a few. He has performed at other major centers and festivals across India, USA, Canada, France, UK, Switzerland, Germany, Australia, Dubai, Kuwait, Singapore, Malaysia, Bali, Mauritius and Re-union Islands. Some of these have included *jugalbandhi*'s with renowned Hindustani musicians like Flute virtuoso Pt. Ronu Majumdar, Shehnaiz Pt. Ashwani Shankar; Veena Rajhesh Vaidhya, Mandolin U. Rajesh, and others.

Jayanth is also an empanelled artiste with the ICCR. He has been invited to perform for Sangeeth Sammelan and National program of music by All India Radio . He was awarded 'A' grade by All India Radio at a very young age. He also has the privilege of performing for the Honourable President of India in Daman Diu.

Flute Jayanth's music is also inspired by legends like Flute Mali, Pt. Hariprasad Chaurasia, G. N. Balasubramanian (GNB), T. N. Rajaratnam Pillai (TNR), Semmangudi Srinivas Iyer. He has been accompanied by doyens like Umayalpuram K. Sivaraman, T. V. Gopalakrishnan, M. Chandrasekaran and others. He is currently under the tutelage of Sangeetha Kalanidhi Sri. Sanjay Subrahmanyam.

Jayanth has won numerous awards and recognitions to date, including Kalki Krishnamurthy Memorial Award for 2018 (September 9, 2018), THE BEST INSTRUMENTALIST AWARD seven times from The Madras Music Academy, The Bharat Ratna Dr. M. S. Subbalakshmi Fellowship from Sri Shanmukhananda Sabha – Mumbai, The MOST PROMISING YOUNG MUSICIAN 2015 award from TAG center, Chennai, YUVA KALA BHARATI from Bharat Kalachar in December 2012, Scholarship recognition from Ministry of Culture and Training, Govt. of India in 2005 and 2013, CARNATIC IDOL OF THE YEAR 2007, CHILD PRODIGY Award from Andhra Kala Samithi, March 2006, Dr. M. L. Vasanthakumari (MLV) award 2019 from Sri Parthasarathy Swami Sabha to name a few.

Flute Jayanth has many audio CD albums, online digital albums, online concert videos and DVD's to his credit (<https://facebook.com/flutejayanth> :: <https://www.youtube.com/user/flutejayanth> )