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# GITANJALI

AN OFFERING OF SONG AND DANCE

*celebrating 10 years of dancing in NY*

by Malini Srinivasan, Students and Friends

Featuring solo artist SaiSanthosh Radhakrishnan

we honor our tradition and the teachers who passed it  
on

In honor of Gurus  
SRI C.V. CHANDRASEKHAR  
SMT. KOMALAVALLI MANI (LATE)  
SMT. RADHA SRINIVASAN (LATE)

October 29, 2016  
5pm at Baruch Performing Arts Center





a sophomore at City University of New York, majoring in Accounting. In 2015, Kabilan placed first in kanjira at the Cleveland Thyagaraja Aradhana.

*Kamini Dandapani* has had extensive training in Carnatic vocal music, Western Classical music (piano) as well as in Bharata Natyam. She studied Carnatic music and Bharata Natyam for over 20 years with some of the leading teachers and performers in the field. She has also studied classical piano, and holds a Licentiate from Trinity College of Music, London. Kamini is a guest faculty member at Barnard College of Columbia University in New York. She is also a faculty member at the International Vocal Arts Workshop in Croatia. She writes extensively on South India – history, travel, music, dance, short stories, science and anything else that catches her fancy – on her blog, Tales of South India and is currently working on her first book.

### ABOUT MALINI SRINIVASAN

*Malini Srinivasan* is a third-generation Bharatanatyam artist and the disciple of world-renowned artist Sri C.V. Chandrasekhar. She began studying Bharatanatyam at a young age with her mother, Radha Srinivasan, and grandmother, Komalavalli Mani who founded the Gitanjali Dance Academy in Bombay in 1964. Malini began learning the Kalakshetra style in 2000 with Smt. Savitri Jagganath Rao and performed her Arangetram (debut) under the guidance of Meena Raman. She lived in Chennai from 1999-2004 to pursue her study of dance and its allied art forms such as Nattuvangam, Carnatic vocal music, Kalaripayattu, Yoga, Sanskrit and Tamil. A critically-acclaimed soloist, Malini has presented solo Bharatanatyam to audiences in the U.S., India and Europe. She founded the group Malini Srinivasan and Dancers in 2008. She has also performed with groups including the Padmini Chettur Group, Ragamala, Rajika Puri and Dancers, Thresh and Kala Nivedanam.

Malini has choreographed solo and group Bharatanatyam pieces, including Being Becoming, Ode to Love's Arrows and Tejas-Luminous. She was awarded the Dance in Queens Residency (2009) the LaGuardia Performing Arts Center Residency (2010), the Queens Council on the Arts Individual Artist Grant (2010, 2012, 2014) and the New Music USA Grant (2016). Based in Queens, NY, Malini is committed to spreading a deep understanding of Indian classical traditions through teaching. She has been a visiting artist/lecturer at Princeton University, Wellesley College, Brooklyn Friends and Colgate University. She is an Adjunct Lecturer at the Asian & Asian-American Studies Department at SUNY Stony Brook, on the dance faculty of Chhandayan, and a Teaching Artist with City Lore.

Visit [malinisrinivasan.com](http://malinisrinivasan.com)

**1. Natesa Kavutuvam** in Ragam Hamsadhwani, Thalam Chaturasra Ekam  
Traditional composition, Choreographer Sri Adyar K. Lakshman  
Dance by Krithi and Shreya

**2. Alaripu** in Thalam Tisra Chapu  
Dance by Devanshi and Manjula

**3. Sabdam 'Aiyar Sheriar'** in Ragamalika, Thalam Misra Chapu  
Traditional composition  
Dance by Krithi, Shreya and Sulekha

**4. Nrityanjali, Slokam and Alarippu** in Ragam Nattai, Thalam Kanda Chapu  
Composer and Choreographer Sri C.V. Chandrasekhar  
Dance by Amritha, Christina, Karthi, Krithi, La'Toya, Shreya, Sloka and Sowmya

**5. Adum Azhagai Kirtanam** in Ragam Durga, Thalam Adi  
Composer Sudhananda Bharati, Choreographer Sri C.V. Chandrasekhar  
Dance by Gayatri, Karthi, La'Toya and Sloka

**6. Indendu Vachithivira** in Ragam Suruti, Thalam Misra Chapu  
Composer Kshetrappa, Choreographer Kalanidhi Narayanan  
Dance by Amritha, Karthi, Sloka, Sowmya and Vidya

**7. Thillana** in Ragam Shanmughapriya, Thalam Adi  
Composer and Choreographer Sri C.V. Chandrasekhar  
Dance by Amritha, Gayatri, Karthi, La'Toya, Sloka and Vidya

### **Intermission**

**Guest performance** by SaiSanthosh Radhakrishnan

### ABOUT THE DANCERS

*Amritha Kasturirangan* has been learning Bharatanatyam from Malini Srinivasan since Spring 2013. She works as a financial analyst. She grew up in five countries and is now happy to call New York City home!

*Christina Singh-Bedell* has studied Bharatanatyam under the esteemed tutelage of Malini Srinivasan and Smt. V. Gayathri Devi. Christina is an Assistant Attorney General and is deeply committed to the animal abuse and rescue community. She enjoys spending time with her husband and furbabies.

*Devanshi Jatania* is an Events Operation Coordinator at NYC Seminar and Conference Center. Devanshi began her training in Bharatanatyam under the tutelage of Mr. Srinivas Shenoy for 7 years and later with Mrs. Nirati Patel for 3 years. After a gap of 7 years, she is continuing the journey of learning and dancing again with Malini Srinivasan.

\**Gayatri Mohan* started dancing at a young age, and performed her Arangetram in 2006 under Gayatri Sriram of Shrutilaya, Singapore. She has been performing in New York since 2013, including most recently with Malini Srinivasan and Dancers at the 2014 NY International Fringe Festival and the Brookfield Place Winter Garden.

\**Karthi Veeramani* is a performance artist who is currently learning Bharatanatyam under Malini Srinivasan. Karthi is also the Human Resources Associate at The Quad Preparatory School, which is a non-profit school that serves students with disabilities.

*Krithi Ram-Junnarkar* is a junior at the Dalton School. She has been studying Bharata Natyam with Malini Srinivasan since she was 7. Krithi loves to sing, read, and dance in her free time, and she enjoys connecting with her heritage through Bharatanatyam.

\**La'Toya Latney* has studied Bharatanatyam under Guru Malini Srinivasan for 8 years and recently completed her arangetram. La'Toya is the Service Head and clinical instructor for exotic animals at PennVet's Veterinary Hospital.

*Manjula V.K.* rediscovered her love for Indian classical dance a few years ago. Since then, she has been learning Bharatanatyam with the incredibly amazing Malini Srinivasan.

*Shreya Balaji* is currently an eighth grader at The Berkeley Carroll School in Brooklyn, NY. She has been studying dance since she was five years old in India has been under Guru Malini Srinivasan for the past two years since relocating from India. Shreya is also an avid table tennis player, a debater, a mathematical enthusiast and is deeply involved with theater, and works with children who are affected by autism.

\**Sloka Iyengar* did her Arangetram at Darpana Academy in Ahmedabad, India, and started dancing with Guru Malini Srinivasan in 2013. She is a neuroscientist and works with a healthcare consulting firm. She loves to swim and spend time with her many plants.

*\* Malini and Dancers Company Dancers*

*Sowmya Josyula* started to learn Bharatanatyam 4 years ago under the guidance of Guru Malini Srinivasan. She also began to hone her dance skills by exploring the inner energy, form and alignment with Joe Daly. Sowmya also began her Carnatic classical music training under the guidance of Kamini Dandapani. She hopes to continue exploring the Indian dance and music tradition and the spiritual experience of life under their guidance.

*Sulekha Ram-Junnarkar* is a ninth grader at the Dalton School, and she has been learning Bharatanatyam under Malini Shrinivasan since she was 5. She enjoys modern dancing, singing, writing, and baking. She's excited to perform at Gitanjali and is so honored to have this opportunity.

*Vidya Santosh* began learning Bharatanatyam at the age of 8, and owes her continued practice to the encouragement and efforts of her mother. She pays homage today to various gurus including Indira and Kala Seetharam, Prasanna Kasthuri, V.P. and Shanta Dhananjayan, and Malini Srinivasan. Vidya is a practicing visual designer working in storytelling and education.

#### **About SaiSanthosh Radhakrishnan**

SaiSanthosh is trained in Bharatanatyam at the Bharatha Choodamani with Guru Adyar K. Lakshman and Deepa Babaprasad. He currently trains in abhinaya with Bragha Bessell. SaiSanthosh has performed at various forums in India and abroad and has worked with several leading dancers. SaiSanthosh received the Yuva Kala Bharathi award from Bharat Kalachar in 2012 and the Best Dancer award from the Indian Fine Arts Society in 2010. SaiSanthosh has a degree in biotechnology and is currently pursuing his Master's degree at Columbia University, NYC.

#### **ABOUT THE MUSICIANS**

*Anirudh Chandrashekar* started playing violin at the age of 10, and is now learning from Sri. Bala Skandan. He hopes to continue learning violin to better showcase Carnatic music. He is currently a first year medical student at Stony Brook University School of Medicine.

*Kabilan Jeganathan* is currently learning both mridangam and kanjira under the guidance of Guru Shri A. R. Balaskandan. He has the distinct privilege to accompany his Guru. Kabilan has been fortunate to accompany artists, such as Aparna Balaji, Delhi Muthukumar, Vidwan T. S. Krishnamurthy, Flute Raman, and Sikkil Gurucharan. He has accompanied dancers from organizations, such as Shiva Jyothi Dance Academy and Jiva Performing Arts. He has been learning Carnatic Vocal from Guru Smt. Saavitri Ramanand, since the age of six. Kabilan is currently