

SRUTI BOX

M.S. Sheela

Congratulations to *Sruti* and Srilatha Krishna for an interesting profile of M.S. Sheela—one of the outstanding musicians of Karnataka in modern days. Her original name was Susheela which was later shortened to M.S. Sheela.

She made people take notice of her immense potential and talent at a very tender age. During the first ever music confest held under the aegis of the Karnataka Gana Kala Parishath—the newly formed musicians forum in Bangalore in December 1970—which was presided over by veteran B.S. Raja Iyengar, Sheela won the tambura prize in the music competition for juniors with her excellent presentation of the Kannada song *Tunga teerada maney nammadu* in Kambhoji to a packed house. Ever since then I have watched her rise to become one of the superstars of Carnatic music, honed by her guru R.K. Srikantan.

She is a multifaceted personality. She was a Bharatanatyam dancer, a playback singer, an actor who played the role of a college girl in the

Kannada movie *Abhachurina Post Office*, a former employee of State Bank of Mysore in Bengaluru, and of course she is an outstanding Carnatic musician, an eminent teacher, and a patron and promoter of music with an excellent track record. It is time that her service to music gets better recognition in Chennai and from the Government of India.

C.P. Chikkanna
Bengaluru

Musiri Chamber

Kudos to *Sruti* on the excellent coverage of Musiri Chamber. I am a



regular at Musiri Chamber and enjoy the music and the ambience. *Sruti*, in spite of the reluctance of the Musiri family, has taken pains to cull out photos from the Internet. But you have missed out Sidharth, yet another member of the family who is now the key person helming the acoustics and webcast controls. I request you to publish this photo and acknowledge his role too.

Sruti's contribution to the fine arts is immense.

N. Manogar
by email

Pallavi Venkatarama Iyer

This has reference to the article on Sri Thiagaraja Sangeetha Vidwath Samajam by M.A. Bhageerathi published in *Sruti* (May 2019). I wanted to share with *Sruti* readers that my father S. Venkataraman, who was well known as Pallavi Venkatarama Iyer, was also deeply involved in the activities of the Samajam as he was the honorary treasurer for more than a decade along with Parthasarathy, who was the secretary in the 1970s. The name S. Venkataraman mentioned in the box, however, is not that of my father.

V. Mahalingam
Chennai

A correction

In a photograph published in the tribute to Neranki Vishnu Murthy in *Sruti* (May 2019, p. 49), N.V. Murthy is standing near Sivarama Karanth and not B.V. Karanth as mentioned. The latter was a theatre artist and director while Sivarama Karanth was a giant among writers—he has written over 400 books on various topics and carved a new path for Yakshagana.

V.R. Devika
Chennai

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