

# RITHU RAJENDRAN

CARNATIC VOCALIST | EDUCATOR | RESEARCH SCHOLAR



**Gurus (Carnatic)**  
**Smt. Suguna Varadachary, Smt. Shyamala Venkateswaran, Smt. Subshri Mani,**  
**Smt. Padmavathy Ananthagopalan**

**Guru (Hindusthani)**  
**Pandit Sarathi Chatterjee**

### **Musical Training:**

Rithu was initiated into Carnatic Music under Smt. Padmavathy Ananthagopalan at an early age and continued to learn under her for over ten years.

From 1997 onwards, Rithu came under the guidance of Smt. Shyamala Venkateswaran a senior musician and teacher from the Umayalpuram tradition.

Currently she learns under the veteran vidhushi and guru Smt. Suguna Varadachari. She is furthering her knowledge especially focusing on the creativity aspects of Carnatic music. She also learns from Smt. Subshri Mani from the famous Musiri Subramania Iyer tradition. She started learning hindusthani music under Pandit Sarathi Chatterjee from 2012.

### **Debut Performance:**

First solo performance was at Madras in the year 1998

### **Special Performances:**

- Was part of the Thematic Production and performance "Nava Nangayar"
- Was the lead singer being part of "Pralhada" a thematic dance drama.
- Was the lead singer for a dance production in Tribute to M.S.Subbulakshmi, organized by Delhi Tamil Sangam, Delhi

### **Productions in USA:**

- Teaching and preparing students of **Sustaining Sampradaya** initiative at the Cleveland Thyagaraja Aradhana (2017, 2018)
- Trained the talents of Phoenix, AZ to perform in the **Carnatic Philharmonic Orchestra** premiered at Mesa Arts Center, Mesa, AZ in March 2017
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### **Workshop/Master Classes in USA :**

- Rare Varnams,
- Compositions of Irayimman Thampi (Malayalam Songs),
- Compositions of Ambujam Krishna

## **Online workshop:**

- Tiruppavai
- Navaratri Krithis of Swati Tirunal

## **Special Productions in India:**

Trained 70 participants of different nationalities including Spain, Finland, Poland, Italy, France and Singapore apart from India, to perform for the 70th Birthday of World renowned spiritual leader Matha Amritanandamayi Devi in October 2023 for which the magnum opus "Endaro Mahanubhavulu" and "Maithreem Bhajatha" were presented.

## **Performances:**

- Cleveland Thyagaraja festival being part of a thematic presentation Ramanataka Krithis – **2018**
- Cleveland Thyagaraja festival being part of a thematic presentation Vipralambha Sringara – **Jayadeva's Gita Govindam** in 2017
- Charlotte Sangeetha Sabha
- Swati Sangeetha Sabha, Charlotte
- Ekata, Sharjah, UAE
- Stage UAE
- Hamsadhwani, Chennai
- Samudhaya Foundation, Chennai
- Raga Sudha, Chennai
- Nadopasana, Chennai
- Nungambakkam Cultural Academy, Chennai
- Arkay Convention Centre, Chennai
- Tiruvembadi Temple, Trisshur
- Neyveli Sangeetha Sabha, Neyveli
- Siddhi Ganesh Temple, Gurgaon
- Hindusthani Recital at Sangitham, Gurgaon
- Sruthi Layam, a private television thematic concert

## **Accolades:**

- Various awards at the Inter school and Inter collegiate competitions.
- First prize winner at All India Radio in both carnatic and devotional music.
- First prize in Carnatic Music at Papanasam Sivan competition winning a Tampura.
- First prize winner at Astapadhi competition, conducted by Music Academy.
- First prize winner of Purandara Dasar competition for 3 consecutive years organized by Kannada Sangha, Chennai.
- Bagged the 2nd prize: in the Manodharmam category - Competition organized by Narada Gana Sabha.

## **Teaching:**

Rithu has her own music school "Swara Sangitha Vidyalaya" imparting in person and online classes to musical aspirants all over India and abroad.

## **YouTube Links:**

1. <https://youtu.be/SfVWeL0QQJk?si=m8iljnT-cQZq7caG>
2. [https://youtu.be/Juo2dEulbcU?si=By\\_Ew\\_NvHqf1P3fq](https://youtu.be/Juo2dEulbcU?si=By_Ew_NvHqf1P3fq)
3. <https://youtu.be/GGLFnU1FVes?si=mDjDd0YNpecrUI5G>
4. <https://youtu.be/d4FfoifejcA?si=eoLRA4TSPS5g0z2P>
5. [https://youtu.be/DflxZdlo\\_fm?si=KC7n5ziK475ej-iF](https://youtu.be/DflxZdlo_fm?si=KC7n5ziK475ej-iF)
6. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lgm\\_le2OZW0&t=2266s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lgm_le2OZW0&t=2266s)
7. [https://youtu.be/qlTu5f9P8v8?si=JJVq-\\_RKxOlplg5](https://youtu.be/qlTu5f9P8v8?si=JJVq-_RKxOlplg5)

## **Sound cloud Link:**

<https://soundcloud.com/trichur-narendran/aud-20150227-wa0002-mp3-1>

## **Education/Qualifications:**

- Pursuing PhD in Music
- M.Phil Music, Mother Theresa University, Kodaikanal, Tamilnadu
- Masters in Indian Music, University of Madras