

With her career in music extending over two decades, **Dr. Vijayalakshmy Subramaniam** is today among the most sought after vocalists of the Carnatic Music tradition, uniquely known for her captivating voice, bhava rich music and extensive repertoire. She has been performing since the age of twelve and has an impressive list of achievements to her credit. With a mesmerizing voice and distinct vocal style, Vijayalakshmy is known for her authentic rendering of compositions with flawless diction, perfect control of rhythmic aspects and the élan with which she handles complex, rare ragams and compositions.

### **MUSIC TUTELAGE**

Vijayalakshmy Subramaniam started her training in Carnatic Music at New Delhi at the age of five under **Shri K. Padmanabhan**, a disciple of **Harikesanallur Shri Muthiah Bhagavathar** from the Swati Tirunal Academy, Trivandrum. Vijayalakshmy further honed her skills under the guidance of eminent Vidwans **Shri K Krishnaswamy**, **Shri S.Rajam**, **Prof T.R.Subramaniam** and **Shri V.R.Krishnan**.

### **FELLOWSHIPS & RESEARCH**

Vijayalakshmy was awarded the **Fulbright Visiting Lecturer Fellowship** by the United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational Affairs in 2010. As part of the programme, she taught the subject – ‘An Introduction to Indian Music’ at the Duke University, North Carolina, USA (Aug – Nov 2010).

Vijayalakshmy Subramaniam also is keenly interested in music research, lecture demonstrations, documentation of rare compositions and has many productions to her credit under the banner 'VS Classics'. In June 2007, she produced “**Apoorva Kriti Manjari**” – a collection of twenty rare compositions of the Carnatic Music Trinity with recording and notations. To facilitate easy learning, the book has notations in English and Tamil by noted musicologist S. Balachander and the audio has been rendered by Vijayalakshmy.

### **CONFERENCES & PAPERS**

She has travelled widely for music conferences both in India and abroad. To mention a few - **International Music Conference and Festival**, ISS, Bangalore, India (January 2011) – lecture demonstration on Ekaika Ragams, **National Graduate Conference for Ethnomusicology – Cambridge, UK** (July 2006) where she presented a paper on- “What is the point of studying Music and Culture in today’s world?”, **The Symposium of the International Musicological Society (SIMS) - Melbourne, Australia** (July 2004) where she presented a paper on – ‘Music Communication: *Raga* and *Tala* – a bridge across’, **The Music Academy**(Dec 1996) - **Chennai, India** where she presented a paper on –‘G.N. Balasubramaniam as a composer’

### **PERFORMANCES**

She has innumerable concerts to her credit, and has performed special concerts including exclusive concerts of composers and thematic concerts. She has presented '**Kshetra Sangeetham**' (2010 - 2011) – a musical journey through temple towns experiencing the temples' uniqueness and their musical significance. This series organized by Chennai's Narada Gana Sabha is on-going, and till date, 9 kshetras have been covered - Kanchipuram, Chidambaram, Srirangam, Madurai, Tiruvarur, Chennai, Tiruvayyaru, Sringeri, Tirupati and Tiruchendur.

### ACADEMICS

- ◆ Ph.D in Music, Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu, **March 2011**  
Thesis topic: "**Tamil Composers of the Twentieth Century**". The dissertation involved assimilation and documentation of Tamil composers and the critical analysis of the musical and lyrical values
- ◆ Sangeet Alankar, **1987**, Gandharva Mahavidyalaya, New Delhi (A masters level program)
- ◆ Sangeet Shiromani, **1982**, Music Faculty, Delhi University (Diploma in Carnatic Music)
- ◆ Masters in Economics, **1983 - 1985**, Punjab University ,Chandigarh, India

### WORK EXPERIENCE

Her decade long stint at the **All India Radio, Chennai (AIR)** as **programme executive** gave immense opportunity to bring her creativity to the fore as a producer of many popular programmes. The '**Divya Nama Sankeertanam**' series produced by Vijayalakshmy Subramaniam under the musical supervision of Dr. M. Balamuralikrishna was a significant contribution in the Classical Music Section. Following AIR, she worked as the **Executive Director (South India)** at **SaReGaMa India Limited**, before joining **WorldSpace Satellite Radio** as an **Independent Producer**, where she was the single creative force behind launching their classical music channel — 'Gandharva'.

### AWARDS & ACCOLADES

**Nada Bhushanam** – Shanmukhananda Sangeetha Sabha, New Delhi , March 2012, **Smt. M.S Subhalalakshmi Award** - Narada Gana Sabha, Chennai , India , Dec 2010, '**Best Pallavi rendition**' prize - The Music Academy, Chennai, Jan 2007 , '**Sahityapriya**' award - Kalavardhani, June, 2006 , '**Sarada Krishna Iyer award for outstanding performance**' - The Music Academy, Chennai, Jan 2005 , '**Tulasivana Puraskaram**' - Tulasivanam Parishat, Kerala, December 2004 , '**Sangeetha Shikamani**' award - Andhra Social and Cultural Association, Chennai, 2000, '**Gaana Seva Rathnam**' award - Purandara Dasar Aradhana Mahotsava Sabha, Chennai, 1997, '**Best Vocalist**' award for the sub senior category - The Music Academy, Annual Music Festival, in 1996 and 1999

**REACHING OUT TO SOCIETY THROUGH MUSIC**

A true believer of the words - Music transcends Culture, Language, Religion, Geography and Social Background, it has been Vijayalakshmy's wish to take the wonderful art form of music as a socially enabling and empowering medium to reach out to more people. Under the banner 'Music For A Cause', she has been performing regularly in homes for the elderly, as well as in schools and centres of special education.