



SEVENTEENTH YEAR ANNUAL REPORT

Chairman's report

Lord Hanuman has showered his blessings on Chennai Fine Arts to complete another successful year with a number of activities.

The Ministry of Culture's support by means of Repertory Grant and Cultural Functions Grant has been outstanding. It helped us support deserving musicians and also to organize grand music festival for ten days in December.

The first event of the year was Sri Rama Navami Festival - Dasarathi Sangeethotsavam, from 11th to 13th May. A book titled 'Purandaradasa's Pancharatna Krithis' was released during this festival.

Legendary Mrdanga Vidwan Palghat Mani Iyer's Anniversary was celebrated on 10th June. Vidwan B. Sivaraman was presented the Palghat Mani Iyer Puraskar on that day.

The Birth Anniversary of Vinjamuri Varadaraja Iyengar was celebrated in association with Ganakalanidhi Vinjamuri Varadaraja Iyengar Trust on 3rd August. Ms. Amrita Murali performed on the occasion. Sarathy Sangeethotsavam to celebrate Sri Krishna Jayanthi was organized during 29th to 31st August. The remembrance day of Dr Saraswati was organized in association with Vipanchee on 6th September. Rama Varma, Prince of Thiruvananthapuram performed. Navaratri, a nationwide festival of India was also celebrated with concerts at Chennai Fine Arts' administrative office from 1st to 6th November. These concerts were streamed live in Facebook and received good response in the social media.

A major event of the year was the Young Talent Promotion program organized with artistes selected and sponsored by the State Academy, Tamil Nadu Iyal Isai Nataka mandram. Chennai Fine Arts is one of the very few organizations in the city to be selected to organize these concerts. Six concerts were organized from 18th to 20th October.

The Annual Music Festival was organised from 21st to 30th December. It was inaugurated by Shri. M Balasubramoniam, Director of South Zone Cultural Centre. L Shankar, the man credited with inventing the double violin was presented the Gotuvadyam Narayana Iyengar Award for Excellence. The members of Cleveland Thyagaraja Aradhana Festival Committee were also presented with Dirghadarsi puraskar this year.



Chennai Fine Arts celebrated Vasant Panchami, the beginning of Spring season which is also the auspicious day of the Jayanthi of Goddess Saraswati, with a Veena concert on 29th January at Sri Krishna Mandhiram in Thiruvanmiyur. Titled as Vasant Panchami Veenotsavam, this is a unique conceptualisation in South India, initiated by Chennai Fine Arts.

Chennai Fine Arts thanks all musicians, rasikas, media and sponsors who support the organization and ensure its successful function and growth.

Acknowledgement

My pranams to my guru Shri. Chitravina Narasimhan. It is my pleasure to thank Prof. TN Krishnan, Chitravina N Ravikiran, Haridwaramangalam A.K. Palanivel, R Muthukumar, the Tamil Nadu Iyal Isai Nataka Mandram and the State Academy Directorate of Arts & Culture, Tamil Nadu for their continuous support to the trust in its activities.

Auditor Mr. Ashwin Sridhaaran and our Bankers, Bank of India, Adyar Branch need a special acknowledgement for their services for the smooth functioning of the trust.

A note of appreciation to all the faculties for skillfully training the students of CFA Academy. I also thank Kalaimamani S Gopakumar for his services at Puducherry.

We place on record our sincere thanks to the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, New Delhi and State Bank of India for extending financial assistance to carry out the object of the trust more effectively and efficiently. We also thank Trinity Mirror, Makkal Kural, Online times, Aboorva Ragam, Samudhra, the Hindu, Kutcheribuzz, Chennai December Season and other press for covering our events and supporting us.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees,

P N Muralidharan, Chairman
Chennai-20.

**Constitution****Board of Trustees**

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<i>Padmabushan Sangita Kalanidhi</i> Prof. TN Krishnan	Violin Maestro
<i>Padmasri</i> Haridwaramangalam Dr AK Palanivel	Tavil Maestro
<i>Sangita Kalanidhi</i> Chitravina N Ravikiran	Chitravina Maestro & Composer
R Muthukumar	Editor in-chief, Trinity Mirror

CFA Academy Faculty

S Nithyasree	Principal / Veena Guru
A S Divya	Vocal Artiste
S Roopalatha	Vocal Artiste
V Vairamurthi	Violin Artiste
S Kumaraswamy	Violin Artiste
S Sivasubramanian	Mrdangam Artiste
R Rajesh	Mrdangam Artiste
R Ramasubramanian	Mrdangam Artiste



ACTIVITIES OF THE TRUST DURING THE YEAR



FESTIVALS

Dasarathi Sangeethotsavam
Sarathy Sangeethotsavam
Navaratri
Annual Music Festival



OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS

Birth Anniversaries of Vinjamuri Varadaraja Iyengar & Dr Saraswati
Young Talent Promotion concerts with IIN Mandram
Vasanth Panchami Veenotsavam



CFA ACADEMY

Activities
Faculty & Students



AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

GOTUVADYAM NARAYANA IYENGAR AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE
PALGHAT MANI IYER IYER PURASKAR



SOCIAL ACTIVITIES



Festivals

DASARATHI SANGEETHOTSAVAM



The year began with Dasarathi Sangeethotsavam concerts commemorating the Rama Navami mahotsavam at Sri Krishna Mandiram in Thiruvanmiyur on 26th March 2018. Vidushi Smt. Shyamala Venkateswaran presided over the inauguration and blessed the kids who performed that day. The other concerts were by Ragam Sisters Sivaranjani & Nalinakanthi, Tirumalai Brothers Embar Kasturi & PB Srirangachari, Bhavadharini and Allam Durgaprasad (Gotuvadyam).

SARATHY SANGEETHOTSAVAM



Concerts on the occasion of Sri Krishna Jayanthi. Titled as 'Sarathy Sangeethotsavam', were organised from 5th to 9th September. Padmabhushan Awardee Dr. T.V. Gopalakrishnan presided over and inaugurated the festival.

There were two concerts each day for five days.



Pravin Pandit - Saxophone



Shankari Subramanyam



Akshay Padmanabhan



R Sowmya



CR Vaidyanathan



Vaishnavi Ramadas



Kishore S



Aravind Balaji



Iyer Sisters

NAVARATRI

Navaratri is celebrated at the administrative office of Chennai Fine Arts every year. This year there were three concerts during navaratri - Narayanan & Arjun Sambasivan, Chitravina Ganesh and Varshini & Vardhini.



Keyboard Duo



'Chitravina' Ganesh



Thillaisthanam Sisters

ANNUAL MUSIC FESTIVAL – Supported by Ministry of Culture, Government of India

Annual Music Festival is the main event and a grand music festival celebrated for ten days during the month of December every year. The festival is held from 21st to 30th December and has a grand inaugural function during which a senior musician is presented the Gotuvadyam Narayana Iyengar Award for Excellence comprising Rupees One Lakh cash prize, a gold medal and citation. This year, the festival turned out to be a special one as it was inaugurated by Shri. Banwarilal Purohith, the Honorable Governor of Tamil Nadu. Taval Vidwan Dr Haridwaramangalam AK Palanivel was presented the GNI Award. There were 35 concerts and 1 lecture demonstration during this year's festival. Four of the concerts were recorded and broadcast by the All India Radio.



The festival was supported by Ministry of Culture, Government of India, New Delhi. All the concerts were open to public.



Dr Rajshri



Hyderabad Brothers



Prapancham Balachandran



Akshay



Hiranmayee



Thoppur Dr Sairam





Pantula Rama



Archana & Aarti



Aravind Bhargav



JB Keertana



Aishwarya Sankar



SJ Janany



Anayampatti Ganesan



Iyer Brothers



Nandita Ravi



G Ramanathan



Dr Subhashini Parthasarathy



Pattabhiram Pandit



Samyuktha



Dr S Sowmya



Nagai Muralidharan & Sriram



TV Sankaranarayanan



Injikkudi Subramanyam



TN Krishnan





Audience



OS Thyagarajan



Sruti Sankarkumar



Ramana B

Venkatanagarajan



Charumathi Ramachandran



Prarthana Sai



Ranjani Sivakumar

Dr M Narmada



Vaibhav



Prithi Narasimhan



VV Subramanyam

& Murari

OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS

VAGGEYAKARA VAIBHAVAM



A Vaggeyakara Vaibhavam lecture demonstration and concert featuring the compositions of Walajapet Venkataramana Bhagavathar, a direct disciple of Sri Tyagaraja was held on 16th May 2018. Dr TR Aravindh, a carnatic music researcher presented the lecture and the concert was by Bombay sisters Smt. C Saroja & Smt C Lalitha accompanied by Vijay Ganesh (Violin), Madipakkam Suresh (Mrdangam) & H



Sivaramakrishnan (Ghatam). The duo rendered many rare compositions of Venkataramana Bhagavatar.

BIRTH ANNIVERSARIES

The following birth centenaries and anniversary concerts were organized during the year.

	21.04.2018 - Palghat Mani Iyer Concert by Palghat Dr Ramprasad with S Varadarajan (Violin), KV Prasad (Mrdangam) & Dr S Karthick (Ghatam)
	25.06.2018 - Ramnad Krishnan Concert by Nisha Rajagopal with L Ramakrishnan (Violin) & Delhi Sairam (Mrdangam)
	29.06.2018 - Dr M.L. Vasantakumari A unique program featuring only raga alapanas by 6 senior musicians
	21.07.2018 - D.K. Pattammal Concert by C Sukanya with Shertalai Sivakumar (Violin), J Vaidyanathan (Mrdangam) & SV Ramani (Ghatam)
	18.08.2018 - Vinjamuri Varadaraja Iyengar Concerts by Vignesh Ishwar with Parur Ananthakrishnan (Violin), Sumesh Narayan (Mrdangam) & Anirudh Athreya (Kanjira)



	<p>15.09.2018 - Tadepally Venkatasubramanya Sastri Concert by Tadepally Srikrishna & Tadepally Rukmini with Melakkaveri Tyagarajan (Violin)& Tanjavur Kumar (Mrdangam)</p>
	<p>06.10.2018 - Kalaimamani Dr Saraswati Concert by K Gayathri with L Ramakrishnan (Violin), Vijay Natesan (Mrdangam) & Chandrasekara Sharma (Ghatam)</p>

YOUNG TALENT PROMOTION



Two young talent promotion concerts were organised on 30th September 2018. One was a Nagaswaram recital by Mylai Karthikeyan and the other was a vocal recital by Selvi Jayabargavi from Trichy. Both these young talented musicians were selected by the State Academy Tamil Nadu Iyal Isai Nataka Mandram, which chose CFA as one of the prominent organisations in the city to host their concert. They presented concert of Tamil Compositions. Dr Thoppur Sairam, Principal of Tamil Nadu Government Music College and Kudandhai Saravanan, Senior lecturer participated as Chief Guests of the program.

MANGALA ISAI MUSIC COMPETITION



A competition for students of ancient classical instruments Nagaswaram and Tavil was held on 1st December 2018. About thirty students from various districts of Tamil Nadu participated in it. The students were given breakfast and lunch and also conveyance fee of Rupees Five Hundred each. The details of first three prizes in each category (Tavil and Nagaswaram) are as under:

Category	1 st Prize	2 nd Prize	3 rd Prize
Nagaswaram	Rs. 2,500/- per month scholarship for an year	Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 5,000/-
Tavil	Rs. 2,500/- per month scholarship for an year	Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 5,000/-

Padmasri Awardee Haridwaramangalam Dr AK Palanivel was the judge for the competition. The winners were given prizes by the Honorable Governor on the inaugural day of the Annual Music Festival.

Visesha Vadyanubhava



A Visesha Vadyanubhava concert was organised on 9th March 2019 in which 'Chitravina' Dr. P Ganesh, a top ranking chitravina artist performed accompanied by VVS Murari on the Violin, B Sivaraman on the Mrdangam and N Guruprasad on the Ghatam.

**CFA Academy**

CFA Academy is an institution which aims at introducing kids and youngsters to the art of Carnatic music. Performance is one aspect of music. Besides, it gives a number of benefits to the learner and the society at large. Hence learning music is a fruitful activity. CFA aims at actively developing an interest in kids to learn and perform classical music - both vocal and instrumental. The academy functions at various places in Chennai and Puducherry. Online classes are also conducted for students residing in other parts of the country and abroad. Training is provided under the categories of Vocal, Chitravina, Veena, Violin, Nagaswaram, Taval, Mrudangam and Arumukhanam.

Faculty profile

S. Nithyasree	Principal & Veena Guru
Chitravina P. Ganesh	Chitravina & Vocal Artiste
T Venkatesan	Nagaswaram Artiste
B Mani	Taval Artiste
A G Murugan	Taval Artiste
A S Divya	Vocal Artiste
R Rajesh	Mrdangam Artiste
S Sivasubramanian	Mrdangam Artiste

Area-wise student strength for the academic year 2018-19

Chennai, Tamilnadu	45
Puducherry, Union Territory of India	22
TOTAL	67

CFA Online

Chennai fine arts has remarkable presence online. The activities of the trust are regularly uploaded in its website www.chennaifinearts.com. The trust is also active in the social media. The photographs of all the performances are available at the facebook link <https://www.facebook.com/Chennaifinearts>. CFA also started a YouTube channel recently and it can be viewed in the name of Chennai Fine Arts. (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmZMfaQICrZenZciB7GYUaQ>).

Social Activities



CFA is coaching carnatic music to 25 students free of cost, under the traditional GURUKULAM system in the outskirts of Chennai city. It has been donating musical instruments like Violin, Veena, Mrudangam and so on to the deserving students every year. In the past ten years nearly 30 students have been benefitted by this contribution. Every year annadhanam is organized to provide food to the needy students. The trust is also supporting with financial assistance, the economically backward school-going children towards payment of their fees and continues the same till they complete their school final, for the past five years. Chennai Fine Arts aims to reach wider audience and cater to the needs of more deserving people. The trust will continue its activities enthusiastically as ever with support from patrons, audience and the artists.