

REPORT
NATIONAL SEMINAR on
INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES OF
MUSIC EDUCATION and RESEARCH

The Department of Music, at Government College for Women, Government College for Women Thiruvananthapuram

Trivandrum are organising a multidisciplinary National Seminar titled , 'Interdisciplinary Perspectives of Music Education and Research' on November 13th, 14th and 15th 2023. The seminar focused on diverse allied disciplines that are deeply interlinked with Carnatic music including Neuroscience, Mathematics, Acoustics, Neuropsychology, Raga Engineering, Classical Dance, Veena and Mridangam,

The National Seminar was inaugurated by eminent Veena Vidwan, and Maestro Sri. A Ananthapadmanabhan, (A Top Artist, All India Radio) with presidential address delivered by the Principal , Dr Anuradha V K and felicitated by , Smt. Anila J .S. Vice Principal, Prof.Dr. Sunil V T , Director, SIEMAT, and Dr. Xavier T S , Associate Professor & IQAC Coordinator.

The Welcome Address was given by the Head of the Department & Assistant Professor, Dr. Dhanalekshmi C and the Vote of Thanks was delivered by the Seminar Coordinator, Assistant Professor Smt.Sajna Sudheer. A.

13/11/2023 - DAY 1

RESOURCE PERSONS for FN Sessions I and II

Veena maestro Sri. A Ananthapadmanabhan , accompanied by Sri. Nanjil Arul (A Top Staff Artist, All India Radio) and Sri. Perukaavu, P L Sudheer (Assistant Professor , Dept of Mridangam, SST College of Music)

The session was based on rare ragas and exposition of the same through veena while interactively engaging in the melodious nuances and technical beauty of the ragas.

RESOURCE PERSONS for AN Sessions III and IV

Prof. Dr. Deepti Navaratna,

Neuroscientist, Author & T V Raman Pai Chair Professor, at National Institute of Advanced Studies , Bengaluru.

The session traversed the paths of neuroscience for the perspective of both neuroscience and Carnatic music. The topic was titled . 'Natyasastra to Neuroscience'. The students had an engaging session thriving with intelligent conversations.

14/11/2023 - DAY 2

PAPER PRESENTATIONS on Sub-Themes for FN Sessions I and II

There were paper presentations on diversifying, multidisciplinary themes like AI in Carnatic Music, Music and Mathematics through the adept concept of 22 Sruthis, Digital Sufism, Music and Geography highlighting the importance of how the geographical disposition of a city impacts music and vice versa. Research relevant topics like significance of music education and review of music therapy in research themes were also explored. Meanwhile traditional performance aspects of raga, tala and manodharma were also dealt with in the topics presented. There was participation from across universities in Kerala and also from University of Madras. The paper presentations were conducted in a hybrid mode both as online and offline presentations.

This gave an insightful perspective to the students regarding the myriad possibilities of research in music and the multidisciplinary aspects of music in its relevant spectrum.

RESOURCE PERSONS for AN Sessions III and IV

Dr Manoj Vellanad, Neurosurgeon, Government Medical College, Trivandrum

Dr Manoj spoke in detail about the composition and functions of the brain and how music impacts the brain functions through his topic, "Notes to Neurons". From dendrites to axons & synapses, from the frontal lobe to the occipital lobe, be it the cerebellum or the limbic system, the broca or wernike's area, or be it understanding the conversion of mechanical sound waves to electrical waves in the ear the session was a kaleidoscope of information and wisdom. An excellent session, delivered brilliantly. It was a knowledge packed session and the students loved every minute of it.

15/11/2023 - DAY 3

RESOURCE PERSONS for AN Sessions I and II

Sri. Erickavu N Sunil (A Grade Artist, All India Radio & Author)

Poly - Rhythm - Chaturashra Thishram, the topic featured turned out to be yet another amazing session, covering such ground within a brief, stipulated time. Sunil sir, constantly challenged

the participants to push our thoughts and to find the answers to his questions all of which deeply highlighted Music and Mathematics like never before.

His fun quizzes and rhythm bases exercises made sure the interaction of the students were on point and continuous. Some of those exercises were excellent in terms of handling two different rhythm patterns each on one hand while giving the brain a wholesome stimulated workout on both sides.

RESOURCE PERSONS for AN Sessions III and IV

Dr. Methil Devika Cultural Scientist & Dancer/ Post Doc fellow at the Indian Institute of Space Science & Technology, ISRO)

It was both nurturing and inspiring to watch and imbibe Dr Methil Devika's performance and the transcendence she attains through each of her pieces. Her ability to drive home a point through her brilliant choreography is superlative, not to mention the mellifluous and beautiful music she curates for her productions. She spoke in length another her productions and how music is an integral part of her portrayal of characters and their emotions. She spoke in detail about her topic, "Seeing Music and Hearing Dance'.

The Dikshitar Navavaranam in Ahiri was fascinating to watch, as the artist traversed through the composition with a familiarity that can only come with being so immersed in the musical nuances of the composition. The students could understand firsthand how music enabled and influences the performing art of classical dance and the relevance of understanding in depth the technical nuances of poetry, rhythm and musical individuality of each raga to be able to compose and curate music.

The National Seminar concluded with a valedictory ceremony extending gratitude to one and all and with distributing the certificates as well. Smt. Vineetha P Assistant Professor, Department of Music, delivered the Vote of Thanks and presented the activity report of the National Seminar.