## A tribute to unsung heroes

usic enthusiast, philanthropist and owner of Arkay Convention Centre, Arkay Ramakrishnan, has been providing free, live concerts for most days in a year for several years, under his banner Madhuradhwani. Owing to the pandemic, music aficionados are truly missing the live concerts.

Under the circumstances,
Madhuradhwani, in association
with Carnatica, organised a series of
concerts by up-and-coming musicians
at the Arkay Convention Centre as a
tribute to some of the unsung heroes
of Carnatic music. The concerts were
premiered on the Facebook page of
Madhuradhwani as well as in the
YouTube channel from 18 September
to 3 October 2020. Sixteen musicians

the young musicians presenting the concert had done research into the lives and accomplishments of the unsung hero they were honouring and made brief multimedia presentations with suitable audio/video clippings prior to the concert.

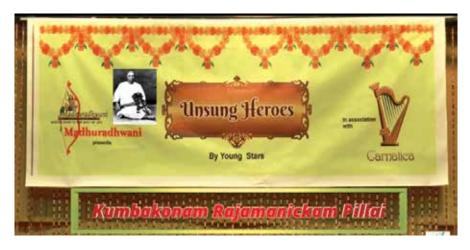
were honoured in this series and

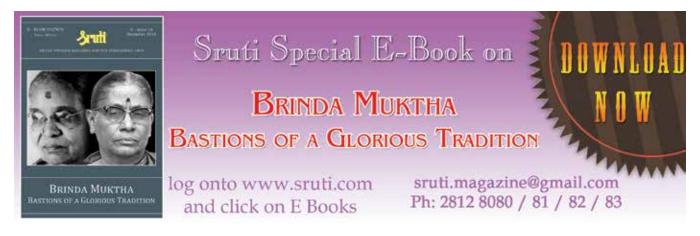
The unsung musicians honoured in this series were Vedaranyam Vedamurthy (nagaswaram), Vairamangalam Lakshminarayanan, Calcutta K.S. Krishnamurthy, R. Venkataraman (veena), T.M. Thyagarajan, Radha-Jayalakshmi, Budalur Krishnamurthy Sastrigal



Arkay Ramakrishnan







(gotuvadyam), T.K. Rangachari, B.V. Raman and B.V. Lakshmanan, Kumbakonam Rajamanickam Pillai (violin), Sathur A.G. Subramaniam, Manakkal Rangarajan, R. Pichumani (veena), Voleti Venkateswarlu, T. Viswanathan (flute) and T. Muktha. The young musicians presented in this series were Mylai Karthikeyan, Radhika Kannan, Srirangam Venkatanagarajan, Veena Venkatramani, S. Srivathsan, Deepika and Nandika sisters, Bhargavi Balasubramaniam, Madurai N. Sivaganesh, Sruti Sankar Kumar, L. Ramakrishnan, Sai Vignesh, Deepika Varadarajan, Anjani Sreenivasan, G. Abhilash, Santhala Subramaniam and V. Subashri respectively.

Srirangam Venkatanagarajan commenced his concert with a rare varnam of Calcutta Krishnamurthy in the raga Malavi. Sai Vignesh did full justice to the kriti *Dayai puriya innum tamadama* (a composition of Vedanayakam Pillai popularised by Sathur A.G. Subramaniam) and the alapana of Malayamarutam was



Bhargavi Balasubramaniam

a real treat. Madurai Sivaganesh presented a scholarly ragam-tanam-pallavi in two ragas—Amritavarshini and Anandabhairavi in Adi tala—synonymous with T.K. Rangachari.

The accompanying artists played with understanding and embellished the concerts which fortunately attracted good viewership too.

C. RAMAKRISHNAN

PHOTOS COURTESY: ARKAY CONVENTION CENTRE

Santhala Subramaniam



