

## Brindha Manickavasakan – Carnatic Musician



6, Shreyas, First Floor,  
Damodharapuram Main Road, Adyar,  
Chennai – 600 020  
Tamil Nadu, India

Mobile: +91 9962104740, +919500002066  
Email:brinnman@gmail.com

**Brindha Manickavasakan** is a performing vocalist and research scholar in the field of Carnatic Music based in Chennai, India. She has been performing for the past 23 years, from the age of 10. She is an 'A' grade artist of All India Radio, Chennai.

**Training:** Carnatic music (vocal) for 27 years

**Current Guru:** 'Sangita Kala Acharya' Vid. Suguna Varadachari, Chennai (for the past 13 years)

### Early Music Training:

- Sri Neyveli Santhanagopalan, Dr. Manjula Sriram, Sri Madurai Rajaram, Sri Nagercoil M S Muthappa Bhagavathar, Smt. Durga Venkatesh, Sri D. J. Balakrishna, Smt. Bhagavathi Shankaran, Smt. Jayashri Rao, Smt. Rajalakshmi Ashok
- Trained in Veena by Smt. Radhika Chandrashekar, Smt. Radhika Bhaskar.  
Learnt Bharathanatyam from Sri Melatur S Natarajan;  
Thiruppugazh from Smt. Vilasini Karthik.

### Academic Qualifications:

- PhD candidate in Music from Madras University with a thesis on the contribution of Tañjāvūr K Poṇṇayya Piḷḷai
- M.S. in Biostatistics from Georgetown University, Washington DC, USA (2013)
- B. Tech. in Information Technology from Anna University, Chennai, India (2011)
- M.A. Music from University of Madras (2014)
- Certified course 'Fundamentals of Music Theory' (Western), University of Edinburgh (2014)

### Album Releases:

- *Thyagaraja Vandanam* - Carnatic Classical Album released by Giri Trading, Chennai, India
- Three Carnatic Classical Albums released by Kalavardhani, Chennai, India

### Concert Performances:

- A unique musical collaboration with French Harpist and Vocalist Lina Bellard and Aswini S (Mridangam artist from Chennai) as part of a concert tour for Bonjour India, 2022.
- Has performed in major sabhas and temples all over India, Middle East and in the U.S.  
Regular performer in Chennai's December music season including Madras Music Academy.
- Has rendered Bhagavat Gita and other Sanskrit Shlokas for Aircel India (2010).

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## Links to Recent Performances:

- <https://youtu.be/LIKBdifDLyM> (Concert for the IndianOil Now Hear Us series)
- <https://youtu.be/vaKH1wfZ0YY> (4 hour Concert for Madhuradhvani, December, 2021)
- <https://youtu.be/pechpmFSDjo> (Muripemu in raga Mukhari for Not Limited by Time, an Initiative by Vid. TM Krishna)
- <https://youtu.be/DOY3HysFf6I> (Concert for the Music Academy's December music season, 2021)

## Rewards & Recognitions:

- Received the V Subrahmaniam Young Talent Award from Sri Semmangudi Srinivasa Iyer Golden Jubilee Foundation (November, 2020)
- Received the title "Ilam Rasika Kala Bharathi" from Rasika Fine Arts (2019)
- Received the "Papanasam Sivan Award" from Narada Gana Sabha (2019)
- Awarded the "Best Vocalist" of the "Rising stars" series by Sri Shanmukhananda Sabha, Mumbai (2015)
- One of the finalists in NaadBhed, an All-India level competition (2014)
- D.K.Pattammal Award from Krishna Gana Sabha (2014)
- Received 'A' Grade from AIR Chennai (2013)
- Received Bharat Ratna Dr. M.S. Subbulakshmi fellowship award from Shanmukananda Fine Arts & Sangeetha Sabha , Mumbai (2013-2015)
- Awarded 'Bala Kala Rathna' by Bala Kalaasagaram Trust, Chennai (2012)
- Received 'Best Carnatic Vocal Performer Award' from Sri Parathasarathy Swamy Sabha, from His Excellency, Dr. K. Rosaiah, Governor of Tamil Nadu (2012)
- Received 'Parupalli Ramakrishnaya Pantulu Memorial Award' from Dr M Balamuralikrishna, Vipanchee, 2009
- One of the mega finalists (top six) of Carnatic Idol 2010, Jaya TV
- Ranked as one of the top-ten best artists by VDS Arts Academy, Chennai (2005, 2006, 2010)
- Received Indian Classical Music Award twice from Indian High School, Dubai, U.A.E.
- Awarded all-round performer in the Dubai Summer Surprises 1999, Dubai, U.A.E
- Won the title of 'Cultural Queen' for winning first prize in Carnatic music, Bharathanatyam, Veena, keyboard, drawing and essay writing competition in Echo Fest, Dubai (2003)
- Performed in T N State as a selected artist of Tamil Nadu Iyal Isai Nataka Mandram

## Press Reviews:

- Links to recent reviews:

[https://indianexpress.com/article/india/the-brindha-manickavasakan-interview-its-an-inexplicable-moment-when-you-get-close-to-the-note-you-know-something-magical-is-happening-5500733/?fbclid=IwAR1KKga9rLAzW8hTJHND3jikt5\\_JnnyUURyPv40zbOXBGjYoNNXclVYk9s](https://indianexpress.com/article/india/the-brindha-manickavasakan-interview-its-an-inexplicable-moment-when-you-get-close-to-the-note-you-know-something-magical-is-happening-5500733/?fbclid=IwAR1KKga9rLAzW8hTJHND3jikt5_JnnyUURyPv40zbOXBGjYoNNXclVYk9s)

<https://www.thehindu.com/entertainment/music/soulful-renditions-of-kritis/article25787837.ece/amp/?fbclid=IwAR29IB5OYLRT4vxp9rouli-NU5B2vp2bJxayq8KRashT7HgKZuKIOal4rGw>

<https://www.thehindu.com/entertainment/music/mohanam-in-all-its-radiance/article21657365.ece>

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<https://www.thehindu.com/entertainment/music/Strict-adherence-to-tradition/article17097303.ece>

- Several concerts have received laudable reviews from other popular newspapers and magazines – *Ananda Vikatan*, *Kalki*, *Dinamani* and *Dinamalar*, *Rani*, *Sruti* to name a few.
- SRUTI Magazine published a feature article on Brindha's music (Mar 2011)

### **Broadcasts/ Telecasts:**

- **AIR Chennai:** Regular performer since 2010
- **Podhigai TV:** Jan 2015, Jan 2012, **Sri Venkateshwara Bhakti Channel (SVBC):** 'Nada Neerajanam' concert live from Tirupathi Tirumala Temple (June 2014, July 2011).
- **Jaya TV:** BalaBrahmam ( May 2007), **Sapthagiri TV:** Spirit of Unity concert at Vishakapatnam (Madras Telugu Academy), 2006, **Makkal TV**