



DR. JAYANTHI KUMARESH

With her mesmerizing glides, the timing and purity of her notes and her soulful playing, Dr. Jayanthi Kumaresh has been captivating audiences around the world for 30 years now and is one of the leading Veena artistes today. A sixth generation musician, she began playing the Veena since age of 3 and is one of the youngest veena artistes to receive the A-TOP grading, the highest from All India Radio.

Apart from several prestigious venues and festivals in India, Jayanthi has performed at several international festivals such as San Francisco Jazz Festival, Darbar festival, Queensland Music Festival, Darwin Music Festival, Adelaide Music Festival and at prestigious venues such as U.N, New York, Palladium, Indiana, Theatre de la Ville, Paris, Northwest folklife festival, Seattle.

She has received many awards in India including “Sangeetha Choodamani”, “Kalaimamani” by the Government of Tamil Nadu, “Veena Naada Mani”, “Kala Ratna”, “Sathyashree”, “Gaana Varidhi”, is a seven-time recipient of The Music Academy, Chennai’s “Award for Veena” to name a few.

A collaborator, she has performed with legends such as tabla Ustad Zakir Hussain, Violin Maestro Shri. R. Kumaresh, Flautist Ronu Majumdar, and the like.

A pioneer, she founded the Indian National Orchestra, where 21 musicians playing different Indian instruments come together under one banner to showcase Indian classical music.

A researcher, she holds a Doctorate for her work on “styles and playing techniques of the Saraswati veena” and conducts workshops and lecture demonstrations around the world.

A composer, she has scored music for several dance productions and musicals. Her music for the dance ballet Krishna Bhakthi for Rasika, Portland featured both the Carnatic and Hindustani styles of compositions.

She composed and released the album "Mysterious Duality" which is a multi-dimensional reflection of the simple yet complex self - through a single instrument, the Veena. The artist has overlaid layers of several Veena recordings to create a symphonic composition.

Jayanthi has recorded for world renowned Labels such as Times Music, Music Today, Sa re ga ma, Sense World and Home Records.

The niece of Violin Legend Sri Lalgudi Jayaraman, Jayanthi attributes what she is today to her maternal aunt and guru, Smt. Padmavathy Ananthagopalan, whose training helped Jayanthi evolve as an artiste. Her mother Smt. Lalgudi Rajalakshmi first introduced her to music and she is also fortunate to have trained later under Veena Virtuoso Dr. S. Balachander.

Blending the traditional and the innovative in her music in terms of content, technique, virtuosity and expression, Jayanthi seeks to express the true voice of the veena, which transcends the boundaries of language and region.