



THE

# *Cup O' Carnatic*

SHOW

Dr Jayanthi Kumaresh

US TOUR 2026

## Overview

The Cup O' Carnatic Show is a live, interactive musical experience curated by acclaimed Veena virtuoso and educator Dr. Jayanthi Kumaresh, which pioneers a fresh approach to Carnatic Music.

Building upon the success of her widely viewed digital series which has garnered over 8.6 million views on YouTube and Facebook over eight years, this show aims to demystify Carnatic music, making it approachable and enjoyable for audiences of all ages and backgrounds. Through storytelling, visual elements, and live demonstrations, the show offers a unique entry point into the rich tapestry of South Indian classical music.





## About Dr Jayanthi Kumaresh

Dr. Jayanthi Kumaresh stands as one of the most distinguished exponents of the Saraswathi Veena in the modern era. A twelfth-time recipient of the "Award for Veena" from The Music Academy, Chennai, and a sixth-generation musician, she began her journey with the instrument at the age of three. Over a remarkable career spanning more than four decades, she has redefined the artistic landscape of the Veena, transforming it from a classical fixture into a vibrant voice on the global stage.

A visionary Carnatic modernist, Jayanthi has pioneered a distinctive musical idiom—one that honors tradition while embracing innovation. Her nuanced approach has expanded the expressive range of the Veena, reinvigorated interest among younger audiences, and transcended cultural and stylistic boundaries.

Her artistry has graced some of the world's most prestigious venues and festivals, including the Sydney Opera House, Royal Albert Hall, Lincoln Theatre (Washington, DC), Théâtre de la Ville (Paris), San Francisco Jazz Festival, BBC Proms, WOMAD, Darbar Festival (London), and Celtic Connections (Scotland). Through landmark collaborations with global luminaries such as Ustad Zakir Hussain, the British Philharmonia, Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra, Lautten Compagny Berlin, and as the founder of Indian National Orchestra, she has positioned the Veena at the crossroads of classical and contemporary world music.

A committed educator and scholar, Dr. Kumaresh holds a doctorate from the University of Mysore for her pioneering research on Veena styles and techniques. Her digital brainchild Cup O' Carnatic has garnered over 8.6 million views, and evolved into The Cup O' Carnatic Show—a sold-out interactive concert series across India. Through her online learning platform, the **Jayanthi Kumaresh Academy for Veena**, she teaches a diverse community of students aged 10 to 75 across more than 15 countries.

Her trailblazing contributions have been honored with numerous accolades, including the **Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (2022)**—India's highest national recognition for performing artists—**Kalaimamani** from the Government of Tamil Nadu, and the **Sangeet Shikar Samman** from Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, among others.

A disciple of Vidushi Padmavathy Ananthagopalan and Padma Bhushan Dr. S. Balachander, Dr. Jayanthi Kumaresh is not just a master of the Veena—she is a transformative force who continues to shape the future of Indian classical music on the world stage.



## The Cup O' Carnatic Journey

Season 1  
July 2017

Season 2  
June 2018

Season 3  
March 2019

Season Of  
Carnatic  
Nov 2019

Fun Series  
April 2020

Kid Series  
March 2021

Guess the  
Ragam  
April 2021

Point of View  
Series  
Jan 2022

Nostalgia  
Series  
July 2022

The  
Cup O' Carnatic  
Show

8 years  
9 seasons  
162 videos

8.6 million  
cumulative views

The Cup O' Carnatic webseries, is a pioneering digital initiative aimed at demystifying Carnatic music for a global audience. Launched in 2017, the series presents concise, engaging episodes that blend storytelling with musical demonstrations, making the intricate world of Carnatic music accessible to everyone through various themed segments—such as the **Kids Series**, **Fun Series**, and **Season of Carnatic** - Dr. Jayanthi Kumaresh explores ragas, rhythms, and compositions, often drawing parallels with everyday narratives and contemporary themes.

## About The Cup O' Carnatic Show

The Cup O' Carnatic Show is a delightful musical production that pours the timeless beauty of Carnatic music into a refreshing format for today's audiences. Presented by the world-renowned veena maestro Dr. Jayanthi Kumaresh, this experience blends centuries-old tradition with engaging storytelling, creating a content that is both educative and entertaining.

The production goes beyond sound. It is a multisensory journey. Enhanced by imaginative graphics, immersive lighting, and stage visuals, every raga and tala come alive not just to the ear but also to the eye. The interplay of colors, light patterns, and visual storytelling elevates the performance, making it an unforgettable experience where tradition meets modern presentation.

### Unique features of the production:

- Engaging storytelling that makes Carnatic music approachable to all ages
- A seamless blend of performance and explanation, educative yet entertaining
- Stunning graphics and lighting design that amplify the mood of each raga and rhythm
- Experience the essence of raga, tala, and compositions
- A rare opportunity to connect deeply with one of India's most iconic classical instruments

By combining performance with explanation and narrative, the show is an experience of **Musical Strings, Magical Stories and Memorable Melodies**





## The Team

### K U Jayachandra Rao Mridangam

K.U. Jayachandra Rao is a globally acclaimed Mridangam virtuoso, known for his rare style that weaves rhythm into melody. Trained by legends Trichur E.P. Narayan Pisharady and Palghat T.R. Rajamani, he has performed in over 20 countries and collaborated internationally with artists like Dillon Fowler, Peter Stacey, Andrew Weichman, and Rajesh Mehta.

His global performances include Beches Indian Brew, First Line-Celtic Music, the Rümlingen Music Festival (Switzerland), Poland Drum Festival, Rainforest World Music Festival, and the Scotland Music Festival. He is a core member of Layatharanga, a celebrated contemporary classical/world-music ensemble based in Bengaluru. With over 3 decades of experience he is greatly respected for his technical mastery and musical intuition.



### S G Pramath Kiran Tabla & Morching



S. G. Pramath Kiran is a sought-after percussionist, music producer, and sound engineer from South India. Trained in tabla under Pt. Udayraj Karpur and in morching by Vid. Anoor Ananthakrishna Sharma, he later mastered diverse world percussions like djembe, congas, and cajón. A pioneer in blending Afro-Cuban rhythms with Carnatic traditions, he became one of the first South Indian artists to introduce global percussion structures into classical concerts.

Over the years, he has collaborated with legends including Dr. Mangalampalli Balamuralikrishna, Dr. L. Subramaniam, Pt. Shivkumar Sharma, Dr. Jayanthi Kumaresh, Ganesh-Kumaresh, and Mysore Nagaraj-Manjunath, performing at leading festivals worldwide. Known for his versatility and innovative approach, Pramath continues to inspire new dimensions in Indian percussion through his cross-genre collaborations and creative productions.

### Keerthi Kumar Graphics & Lights

Keerthi Kumar is a lighting and multimedia designer, choreographer, and co-founder of ARTMOS Productions, known for creating immersive visual experiences that merge light, movement, space, and rhythm. Trained in Kathak and arts management, he brings a rare multidisciplinary approach that allows light itself to become a narrative element on stage.

He has designed for leading companies and festivals across India and abroad, collaborating with groups like STEM Dance Kampni, Punyah Dance Company, Omkar Arts Singapore, and many others. Renowned for his innovative “lightscapes,” Keerthi balances artistic vision with technical finesse, making him one of the most sought-after designers in contemporary performance arts.





## Audience Reactions from the Sold-Out Shows in Bangalore, Chennai & Mumbai

"Concerts like this are truly unique and possibly the first of their kind. They offer a wonderful gateway for the next generation to connect with and embrace Carnatic music."

"My daughter is learning the Veena, and since we don't come from a musical background, it's often hard to answer her questions. This show felt like it was created exactly for families like ours. We thoroughly enjoyed every moment of it."

"I brought my children to the show, and as long-time followers of the Cup O' Carnatic series, we found this live performance to be a wonderful culmination of everything we've loved over the years. It was an incredible experience, and we look forward to many more shows in the future."

"This is Carnatic music reimagined like never before. Jayanthi Akka's creativity and innovation are truly remarkable, and after watching this show, I've become an even bigger admirer of her work."

"We were all captivated by the sheer creativity on display. Jayanthi ji's innovative approach to bringing Carnatic music to the next generation was truly astonishing. The entire performance left us spellbound and engaged, keeping us at the edge of our seats for the full one and a half hours."

"I've been a fan of Jayanthi ji since her radio show years ago, which first inspired me to learn the Veena—though I eventually drifted away from it. Watching this show reignited that passion in me; it's motivated me to repair my Veena and start practicing again. Seeing my child filled with joy and excitement during the performance made it even more special—an experience I'll cherish forever."





Aishwarya Raghunathan

What if a raga could unravel like a bedtime story, or a ragam tanam pallavi echo with laughter? Can humour find space between a veena phrase and a ghatam beat? And what happens when a centuries-old art form decides to look a child in the eye and say, "Come, listen"?

In Cup O' Carnatic, veena exponent Jayanthi Kumaresh dares to imagine just that. A world where Carnatic music is not only performed, but lived, spoken, questioned, and made delightfully human. Here, tradition doesn't stand still; it walks hand-in-hand with imagination, reaching out to the next generation with a gentle, knowing smile.

In Jayanthi Kumaresh's hands,

the veena becomes a seamless blend of music, theatre, storytelling, and visual poetry. On stage at the Narada Gana Sabha recently, she is not merely a performer, but a narrator, a teacher, and a companion to the audience. Through her conversations with a child, she

bridges the gulf between the ancient and the new, the known and the curious.

The roots of this production lie in a deeply personal moment, when Vidhya, a disciple of Jayanthi and a mother of two, found herself struggling to convey the depth and joy of Carnatic

music to her young children. In search of a medium that could bridge tradition and comprehension, she approached her guru with an idea: could the core concepts of Carnatic music be shared in a way that is both engaging and age-appropriate? This seed of a question blossomed

into a digital series on YouTube, Cup O' Carnatic, which has been running for more than seven years. These bite-sized episodes, rich in music and conversation, found resonance with parents, educators and students alike.

Inspired by this sustained digital engagement, the idea to

**Classical made cool** Jayanthi Kumaresh presenting the Cup O' Carnatic show live at Narada Gana Sabha. PHOTOS: VELANKANNI RAJ

bring Cup O' Carnatic to the stage took shape, not merely as a live extension, but as a transformative experience. The live stage version made its debut in Bengaluru and then travelled to Chennai.

With its unique blend of animation, narration and live performance, the show dares to collapse the boundaries between the performer and the audience, between digital and live, between tradition and experiment.

Keerthi Kumar's graphics and lighting design elevate the experience. The gentle strokes of Upasana Govindarajan's illustrations and Aneesh Pulikode's graphics form an impeccable backdrop and frames the narrative like a living storybook. The musical support is equally thoughtful. Giridhar Udupa on the ghatam and Pratham Kiran on the morsing and the tabla provide a responsive and understated rhythmic layer.

During a post-performance conversation, Jayanthi said, "We tested every joke on our students. If it made them laugh, we knew it had to be included." The show is rich with gentle humour, the kind that eases the listener in, especially the young.

The production took close to a year to conceptualise and refine. "We wanted to do it right. To reach out to the next generation rasikas, we have to opt for formats they would love," said Jayanthi, who plans to take the show across the globe.

## Delectable brew

Jayanthi Kumaresh's Cup O' Carnatic is a unique blend of music, animation and storytelling



Scan to know more about the show  
or click on the link below

[www.jayanthikumares.com/cupocarnatic/](http://www.jayanthikumares.com/cupocarnatic/)

## Dr Jayanthi Kumaresh

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**Lighting & Multimedia Designer - Keerthi Kumar**

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Website: [www.keerthikumar.design](http://www.keerthikumar.design)

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## **Tech Rider with LED Wall**

### **Raisers**

28x4x1.5 feet raiser with black framed masking - to mount LED Wall

4x4x1.5 feet raisers with black framed masking and black/dark grey carpet - 2

8x4x1.5 feet raiser with black framed masking and black/dark grey carpet - 1

### **Floor**

If stage floor is not black, black Carpet is required to be laid across the stage

### **LED wall**

28ftx14ft or suitable size as per venue in 2:1 ratio

### **Lights**

6 BSW moving heads (2 to be placed as floor lights)

6 color washes

6 led par (RGBW)

6 Led Par (warm white) or Par64 or Fresnel

3 profiles (26 degree)

1 mirror ball

1 haze

Avolite Arena or Avolite Tiger Touch or ETC board with additional fader wing

Assistance required in assigning sub-masters. LD will be busking during the show

HDMI Cable to connect laptop to LED Wall required next to Light Console

Audio Cable to connect laptop required next to Light Console

Minimum 4 hours required after rigging is complete for lighting programming, sound check, visuals check and tech rehearsals before doors are open for audience.



# Tech Rider with Projection

## Raisers

4x4x1.5 feet raisers with black framed masking and black/dark grey carpet - 2

8x4x1.5 feet raiser with black framed masking and black/dark grey carpet - 1

## Floor

If stage floor is not black, black Carpet is required to be laid across the stage

## Projector

10,000+ lumens Projector projecting the image across the full size of the Cyclorama.

The projected images form the backdrop for the artistes.

## Light requirement in venues which do not have Moving Heads

6 led par (RGBW)

6 Led Par (warm white) or Par64 or Fresnel

3 profiles (26 degree) from FOH or 1st Electric focussed towards the 3 raisers

2 Profiles (36 degree) - from the Electric closer to the cyclorama

2 Profiles (36 degree) - placed on the floor - downstage SR and SL

6 Profiles (10 degree) - 2 placed on the floor and 4 from the grid, all pointing towards the mirror ball

1 mirror ball

1 haze

Avolite Arena or Avolite Tiger Touch or ETC board with additional fader wing

Assistance required in assigning sub-masters. LD will be busking during the show

HDMI Cable to connect laptop to Projector required next to Light Console

Audio Cable to connect laptop required next to Light Console

Minimum 4 hours required after rigging is complete for lighting programming, sound check, visuals check and tech rehearsals before doors are open for audience.



## Reference Lighting Plot

Placed on Flight Case

- BSW MOVING HEAD - 6
- WARM WHITE LED PAR OR PAR64 - 6
- COLOR WASH - 6
- PROFILE (26°) - 3
- LED PAR (RGB) - 6
- HAZE
- MIRROR BALL





Reference image of the stage layout

## Tech Rider - Sound

Sound Designer - Pramath Kiran

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Instrument	Mic	MIX
Veena 1	Di / XLR	MIX 1
Veena 2	Di	Stereo IEM
Jayanthi Vox	Wireless Headset ( Cardoid ) Shure / DPA	Additional Stage Monitor
Tanpura / iPad	Stereo Di	
Tabla	Shure 87C	Mix 2
Morsing	Shure Beta 57	Stereo IEM
Mridangam Hi	Shure Beta 57	Mix 3
Mridangam Low	Shure 52A / Audix D6	Stereo IEM
Laptop L	Di	
Laptop R	Di	
Laptop 2 L	Di	
Laptop 2 R	Di	
Cordless 1	Shure / Sennheiser	
Cordless 2	Shure / Sennheiser	