



Dr. Jayanthi Kumaresh

Dr. Jayanthi Kumaresh is a 13-time recipient of the "Award for Veena" bestowed by The Music Academy, Chennai, India, and is hailed as one of the legendary Veena masters. A **sixth-generation musician**, she began her musical journey at the tender age of three and has been a practitioner of the Veena for the last 53 years. With a concert career spanning 40 years, she has brought the Saraswathi Veena to global prominence through her trailblazing performances.

Jayanthi is a Carnatic innovator who has introduced a fresh dialogue between the old and the new, creating a distinct sound that has expanded the expressive range of this ancient instrument. She has revived widespread interest in the Saraswathi Veena, extending its reach beyond traditional venues and stylistic boundaries, and opening up new vistas for its performance and appreciation.

She has performed at many major international festivals, including the San Francisco Jazz Festival, Darbar Festival London, Celtic Connections in Scotland, Queensland Music Festival, Darwin Music Festival, WOMAD, and BBC Proms London. Her global performances have also taken her to prestigious venues such as the **Sydney Opera House, Royal Albert Hall, Royal Festival Hall, Théâtre de la Ville in Paris, and Lincoln Theatre in Washington, DC.**

In addition to her collaborations with many leading figures in Indian classical music, Jayanthi has performed with celebrated ensembles and artists such as **Ustad Zakir Hussain, the Indian National Orchestra, the British Philharmonia, Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra, and Lautten Compagney Berlin**—further establishing her role as a cultural ambassador of India's rich musical heritage.

Jayanthi holds a doctorate from the University of Mysore for her research on the different styles and playing techniques of the Saraswathi Veena. She has also made a significant impact in the digital realm with her innovative web series **Cup O' Carnatic**, which has garnered more than **8.6 million views** across social media.

Building on its success, she launched **The Cup O' Carnatic Show**, a live, interactive musical experience transforming it into a sold-out live show across India. Her commitment to music education is reflected in her online platform, the **Jayanthi Kumaresh Academy for Veena**, which has attracted over 1,500 individual registrations from students across more than 15 countries, ranging in age from 10 to 75 years.

As a pioneering woman, Jayanthi has broken several stereotypes and drawn a thoughtful and engaged young audience into the world of Carnatic music. Her contributions have been recognized with numerous prestigious honors, including the **Sangeet Natak Akademi Award** in 2022 for Carnatic Instrumental Music (Veena)—the highest national recognition for an Indian artist—as well as **Kalaimamani** by the Government of Tamil Nadu and the **Sangeet Shikar Samman** by Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, among many others. Dr. Jayanthi, a disciple of Guru Vidushi Padmavathy Ananthagopalan and Padma Bhushan Dr. S. Balachander is hailed as one of the legendary Veena masters that India has ever produced.

