

## **Mridangam Exponent Thanjavur K. Murugaboopathi**

Vidwan Thanjavur K. Murugaboopathi (Boopathi) is one of the world's most celebrated mridangam players of today. His techniques and creative ability in accompaniment, solo renditions, and jugalbandhi programs with his North Indian brethren have earned him much acclaim around the world.

Murugaboopathi hails from a family of musicians and artists of several generations. He is one of the few performers in the world today who trained in the rare '*Gurukula*' method (living with one's guru while learning) with Mridangam maestro Guru Tanjore Upendran for over ten years. Boopathi initially trained under Shri T R Srinivasan from the Tamil Nadu Music College, Chennai before his gurukula training.

Murugaboopathi's percussion career has been a colorful spectrum of accompaniment to a legion of maestros and virtuosos of the world of Carnatic vocal and instrumental music. Prominent vocalists include Sri M Balamuralikrishna, Sri T V Sankaranarayanan, Madurai Sri T N Seshagopalan, Sri P S Narayanaswami, Sri Sanjay Subramanyam, Sri P Unnikrishnan, Sri T M Krishna, Carnatica Brothers, Smt Sudha Raghunathan, Smt Aruna Sairam, and Smt Nithyashree Mahadevan. Renowned instrumentalists include flautist Dr N Ramani, mandolin player Sri U Srinivas, saxophonist Sri Kadri Gopalnath, violinist brothers Sri Ganesh & Sri Kumaresh and Mysore Sri Nagaraj & Sri Manjunath, vainika Smt. Nirmala Rajasekar, and flautist Sri Shashank. In addition, he has collaborated with several Hindustani (North Indian) musicians in Jugalbandi concerts, including Ustad Sultan Khan, Ustad Shahid Parvez Khan, Pandit Viswa Mohan Bhaatt, Pandit Ronu Majumdar, Sri Gaurav Mazumdar, Pandit Anindo Chatterjee, Pandit Ramdas Palsule, Pandit Abhijit Chatterjee and others. Boopathi has also played with several Western and other world musicians to create multifaceted music and foster cultural understanding.

Murugaboopathi's concert performances have occurred at a wide array of prestigious venues in India. Around the world, he has also performed in the United Nations (New York), the Royal Albert Hall (London), Theater De La Ville (Paris), Public Broadcasting Service Studios (USA), Esplanade Bay Theatres (Singapore) and numerous other venues in USA, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, the Middle East, Singapore, Hong Kong, and South Africa. He is one of the first Carnatic musicians in history to perform in the international music scene of Turkey, with veena artiste Smt Nirmala Rajasekar in 2011 at the Konya Mystic Music Festival.

## Biodata

Murugaboopathi believes strongly in conducting and participating in outreach. He has shared his knowledge through lectures, music conferences, and seminars throughout the United States, Europe, Australia, and East Asia. In addition to being a revered percussion guru, Boopathi has been instrumental in providing support, direction, and guidance towards incubating several arts organizations in the United States, Europe, Asia, and Australia.

Thanjavur Sri K. Murugaboopathi has received numerous honors and awards, including:

### **AWARD**

Best Artiste Award  
Pazhani Subramania Pillai Award  
Talented Artiste Award  
Naadha Vallabha  
Senior Excellence Award  
Best Accompanying Artiste  
Madhura Naadha Shiromani  
Laya Vidyaadhara  
Laya Kala Ratna  
Laya Kala Ratna  
Best Artiste Award  
Excellent Artiste Award  
Best Artiste Award  
Excellence Award

### **INSTITUTION**

Music Academy Chennai  
Music Academy, Chennai  
Krishna Gana Sabha, Chennai  
Naadha Sudha, Chennai  
Maharajapuram Vishwanatha Iyer Trust, Chennai  
Sruthilaya Seva, Chennai  
G. Narayana Sharma Trust, Chennai  
Isai Pani Mandram, Chennai  
Tiruppur Murugan Mandram  
Sri Ragam Fine Arts  
South Indian Music Club in Andhra Pradesh  
Young Carnatic Musicians Association of Srilanka  
Sivan Mandram Sydney, Australia  
Youth Center for Music and Arts, Inc USA for  
exemplary performance at the United Nations,  
New York, USA