

SRUTI

The India Music and Dance Society

NEWSLETTER

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Greetings:

The Managing Committee wishes a happy new year to all "SRUTI" supporters. In this newsletter, we update you on our activities of the last quarter of 1988 and our projected programs. A report of our activities of 1988 and a summary of accounts are also sent to "SRUTI" members.

Sri. Alagusundaram and party gave a nadaswaram concert on October 10, 1988. Sri. Alagusundaram associated with Meenakshi Temple, Madurai, was in this country on an invitation from the Hindu Temple at New York.

The Managing Committee feels that apart from organizing concerts by visiting artists from India, "SRUTI" should also periodically recognize talented performers resident in this country. As a part of this effort, **Simanthini Kautha** gave a vocal concert on December 10, 1988. The co-artists were **K.S. Mani** on the violin and **Satish Pathakota** on the mridangam, both of whom have performed for "SRUTI" previously. They gave a delectable concert. All of them live in New Jersey.

For the last two years the first event organized by "SRUTI" in the new year has been the celebration of **Tyagaraja Aradhana**. Continuing the tradition this year's Aradhana is planned for **Saturday, March 18, 1989** at the **Hindu Temple in Berlin, New Jersey**. This is the day that all carnatic music lovers in the Greater Delaware Valley pay their homage to the great composer.

Tyagaraja is revered not only as a great composer but also as a saint. Though most of his compositions are in praise of his Ishta Devatha Sri Rama, many of these contain words of wisdom with deep philosophical and spiritual content. One of the greatness of his music is that they can be enjoyed at all levels of musical maturity. By the same token, he has composed music which can be sung/performed by a novice to those which require great degree of proficiency to render them. Bhajana/Utsava sampradaya kritis are examples of the former kind while the great Pancharatna kritis exemplify the latter type. Different groups will render both types during the Aradhana celebration.

We expect a large number of children and adults to take part in paying their individual homage. We request that anyone interested in participating to give their names to **Dr. M.M.Subramaniam** at **{(215)-356-5181}** before **March 12, 1989**. We also request that they sing/perform only one Tyagaraja song (preferably without much of alapana or swara elaboration). These two requests, if adhered to, will enable us celebrate the Aradhana in an orderly manner. Please extend your cooperation.

The function is a day long event starting at 9:30 A.M. with a lunch break at 1:00 P.M.. We hope to have a large gathering.

Our membership at the end of last year was 90 of whom 57 are life members. We hope to considerably improve this number this year. A membership form is also attached. If you are not a member yet or only a regular member, please fill the membership and send it along with your check to Mr. Ram Krisn, 4 Barberry Place, Wilmington, De. 19810. Please make checks payable to "SRUTI". Please disregard this if you are a life member or became a member after September 1988.

We are in the process of planning our activities for spring 1989. We hope to announce them during Tyagaraja Aradhana. We sincerely hope that the attendance at "SRUTI" arranged events show a significant increase during this year.

See you on March 18, 1989 at the Tyagaraja Aradhana.

Managing Committee