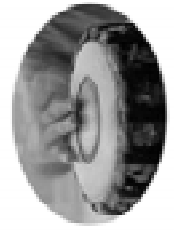


Announcement



THE MUSIC OF SOUTH INDIA



The course “The Music of South India” takes place from March 17 to June 20, 2003. An online preview, a description of the course and information on how to register are found on the following e-learning website: <http://www.carnaticstudent.org>. It goes without saying that it comprises practical exercises with transcriptions in order to enable all participants to experience the melodic and rhythmic beauties inherent in Carnatic music. Moreover, several renowned musicians and scholars have come forward to provide guidance on the most intricate aspects of this music whenever required.

The list of previous participants includes performers, music lovers, students and educationists, some of whom have already been involved in Indian music and dance. They have expressed their impressions as participants of the course, including the practical exercises incorporated in it, in terms of “stimulating”, “meaningful” and “very enjoyable”.

On www.carnaticstudent.org you will find more spontaneous feedback recently received from participants who hail from different cultural and educational backgrounds (including India). Their reactions confirm that my principal endeavour, namely to address and accommodate individual learning needs and interests is being highly valued by all participants. I should add here that their questions and comments have brought this course alive and will help to develop it further in accordance with newly emerging needs and interests. Even “unconventional” ideas are being discussed in the course along with those concepts that every course on Indian music should address in an approachable manner.

I trust that my personalised approach sets this course apart. In other words, this course complements other educational venture on Indian music currently found on the Internet as well as those local and distance education programmes that are currently being offered by various (open) universities. As nothing is taken for granted here, participants are welcome to join on virtually any level of exposure and experience, including complete novices interested in this field of study and music practice. Concert organisers and critics are likewise bound to benefit from participating in a congenial atmosphere provided by a common cause, namely the appreciation, propagation and investigation of South Indian music in a modern and international context.

Please note that teachers in any academic or artistic discipline are particularly welcome to participate along with their students and pupils. This will enable us all to explore this enjoyable music in novel and ever more effective ways, namely in a spirit of cooperation across all cultural boundaries. E-learning frees us from the many constraints imposed by other ways of delivering and sharing educational contents. Any reputed institutional course programme — anywhere in the world — can in principle associate itself with this course for mutual benefit.

Special terms for groups of students (e.g., music, dance, Indology, cultural studies) are being offered by the Distance Education Centre of the University of Lueneburg in Germany which organises, hosts and supports this course and numerous others. Given the highly affordable course fees even for individuals, money (or the lack of it) will hardly stand in the way of participation for anybody interested in it.

Please feel free to enquire about any aspect of the course about which you would like to get additional clarifications on perusing the additional information found on www.carnaticstudent.org.

Ludwig Pesch
Postbus 3350
1001 AD, Amsterdam
The Netherlands
E-mail: ludwig@euronet.nl