



## Curator's Note

MS is a name, rather initials, that transcended generations and languages. A lawyer from a town in Uttar Pradesh told the curator that his six-year grand daughter wakes up with MS music and goes to bed hearing her bhajans. The Ram namavali Shuddha Brahma paratparam is sung regularly in several households all over the country. It is the spirit of her singing, the life that went into each song that attracted the listener. Without knowing or understanding music, one could not only enjoy her singing but also appreciate and get involved.

There are several anecdotes to support this. Once, when on a tour to the US, she was singing to a small audience in a residential area, a kind of rehearsal. From the neighbour's house there was the constant noise of carpentry. When the gentleman was requested to stop, he refused. MS told her audience not to be worried. She sang through the noise. In a little while the noise stopped and the neighbour joined the audience. At the end of the singing he said he didn't know what music it was, had never heard before, but it just drew him from inside. Such was the power her music.

People who knew MS repeated ad nauseum one aspect of her personality. That Music was her life. Nothing else mattered to her. Neither wealth, not awards and accolades nor social positions. She sang the same whether in front of kings and queens or for a couple who reached her concert late after travelling 12 hours. A life of such devotion to music is perhaps not heard of

with thanks  
Late Dr. Mangalam Swaminathan  
Curator

Bharat Ratna Dr MS Subbulakshmi Birth Centenary Commemoration

Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts

in collaboration with  
Lalit Kala Akademi

Cordially invites you to the  
Inauguration of the exhibition at Chennai

## *Kurai Onrum Illai*

M S: Life in Music

**Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu**

Hon'ble Vice President of India,  
will be the Chief Guest

**Shri Banwarilal Purohit**

Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu  
will be the Guest of Honour

**Thiru D. Jayakumar**

Hon'ble Minister for Fisheries, Govt of Tamil Nadu  
will be the Special Guest

Date : Tuesday, 17 October 2017

Time : 10:15 am

Venue : Lalit Kala Akademi Regional Centre, 4, Greaves Road, Chennai - 600 006



# IGNCA

Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) is an autonomous, academic, research institution under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India. IGNCA has a wide mandate, to explore and understand "The Arts" in its different dimensions and present them to the larger public in various formats.

IGNCA has vibrant academic resources, strong research teams, effective dissemination systems. IGNCA's publications are appreciated by the scholarly community.

## The Exhibition

IGNCA has been hosting programmes throughout the Birth Centenary Year of Dr M S Subbulakshmi. These include concerts, conference, story telling sessions and book reading session.

The year concludes with an exhibition ***Kurai Onrum Illai – MS, A Life in Music***. The title of the exhibition draws from an iconic song, composed by Rajaji and rendered by her, perhaps only by her. The song tells god that she has no complaints, about life, about Him. Here we also use the verse to say that MS' was a life that was flawless.

The exhibition looks at the life of MS, from her early years to the people who moulded her, the composers and songs she immortalized, her contribution to the freedom movement, her magnanimous charity work, her role in films and the many many awards and accolades world decorated her with.

The exhibition has been curated by Late Dr Mangalam Swaminathan, Programme Director (IGNCA)

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follow us on [www.facebook.com/IGNCA](http://www.facebook.com/IGNCA); twitter: @igncald

### Venue of Exhibition

Lalit Kala Akademi Regional Centre, 4, Grems Road, Chennai - 600 006

Entry Free

RSVP : 044-28290804

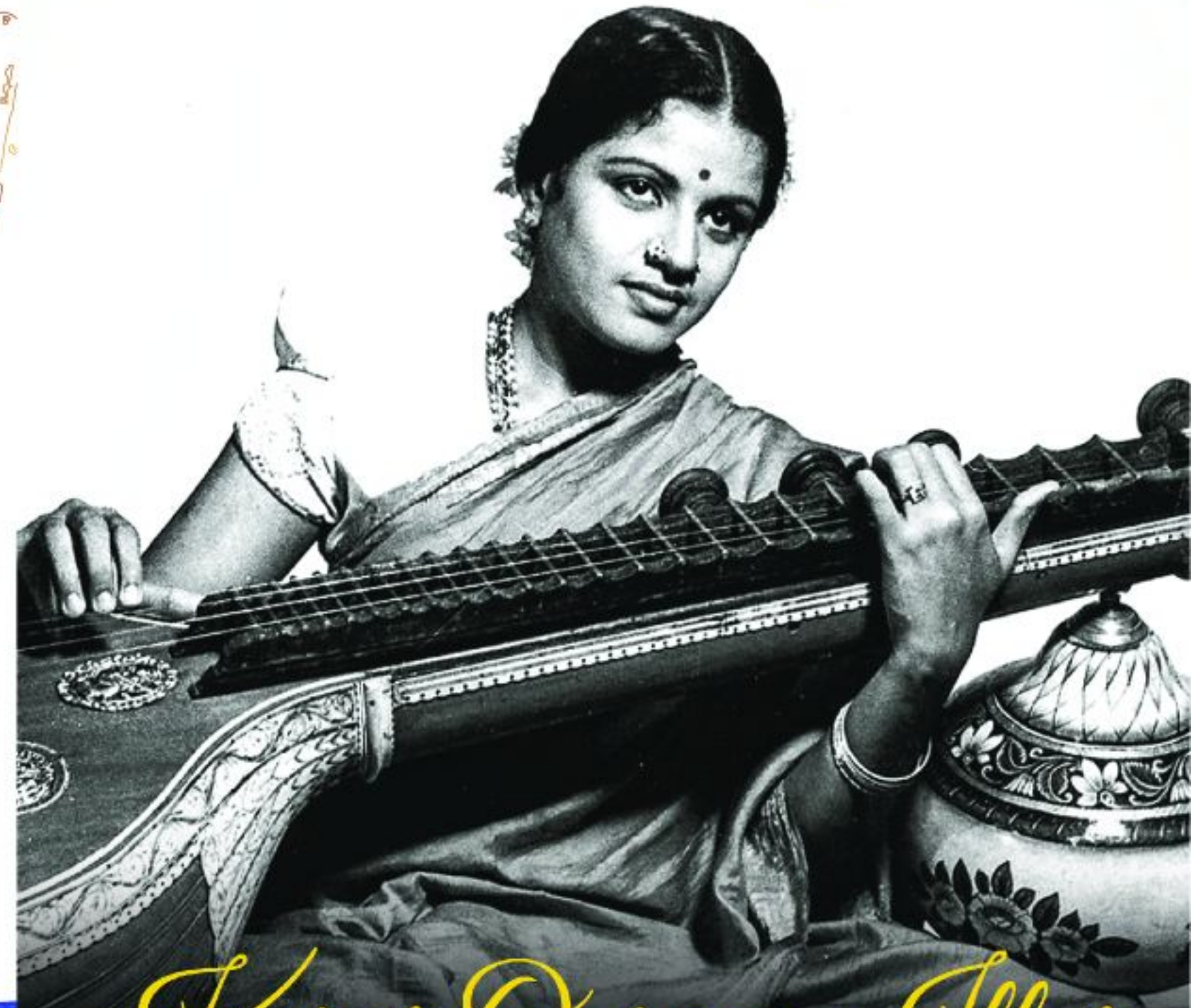
### SECURITY INSTRUCTIONS

- This invitation card is non-transferable
- You are requested to be seated by 09.30 AM.
- Please bring this invitation card in original along with the cover and an identity proof
- Items such as briefcase/ handbags/ any kind of arms/ Camera etc. will not be permitted.
- Please switch off Mobile phones.
- Invitees are requested to carry state ID Card as proof of Identity

(Exhibition will remain open till 30 October – All days from 11.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m.)



Bharat Ratna Dr M S Subbulakshmi Birth Centenary Commemoration



*Kurai Onrum Illai*

M S: Life in Music