

Vocalist Bhavani S.Kishore Kumar

His musical training: Born into a family of musicians, Kishore Kumar set out on his musical journey at a young age, drawing loads of inspiration from his grand father, Bhavani Srikanta Iyer, a popular violinist and great grandfather, Venkita Iyer, who had the rare honour of being named the Asthana vidwan of Mysore Samasthanam.

He learnt the rudimentary notes of Carnatic music from Sri A.Sundaresan of Bhavani. As he effortlessly breezed through the initial training, his precocious talent was spotted by the musician Chinnari Balu, himself a talented disciple of the famous flutist, Mali. Taking a keen personal interest in Kishore Kumar's music career, Sri Chinnari Balu gave him a gruelling training, finetuned his musical skills and shaped him into a soulful performer. His zest for learning music took him to the doorsteps of veterans such as Nanganallur A.Sundaresan and Prof.K.Sivaraman of Coimbatore. After graduating in music, he also spent his crucial learning phase at the famous destination of all musicians, the Music Academy at Chennai, and finished higher grade in music. While at the Music Academy, he had the opportunity of being trained by Sangeeta Kalanidhi, B.Rajam Iyer.

His talent: A versatile talent that he is, Kishore is at ease with various forms of music- Carnatic, light classical and devotional. He has performed at several sabhas and sung at various religious places. The highlight of his concerts are the thematic performances on Mahatma Gandhi, Bharatiyar and Nanyana Namam. As a student of music, Kishore Kumar won several prizes, awards and certificates of recognition at various contests. The Temple of Fine Arts (Sivanjali) invited him to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia to perform at their Navarathri Festival in 2003.

Performance in USA:

In July-August 2006 visited USA and performed at SANJOSE, CALIFORNIA for KALA VANDANA a premier institute for fine arts.

What the media says:

The Hindu: South India's leading newspaper, The Hindu, described Kishore's musical performance as "melodious, lilting". In its review exuberantly headlined "Mesmerising melody" on 25 July 2003, the newspaper said his concert at Rathna Regent at Coimbatore left the audience "enthralled" and spell-bound"

In another review of his concert to mark a musical homage to late M.S.Subbulakshmi at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, The Hindu said the audience was moved by his rendition.

His thematic performance on Bharathiya in December 2005 also received appreciation and encouraging reviews from The Hindu. He "enthralled the audience with Bharathiya's songs" and his concert was "fulfilling", the newspaper said.

The New Indian Express: This prestigious newspaper, headlined its write-up on his thematic performance on Bharathiya in December 2005, as "Melodious, Melifluous" and lauded the concert as a "musical night with a difference."

Finally, what the rasikas say:

The New Indian Express had featured the views of the audience in its write-up on Kishore Kumar's musical talent. According to the article, one of the discerning rasikas said:" "It was a different evening (of music) to relish."

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