

December 20, 2013

Display of virtuosity

B. RAMADEVI



Rich repertoire

Gayathri Venkataraghavan had all the advantages needed for a good vocalist — a charming voice, strong patantaram and excellent accompanists. She began with the sloka 'Vigna Raja Kripa Sindho' and presented Palakkad Parameswara Bhagavatar's varnam in Nattai, 'Sarasija Naabha Maampaahi.' 'Ennaganu Ramabhajana' by Bhadrachala Ramadas, describing the greatness of Rama nama in Pantuvarali followed after a brief alapana and included a lovely niraval for the line 'Rama Chilukanokati.' Dhanyasi ('Meenalochana Brova') and Kharaharapriya ('Chakkaniraja') were elaborated beautifully. Gayathri was in full form and the karvais and swaras flowed easily. The raga bhava reigned supreme as she elaborated the line 'Kantiki Sundara Taramagu Rupame.' Young violinist Charumathi Raghuraman showed exceptional depth and maturity and impressed with her sowkhya bhava. K.V. Prasad and Alathur Rajaganesh supported Gayathri sensibly and gave an excellent thani.