

Pallavi of the Capital District and the Hindu Temple Society

are pleased to present a program of Carnatic Music with a **grant from the Community Arts Center** at the Hindu Temple Community Center , 450 Albany Shaker Road, Loudonville, NY

Saturday October 18 from 1:30 to 6:00 PM.



Ms. Geetha Bennett on the Veena

Dr. Frank Bennett and Dr. Ganesh Sanakaranarayanan on the Mridangam

Mr. Rusty Gillette on the ghatam (clay pot)

Please see reverse for artists' bio.

Program:

1:30 PM Social time

2:00 to 3:30 PM Workshop

3:30 to 4:00 PM Break – Refreshments

4:00 to 6:00 PM Concert

Admission: Pallavi members Free General: Adults \$10 Students with ID \$6

This is a great opportunity to learn the fundamentals of Indian music from artists trained in both Western and Indian classical music and enjoy an afternoon concert. They artists have extensive experience on conducting workshops to audience familiar with Indian music and those not familiar with Indian music. Please spread the word and bring family and friends. Please call/email one of the following to reserve tickets and help us plan for refreshments.

Janaki Krishnamoorthy 273 6624

Dr. N. Sukumar 274-2968

Prof. Ramanath 383 5938

Mrs. Lakshmi Ravichandran 373 9123

Geetha Ramanathan Bennett is a renowned Veena player. She received both veena and vocal training from her father Sangita Kalanidhi Dr. S. Ramanathan. A graded artist of All India Radio, Geetha has performed extensively all over the world and has won numerous awards for her veena playing from prestigious institutions such as the Music Academy, Chennai. It is to be noted that through her guru Dr. Ramanathan, Geetha is comes under the direct sishya parampara (disciple lineage) of the Trinity of Carnatic music, St. Tyagara, Sri Muthuswami Dikshitar and Sri. Syama Sastri. A resident of southern California, she runs a school, for both vocal and veena music. Along with her husband Frank Bennett and Rusty Gillette, Geetha has presented workshop on Carnatic music at numerous venues, including Duke University, Yale University and SUNY campuses at Oneonta, Cobleskill, Syracuse and Cortland and Hamilton College and Colgate University. The list goes on. Geetha is also an accomplished writer and has published many short stories and essays in Tamil. Please visit her website at www.geethabennett.net.



Dr. Frank Bennett is an accomplished veena player and a mridangam player.

Frank's veena training was under Sri Kalyanakrishnan, Smt. Muthulakshmi Ranganathan and Dr. S. Ramanathan and he was trained in the mridangam training by the great vidwans Sri Ramnad Raghavan, and T. Ranganathan and the legend Sri. Palghat Mani Iyer. As a composer/arranger/percussionist, Frank has worked in many different styles of music. He has accompanied Geetha on her concerts and also performed as a jazz percussionist with Benny Goodman, Jimmy heath and Lou Donaldson. His chamber music pieces have been presented at the Carnegie Hall in NY

City among other places. Frank's musical talents have also taken him to Hollywood and the TV studios for orchestration and arranging. A short list is Spy Kids I and II, Princess Diaries, The wedding planner, South Park, The Simpsons and The west wing. He has received 2 Emmy citations. Please visit Geetha's website for more information. Frank Bennett has a doctorate in musical arts from Yale University.



Rusty Gillette began his studies of Carnatic percussion at the California Institute of the Arts with T. Ranganathan. With a scholarship from the Center for World Music, he studied ghatam with T.H. Vinayakram in Madras, India. For more than 25 years, Rusty has performed extensively throughout the world, accompanying many artists such as dancers Ramya Harishankar and Viji Prakash as well as T. Vishwanathan. Currently living in Southern California, Rusty's career has extended into jazz where he works with a trio playing piano.



Ganesh Sankaranarayanan started his mridangam lessons at the age of ten from the renowned guru Sangita Kala Acharya Sri Kumbakonam Rajappa Iyer in Chennai, India. He has provided accompaniment for both music and dance recitals in Chennai and Chidambaram and since 2000, in the US. Ganesh has also learned carnatic vocal music from his mother Smt. Saraswathy Sankaranarayanan and continues his training, with Dr. Immaneni Ashok. With his knowledge in vocal music, he seeks to provide a sensitive and sahyam-based accompaniment. Ganesh holds a doctorate in mechanical engineering from the University of Washington, Seattle and is currently a research associate at RPI.

Concert Location: Hindu Cultural Center, 450, Albany Shaker Road, Albany, NY 12211, 518-459-7272
<http://www.albanyhindutemple.org>