

JANYA

*Welcomes you
to an unforgettable concert
by*

RAMANA BALACHANDHRAN

and

PATRI SATISH KUMAR



Founder's Note

Welcome — and thank you for being here! Tonight's concert is more than a performance. It's part of something I've long envisioned: a platform that curates South Asian classical arts for mainstream spaces with creativity and integrity. Through Janya, let's celebrate artists, honor traditions, and create opportunities for deeper engagement — right here in St. Louis and beyond. Whether you're a lifelong appreciator or brand new to this music, I hope tonight leaves you inspired — and I invite you to stay connected as we grow.

Warmly,
Megha

@JANYAARTS

One of the most acclaimed veena artists of his generation, Ramana brings breathtaking clarity and depth to this intricate instrument. With training in vocal and percussion traditions, his music blends raga richness with rhythmic brilliance. He's performed across India and the world — including at Rashtrapathi Bhavan — and was the youngest veena artist invited by the Madras Music Academy. A direct A-grade awardee from All India Radio, Ramana is a true prodigy.

Meet the Artist

Ramana
Balachandhran

Vainika (Veena Artist)



[Ramana's Website](#)

Patri Satish Kumar is a mridangam maestro and rhythmic innovator, honored with India's Sangeet Natak Akademi Award and an honorary doctorate from UC Berkeley. With nearly five decades of global performances, he's redefined Carnatic percussion with creations like the Trim Mridangam and the solo concept "Gajaana." His artistry has lit up stages from the Kennedy Center to the Sydney Opera House. A mentor, author, and festival founder, Patri Sir continues to inspire — if you ask him why, he'll tell you "music is my life."

Meet the Artist

Patri Satish
Kumar

*Mridangam
(Percussion Artist)*



Q&A

We believe the arts are not just for watching — they're for engaging, questioning, and iterating.

If something moves you tonight or sparks any question, we'd love to hear from you. Submit your thoughts using the QR code below — at any time before, during, or after the concert.

We'll be recording a short artist interview to respond to audience questions — and we'll send it straight to your inbox.

This is one small way we're working to make the classical arts more accessible & interactive.

JOIN AT
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About JANYA

Janya is an arts initiative
dedicated to creating
thoughtful, innovative spaces
for South Asian classical arts.

Founded in St. Louis;
Developing across the Midwest
and beyond.

We believe in making these
traditions visible, vibrant, and
accessible — and part of a
holistic artistic vision.

Follow us at @janyaarts on
Instagram & Facebook or visit
our website to learn more.

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS



KALA
ARANGAM





ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Advisors:

- *Lakshmi Iyer, Founder of KalaArangam & Margam Dance Company, Co-Founder Abhinay Fine Arts*
- *Sanjay Subramanian, MD, Co-Founder & Director of Abhinay Fine Arts, Director of Abhinay School of Music*
- *Steve Knight, ex-director – COCABiz*
- *Vinaya Sermadevi, MD*
- *Ram Lakshmanan, Banking Consultant*
- *Ashok Nageshwaran, Food Raconteur*
- *Mike Ross, Director – Krannert Center for the Arts*

Supporters & Well-wishers:

- *Raghavan Rajagopalan, CMANA*
- *Vani Krishnamurthy, Arts India US*
- *Aaron Kothe, Streamside Productions*
- *Shanthi Krishnan, Balvihar STL*
- *Peter Palermo, Sheldon Theater*
- *KK Sankaran & Murugan Temple of St.Louis*
- *Anupama Sriram & STL Ganesha Temple*
- *Betsy Cohen & Susan Gobbo, STL Mosaic Project*
- *Usha Ramalingam, Sangeetha*
- *Raghu & Sandhya Pandurangi, Anu-Rag School of Music*
- *Nithya Sayeeganes, Veena Teacher*
- *Dr. Joanna Das, WashU Associate Professor of Dance*

Volunteers

- *Maanas Sanjay*
- *Rahul Sista*
- *Shriram Vasudevan*
- *Advaith Ramaswamy*
- *Vinaya Sermadevi*
- *Lakshmi Iyer*
- *Sanjay Subramanian*
- *Padma Sundar*
- *Priya Seshadri*
- *Nandita Sateeskumar*