

UPCOMING WORLD MUSIC SERIES EVENTS

All World Music events are at 8:00 pm in Beall Hall

Friday, March 8:

Cathie Ryan Band - Irish Traditional Music

Friday, April 19:

Zedashe - Folk Music and Dance
from the Republic of Georgia

The plywood paneling on the lower walls of Beall Hall is temporary. It is part of ongoing testing to improve the acoustics for larger ensembles. They were added on the recommendation of professional acousticians who are helping the staff in their ongoing attempts to improve the experience of our audience.

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SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND DANCE

World Music Series

Classical Music of South India

Mysore Manjunath

Violin

Mysore Nagaraj

Violin

Srimushnam V. Raja Rao

Mridangam (drum)

Beall Concert Hall
Friday, October 5, 2012, 8:00 p.m.



THE VIOLIN IN SOUTH INDIA

The European violin was introduced into India in the late 18th century as a result of British colonial influence.

The Indian violin is identical to the western violin, but differs in tuning and playing position. It is generally played in a cross-legged seated posture, held in position with the scroll placed on the artist's ankle, and the chin rest or end pin resting on the collar bone or chest. This frees the performer's left hand to play the melodic ornamentation and pitch slides that characterize Carnatic music.

In South India the violin can be a solo instrument as well as a melodic accompaniment for vocalists. Unlike the western classical violin tuning of E A D G, the Indian violin has all strings tuned to the tonic and fifth degrees of the *raga* (melodic framework for performance).

** Oriental carpet provided by Oveissi & Co.*

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Mysore Nagaraj and his younger brother **Dr. Mysore Manjunath** grew up in the city of Mysore in southern India. They were both child prodigies who matured quickly to emerge as top ranking violinists. Representing the Carnatic (South Indian classical) tradition, they have performed at innumerable music festivals and conferences throughout the world, and have collaborated with many outstanding Indian, European, and American artists.

Manjunath and Nagaraj are the sons and disciples of renowned violinist Prof. S. Mahadevappa. Each brother began his performing career around the age of 8, amazing music lovers and critics with their astonishing musicianship. They were trained in a specific style of traditional Carnatic violin playing developed by their father. This style is marked by a strict adherence to classicism, with a blend of emotional intensity, technical mastery, virtuosity, and creativity. The brothers have been able to expand this traditional training with their experience in current global music paradigms.

Mysore Nagaraj is a top ranking musician at All India Radio. He has made outstanding contributions in the field of music composition for documentary films. Dr. Mysore Manjunath received a Master of Music in violin and a Ph.D. degree from the University of Mysore. He is currently on the faculty of the University of Mysore Department of Music.

Srimushnam V. Raja Rao grew up in a family that has been dedicated to music for the past four generations. He began his initial training in mridangam from his father Vidwan Sri. S. Venkataramana Rao, and started performing at the age of 7. Srimushnam continued his training under some of the most eminent teachers of his time, and has performed extensively in India and abroad, accompanying many outstanding Carnatic musicians. He is a top ranking artist at All India radio. In addition to mridangam, he plays kanjira (frame drum) and morsing (jaw harp).