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Breath of fresh air

If music is not merely to be heard and comprehended but experienced in the rapturous dimensions of the listeners' hearts, it was provided to the hilt by Ranjani and Gayatri. Their recital breathed the eternal fragrance and the perennial freshness of Carnatic music. Remarkably at their hands the surfeit of feeling in the songs "Entanine" (Mukhari) "Evarimata" (Kambhoji) and "Bhuvanidaasudane" (Sriranjani) was conveyed to rasikas with interpretational resplendence. Mukhari alapana shared between the sisters laid the foundations for Gayatri's later alapana of Kambhoji. With her sparkling voice she added a new reflective domain to the raga. When the raga's vista was spreading, one felt that while others sing from the throat, music pulsed in every capillary and fibre in her body. Documenting the enriching charms of Kambhoji, each sanchara glimmered with tonal eloquence to be enjoyed with ecstatic pleasure by the rasikas in the packed auditorium. The alapana moved in the exalted sphere of lyrical musings on Kambhoji's swaropa, shades and shape, peeling layer after layer of the raga's Vakti.

The depth of exposition carried the richness of the deep sensitiveness of her manodharma. The sisters saw to it that the kutcheri was made intense, glowing and exceptionally exquisite.

Mysore Srikanth (violin) was complement but needs to impart softness to his bowing. Mannargudi Srinivasan's mridangam accompaniment was delightful with exemplary tekas and controlled beats designed to add lustre to the songs.

SVK

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