



Chandrashekar, Bala Devi Chandrashekar, Nalli Kuppuswami Chetti, Sekar and Rajkumar Bharathi

Bala Devi presents *Sangam Festival* at Kartik Fine Arts

Chennai, Jan 1: Sangam Festival, an organization committed to the preservation, promotion, and showcasing of exceptional Indian classical artists and South Asian arts, hosted a comprehensive three-part festival at Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan, Mylapore.

Established and championed by Bharatanatyam exponent and scholar Bala Devi Chandrashekar, Sangam Festival transcends mere artistic pursuits; it serves as an extensive resource center, offering knowledge, promotion, references, and unwavering support to the arts community in both the USA and India.

In collaboration with Kartik Fine Arts, this year's festival will include Seldom compositions of

Tanjore Quartet by Guru Thanjavur Hariharan Herambanathan of Thanjavur Heritage Arts, Creative Synergy - A collaborative improvisation between a solo thematic dancer, lyricists, and music composer by Rajkumar Bharathi and Kandein Swapnam by Gopika Varma.

The core mission of Sangam Festival was to establish a convergence of Indian classical music and dance from diverse regions of India and South Asia, fostering collaboration with artists from global traditions. The organization actively contributes to education, instilling an appreciation for genuine classical Indian and South Asian performing arts.

Sangam Festival's activities encompass performances, lectures,

workshops, digital resources, mentoring, and financial support for artists. Additionally, the festival aspires to become an authentic source for universities and colleges seeking to enrich their repositories of Indian Classical and South Asian performing arts.

In addition to her philanthropic endeavours, Bala Devi actively contributes to education, language preservation, and cultural heritage initiatives. This includes projects focused on preserving ancient languages like Sanskrit and Tamil. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, Bala Devi Chandrashekar and Sangam Festival were the first to extend crucial support to over 30 classical artists in Chennai and Bangalore.