



RAJHESH VAIDHYA

Artiste Biography

Rajhesh Vaidhya is a world-renowned veena artiste, composer, and performer known for redefining the instrument's voice in both classical and contemporary formats for global audiences. His playing is grounded in solid Carnatic music technique, combined with a strong focus on speed, precision, and clarity. His discography spans classical concerts, fusion collaborations, film scoring, television music, and large-scale digital content

Roots

Born into a lineage of percussion legends, Rajhesh's musical journey began under the guidance of his father, Sri K. M. Vaidyanathan, a revered Mridangam and Ghatam exponent. He was encouraged to take up the veena by his mother, and received key mentorship from the legendary veena virtuoso Chitti Babu, which shaped his Carnatic foundation and approach to the finer nuances of the instrument. He continues his musical exploration under the guidance of the renowned violinist Sri L. Shankar.

Reinvention

A contemporary icon of the Veena, he is widely credited with introducing amplification and electric strings to the Saraswati Veena, expanding its on-stage projection and sonic possibilities beyond its traditional acoustic range. Through this pioneering approach, he has expanded the sonic possibilities of the Veena, enabling it to engage with contemporary genres including fusion, rock, jazz, and world music.

Repertoire

With more than 50 albums released and title tracks composed for over 75 Tamil television serials, Rajhesh Vaidhya's discography reflects exceptional range across classical, fusion, and popular formats.

In the digital place, Rajhesh is known for the widely celebrated #DoYouHaveAMinuteSeries (DYHAMS), a format of 60-second veena renditions that distilled the instrument's visibility and complexity into highly engaging micro-performances.

EMAIL ID

rv@rajheshvaidhya.com

PHONE

+91 98840 86060

WEBSITE

www.rajheshvaidhya.com



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Reach & Resonance

Rajhesh has performed in more than 15 countries, including the USA, UK, Europe, South Africa, UAE, Singapore, Malaysia, Australia, Japan, Sri Lanka, New Zealand, Mauritius, and Reunion Island. He has also contributed to the “Playing for Change” album project, which brings together artists across countries and communities through collaborative recordings. Rajhesh’s live performances are marked by energy, spontaneity, and a natural connection with audiences. For over a decade, he has concluded his live concerts with an extended audience-request segment, reflecting his deep commitment to listener engagement and musical dialogue.

Recognitions & Honours

Rajhesh Vaidhya has received multiple awards and titles, including:

- Shri Kanchi Kamakoti Peeta Aasthana Vidwan (2001)
- Kalaimamani Award (2011) – Tamil Nadu State Government
- Veenai Selvam – Tamil Nadu Government
- Sangeetha Kala Bharathi Award – Bharath Kalachar
- Sangeetha Chakravarthy G. Ramanathan Award
- Veenai Isai Chudar Oli – Tamil Trinity Festival
- Member of Board of Governors – American University of Spiritual Sciences

Record-breaking Achievements

- **Asia Book of Records (2023)**

Performing 60 songs in 60 minutes – a remarkable display of technical mastery, musical memory, and stamina

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