

Sa Ri

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BHARAT SUNDAR

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Pa Da

Namaste

Biography/

Early childhood - *Initiation into music*



A Chennai-based Carnatic singer and composer, Bharat Sundar's tryst with music began when he was 5 years old. Born on August 30th 1988 to S Krishnamoorthi and Lakshmi Krishnamoorthi, Bharat's talent in singing was first recognised when he bagged the first prize in a singing competition conducted at his father's workplace. In the following year, when he turned 6, he began his formal training under his *chitthi* (maternal aunt), **Gayatri Mahesh**. However, in a short while, she had to pass the baton to **G Srikanth**, as she had different plans owing to the beginning of her married life. Soon Srikanth had to leave to Thoothukudi (also known as Tuticorin) as he was offered to teach at the Government Music School. *What started to seem like a rather nomadic student life to Bharat, turned out to be the pathway to a serendipitous journey* because at the same time, Srikanth's mother and

guru, Smt Leelavathi Gopalakrishnan decided to return to Chennai, after quitting her job in Singapore. **Smt Leelavathi Gopalakrishnan** is the disciple of Town Balu (a direct student of legendary Carnatic exponent Sangeeta Kalanidhi G.N.Balasubramaniam), Musiri Subramaniam Iyer and T. M. Thiagarajan. During his decade-long tutelage under her, Bharat actively participated in film shows, music competitions and workshops.

From the year 2004, for close to 7 years, he actively toured with **Abaswaram Ramjhi's** association and **sang in over a thousand film shows**. *After performing in so many shows, Bharat began to feel more comfortable on stage than off stage.*

While his foremost concert dates back to February 1999 at VDS Arts Academy, and more formal full-fledged concerts starting from 2005, it was not until the year 2007 that he found his **true-calling for Carnatic music**.

In 2007, Bharat participated in a film music show called **Raagamalika**, in which he didn't make it further than the semi-finals. As a token of appreciation, he was presented with Charsur Foundation's Concert Collection of the year 2000. Among many artistes in that collection, upon hearing a certain concert of Shri T N Seshagopalan's, he discovered an unprecedented inquisitiveness in him towards pursuing the depth of Carnatic music.

In the same year, he also had his first introduction to Ragam Tanam Pallavis through an interactive workshop conducted by Pallavi expert **Sri. Trichy J.Venkatraman and Sri Srimushnam Rajarao**.

As he embarked on this intensely inquisitive journey to explore the abyssal depths of this ocean, he pledged to learn every single day and hopes to leave behind a legacy that ignites a creative spark in the future generations.





In the year 2010, he participated in the first ever exclusive reality show for Carnatic vocalists, called **Carnatic Idol**, adjudged by the most eminent panel of Carnatic experts. With the most competent vocalists as his competitors, Bharat Sundar went on to be *unanimously chosen as the winner of the entire series*, after multiple rounds of selection, that involved thorough scrutiny of *manodharmam* and other technical skills. Although he began singing full-fledged concerts in 2005, winning this show reassured the world of his artistic credentials and thereby launched him on to many more platforms across the world.

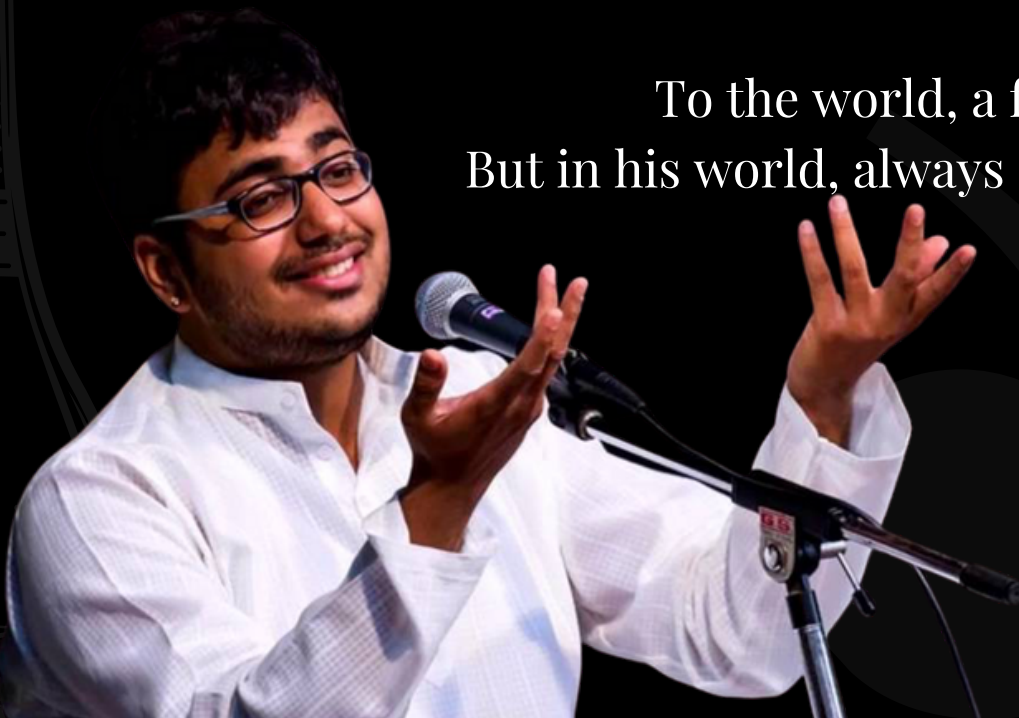
In the following year, Bharat started to train more rigorously under the stalwart Late **Sri P S Narayanaswamy** - fondly referred to as *PSN Mama* among the musical fraternity. Along this journey, he has also been closely mentored by *Sangeetha Kalanidhi* Vidushi **Sowmya Srinivasan**. ●●●

Bharat Sundar holds an undergraduate degree in **B.Com from D.G.Vaishnav College, Chennai**, and a **Masters degree in Indian Music from University of Madras** where he graduated as a **Gold Medalist**. Additionally, he was also pursuing his career as a Chartered Accountant, but decided to not pursue it further than the intermediate level, because he'd *"...rather be a decent musician, than a bad accountant."*

Today, Bharat Sundar is one of the most sought after Carnatic vocalists in the world. With years getting busier with world-wide tours and performances, his child-like enthusiasm to learn remains unchanged.

If not singing in a kutcheri, he would mostly be found experimenting in the kitchen, playing a game of badminton, exploring the depths of Tamil literature or binge-watching the 90's TV show F.R.I.E.N.D.S.

To the world, a full-time musician.
But in his world, always a full-time student.



Biography / Recognition from Govt. of India

A Grade artiste
II India Radio

Recipient of
CCRT
scholarship



→ Kala Rathna 2020
Cleveland Thyagaraja Festival

→ Yuva Purandara Award 2020
Indiranagar Sangeetha Sabha, Bangalore

→ Best Concert Award in Senior Category 2019
The Music Academy, Chennai

→ Kalki Sri.Krishnamurthy Award 2019
Kalki Krishnamurthy Memorial Trust, Chennai

→ Best Concert Award in Senior Category 2018
The Music Academy, Chennai

→ Yuva Puraskar 2017
Sri Rama Seva Mandali, Bengaluru

→ Best Vocalist – Sub Senior Category 2016
The Music Academy, Chennai

→ Maharajapuram Viswanathan Iyer Youth Excellence Award 2016
Sangeet Natak Akademi Award, Chennai

→ MS Subbalakshmi birth centenary scholarship for 3 yrs – 2015
Sri Shanmukhananda Fine Arts & Sangeetha Sabha, Mumbai

→ Outstanding vocalist Award in Sub Senior category 2015
The Music Academy, Chennai

→ Dr. M. L. Vasanthakumari Award 2015
Sri Parthasarathi Swamy Sabha, Chennai

→ Isai Chudar 2010
Karthik Fine Arts, Chennai

→ Bru Canatic Music Idol 2010
Jaya TV

→ Yuvakala Bharati 2009
Bharat Kalachar, Chennai

→ Balakalaratna 2008
Balakalasagaram Trust, Chennai

→ Yuva Kala Vipanchee 2007
Vipanchi Institution, Chennai

→ Bala Bhaskara 2005
VDS Arts Academy, Chennai



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Thank you

