

# WorldFest • Spurlock Museum

## March 3, 2012

### Indian Dance and Music

Dance: Auditorium • 1:00-1:25 and 1:30-1:55

Music: Ancient Mediterranean Gallery • 3:00-3:25



### Performers:

#### Sudha Srinivasan (Guru and Nattuvangam):

Sudha is the artistic director of Nrithyalaya, Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to teaching Indian classical dance, *Bharatanatyam*, in the Chicago metropolitan area. She established the institute in 1981 at Downers Grove, IL and has since expanded it to St. Louis, MO. Sudha performed her debut performance at the age of eight and had initial training under Sri. Natarajan, Sri. Bhavu Pillai, and Sri. Rajendran of Tanjore. She has had advanced training in Bharatanatyam and *Nattuvangam* from renowned guru Padmashri Adyar K. Lakshman. She has performed nationwide in India with the troupe of renowned dancer Smt. Kamala Narayan. Since the establishment of Nrithyalaya, she has several acclaimed solo and group choreographies to her credit. For more information on the artist please visit [nrithyalaya.org](http://nrithyalaya.org).

#### Subhalakshmi Kumar (Bharatnatyam):

Subha is a current student of Sudha Srinivasan and a professional Bharatanatyam (south Indian classical dance) artist. She has learnt and performed the art since the age of four and continues to choreograph and perform actively in the Midwest. Her initial training in India has been under several gurus. She has a senior diploma from Prayag Sangeet Samithi, Allahabad, and Vid Pratham degree from Khairagarh University, India with distinction in performing. She was recipient of the CCRT scholarship from the Govt. of India and has many accolades to her credit. She is currently pursuing a PhD in Material Science and Engineering at the University of Illinois. For more on the art/artist please visit [subhalakshmikumar.com](http://subhalakshmikumar.com).

#### Vinod Natarajan (Vocalist):

Vinod Natarajan is a professional vocalist, trained in Carnatic music (a south Indian classical music form) for twelve years. He has been mentored by the renowned Sri Rudrapatnam S Ramakanth for five years. He has performed in many events, both in India and USA, and has won awards and laurels. He has been the President of the Florida chapter of SPICMACAY, which is an organization aimed at promoting Indian classical music. Apart from performing, he has been actively involved in coordinating numerous cultural events. He is currently being tutored by Sri Anandnadh Yogi at Rasika, Portland. He is now employed with Intel, Oregon as a Software Performance Engineer.

#### Nanjundamurthy Venkatasubbu (Mridangam):

Nanjundamurthy is a professional *mridangam* (south Indian classical percussion instrument) artist. He has been trained since the age of eight, first under his father Sri Venkatasubbu and later under the renowned Ghatam artist Vidwan Sri K.N.Krishnamurthy in Bangalore, India. He has accompanied several leading vocalists across south India and has won many awards. He is a graded artist of All India Radio and was a recipient of the CCRT scholarship from Govt. of India. He is currently pursuing graduate studies at the University of Illinois in Aerospace Engineering.

#### Barath Ezhilan (Flautist):

Barath Ezhilan is a flautist. He has been trained in playing the south Indian bamboo flute, since the age of 12, under the guidance of Dr. Sankaran. He has performed in the Ramani's Academy of Flute and has been part of several classical, semi-classical and light music bands in India. He is now pursuing his PhD in mechanical engineering at the University of Illinois.

**Japanese Shamisen**  
**Ancient Mediterranean Gallery**  
**1:30-1:55 and 2:00-2:25**

**Performer:**

A *koto* and *shamisen* player and singer, Yoko Reikano Kimura performs classical Japanese music in the Yamada school style. She graduated from the Tokyo University of the Arts and Music, where she was awarded the top prize for her graduation recital. She continued her studies at the NHK School for Young Professionals and the Institute of Contemporary Music for Traditional Japanese Instruments. The Agency of Culture Affairs elected her as the internship trainee. Yoko has won numerous awards, including the top prize at the prestigious 10th Kenjun Memorial All-Japan Competition. She received first prize at the Great Wall International Music Competition and the Osaka Chinese Counsel Award and won the Japanese music audition for NHK FM radio. Yoko performed at the Kabuki-za in Tokyo for the play *Sukeroku*, starring Danjuro Ichikawa XII. An enthusiastic supporter of contemporary music, Yoko has premiered new works at the Japan Society for Contemporary Music. Since 2010, she has lived in the US and performs regularly here and in Japan. As a frequent collaborator with western musicians, currently she performs in the US and Japan with her husband, Hikaru Tamaki, the principal cellist of the Fort Wayne Philharmonic Orchestra. Since 2004, Yoko has performed in such places as Poland, Switzerland, France, the USA, Lithuania, Korea, China, Israel, Qatar and Italy. She has also presented various performances and workshops in Jamaica, Bolivia, and Peru for the Japanese Arts in Latin America Program promoted by the Japan Foundation in New York. She has given numerous recitals in New York and duo recitals in Chicago. Currently, she holds a teaching position at the Institute of Contemporary Music for Traditional Japanese Instruments, an affiliate of Senzoku Gakuen Music University in Japan. Yoko's web site: [www.reikano.yamadaryu.com](http://www.reikano.yamadaryu.com).



**Choral Music**  
**Auditorium**  
**2:30-2:55 and 3:30-3:55**

**Performers:**

Amasong, Champaign-Urbana's Premier Lesbian/Feminist Chorus, is dedicated to the pursuit of choral excellence in an atmosphere that celebrates all forms of women's devotion to women. Now in our 21st concert season, our repertoire is distinguished by its persistent inclusion of music composed by women, love songs to women, musical settings of women's words, and folkloric music that gives voice to the experiences of women the world over. With the goal of teaching women to sing together compellingly, choral membership is open to women at varying levels of experience and ability. Every woman is welcome to audition for Amasong.



**Multicultural Storytelling**  
**Ancient Egypt Exhibit (African Gallery)**  
**12:30-12:55, 2:00-2:25, and 3:00-3:25**



**Performer:**

Janice Del Negro is an assistant professor at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Dominican University in River Forest, Illinois, where she teaches *Storytelling*, *Children's and Young Adult Literature*, and *Foundations in Library and Information Science*.

Janice has been a featured speaker, storyteller, and workshop leader at the National Storytelling Festival, the Illinois Library Association, the Bay Area Storytelling Festival, the Illinois Storytelling Festival, and many other celebratory events. Her specialties include retelling traditional folktales, reading motivation through literature and storytelling, and transformation stories, with a gentle emphasis on women and ghosts.

Janice's first picture book, *Lucy Dove* (1998) won the Anne Izard Storytelling Award; her second picture book, *Willa and the Wind* (2005) was an ALA Notable Book, and an Honor Book for the Irma Simonton Black and James H. Black Award for Excellence in Children's Literature from the Bank Street College of Education in New York City. She was formerly the director of the Center for Children's Books, a special collection of children's books located at the University of Illinois. Before taking her position as Center director, she was the editor of the *Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*, a monthly review journal of books for youth.