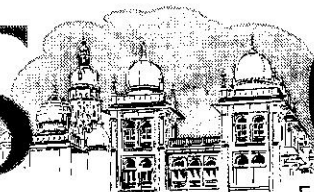


TIMES CITY



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NO ONE COVERS MYSORE LIKE WE DO. ALL THE NEWS IN DETAIL AND IN DEPTH

This brand of music is for the soul

By Abinanth Kumar/TNN

Mysore: The first ten-day intensive meditation programme, to be organised by Osho Dhyana Leela Foundation from December 20 at Osho Devlok in Yadavagiri, could well herald the coming of a new variety of music in city.

The music of talented multi-instrumentalist and singer Manish Vyas and noted flautist and sitar artist Prem Joshua is sure to help participants transcend to a different state of mind. Manish's guru Swami Chaitanya Bharathi explains: "Meditation is a silent state of the mind and music helps a lot to create that state of mind".

It's unlike other forms of meditation. "We will be playing all kinds of music, except film music, during the ten-day meditation, which is a first of its kind. You have various layers in your body and music becomes food for deeper layers of your body. Basically, you are nothing but music", explains Chaitanya Bharathi. One of the first disciples of Osho, he also plays the 'daphuli'.

For Manish Vyas, music is in his blood. The 34-year-old who developed a passion for music at the age of seven, believes in experimentation of Indian music where he retains the base of certain ragas and opens the doors to other kinds of music. "I find this kind of music refreshing. People in the West like our music and I believe you can reach out Indian music in simple ways", he says.

Manish has six albums to his



Students of Raasa Vrunda present Bharathanatyam at a programme organised at Jnana Bharathi in Mysore recently.



Manish Vyas

credit including *Sattu* released by Times Music, (blend of vocals, mantras and songs). *Water down the Ganges* (his first album, a collaboration with Prema Joshua), *India Trance* (variety of upbeats), *Healing Ragas*, *Rejoicing* (instrumental) and *Sufi Splendor* (Sufi music). Two more are likely to be released by next year.

With a 15 year association with Prem Joshua; the fusion guru,

Manish is sure to win the hearts of Mysoreans with his creative and experimental music. Born to a family of musicians in Germany, Joshua became a full-fledged artist from rock, jazz and fusion bands as a flute and saxophone player. It was one of Pandit Ravi Shankar's recordings after which he gradually started learning sitar under the guidance of Ustad Usman Khan in Poona.

"We will have two categories for the ensuing retreat. One will be proper concert for the participants while the other would be an energetic dance music, which can bring any one to the floor", Manish added.

HAPPENINGS

10-day craft workshop:

The Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya is hosting a 10-day national and traditional arts and crafts workshop starting November 20 at the Wellington House here. During the workshop, participants will be taught about traditional arts like Mysore and Tanjore paintings, leather puppetry, Pattachitra painting and Madhubani paintings.

The workshop will be open for public as well between 10.30 am and 5.30 pm. Artists from different parts of the nation will be in Mysore to teach the nuances of arts from their regions. Call 2448231.

Cultural competitions:

JSS Sangeetha Sabha Trust has organised various cultural competitions as part of Shivarathri Rajendra Swamiji memorial and 12th music conference under various categories. The events are: vocals, instrumental, devaranama, vachana and talavadya (juniors). Last date to send entries is November 21. For details contact the Sabha.

Winners: Samukh and

Ganashree Guruprasad won the first place in bhavageethe singing competition in the 6-12 age group category at an event organised as part of Kannada Rajyotasava celebration by Swara Madhurya Trust. The other winners are: Gurudutt A, Madhavi (II), Shriranjini, Anirami Bharadwaj (III). 13-20 year group: Priyanka (I), Varsha S, Harsha M R (II), K Harshadeep, Ropashree M R (III).