'MANDOLIN U SHRINIVAS IS

(Carnatic Vocalist and Playback Singer)

What is your favourite

Undoubtedly the Pancharat-

na Krithis of Saint Thyagaraja. The Pancharatna

krithis sung during the Ar-

adhana are very classical.

Any number of times you

can sing them, any num-

ber of times you can listen

to them, the retain their

magical quality. Several

His style, structure, melody

can make a concert an abso-

3. Which is your favou-

If I have to have a band it

would be with Mandolin U

Shrinivas. He will always

be one of our greatest mu-

sicians. Performing with

his brother Mandolin U

Rajesh on February 16

brought back memories of

my association with him.

We had performed many

lutely complete success.

krithis.

composer?

rite band?

'I LOVE BEYONCÉ' SUDHA RAGUNATHAN

(Vocalist and composer)

What is your favourite compo-

The Dasara pada Baro Krishnayya, particularly sung by my guru Padmabhushan awardee, Sangita Kalanidhi Smt ML Vasanthakumari Amma.

Favourite composer?

the beauty that lies embedded in his choice of the right words in each composition, the simplicity in expression and the variety of

Which is your favourite band?

One pop song which can be accessories from the done in a South Indian Carnatic raaga.

www.newindianexpress.com

When the state of the state of

Love on the brain' by Rihanna from her album 'Anti'. I could fuse Shankarabharanam and Natabhairavi raagas in some portions of the song.

Saint Thyagaraja... because of **One embarrassing experience** on stage.

Many years ago when I was at Germany for an international festival, I was just getting ready for the concert, post finishing the



CONFESSIONS OF RAAGA MAESTROS

As Bhartiya Samagana Sabha Music Festival at Chowdaiah Memorial Hall comes to a close on Sunday, *City Express* talks to the performers including Padma Bhushan Sudha Raghunathan and P Unnikrishnan.

- Express Features

audio check and rushing to the green room to change. While taking out my saree and I love Bevoncé's music. **A BEETHOVEN FAN**

CHITRAVINA N RAVIKIRAN

(Vocalist, Chitravina Exponent, Composer, Founder of Melharmony and educationist)

What is your favourite composition?

Anything that has timeless appeal and values.

Favourite composer?

Anyone capable of creating works like the above consistently and prolifically be it Oottukkadu Venkata Kavi, Bach, Tyagaraja, Mozart, Dikshitar, Beethoven or Paganini.

Which is your favourite band? The ones I collaborate with using my concept of Melharmony such as BBC Philharmonic or ta-ki-Ta

One pop song which can be done in a South Indian Carnatic

I've even used what are considered "Core Classical Raagas" like Reetigowla and Purvikalyani in some of my Pop collaborations.

One embarrassing experience on stage

Each time my execution falls short of my desire!



SUBRAMANYAM (Bamboo Flute Artist)

What is your favourite composi-

In my genre of music, there are many composers and many wonderful compositions. I enjoy playing many of them.

Favourite composer?

Carnatic Music has many known and lesser known composers and I have no particular favourites though I play majority of compositions of Saint Tyagaraja.

Which is your favourite band? Remember Shakti by legends John McLaughlin, Zakir Hussain and L.

One embarrassing experience on stage:

Not one worthy of mentioning. I thank the Almighty for keeping the going good.

'WOULD PLAY WITH MJ SONGS IN CARNATIC RAAGAS⁷ **GHATAM**

What is your favourite composition?

Gurtu / AR Rahman

Favourite band? My team Layatharanga / The Police (Sting)

One pop song which can be done in a South Indian Carnatic raaga

any of Michael Jacksons songs in Carnatic Raagas

Embarrassing experience: When I was 12 years old, I overslept for a concert NMKRV college. I took

wrong pitched ghatams to the concert. embarrass ing.

GIRDHAR UDUPA

(Indian percussionist -Ghatam exponent)

Akhilandeshwari - Raga Dwi-

Favourite composer? Purandara Dasaru / Trilok

Would like to experiment doing

'WERE SWIFTIES BACK WHEN WE WERE YOUNGER

APOORVA RAVINDRAN

What is your favourite composition? :On days when the mind feels fresh and energised, bright compositions like Vanamali of Venkata Kavi, Najeevadhara of Tvagaraja feature in the favorites list. With a meditative mind set. Veena pustaka dharineem of Dikshitar, Devi and Patri Shri Satish Kumar.

brova samayamide of Shyama Shastri

Who is your favourite composer? The Trinity, Oottukkadu Venkata Kavi, Purandara Dasa and poets such as Andal. Arunagirinathar could weave so

Which is your favourite band?

In Carnatic terms, any Alattur Brothers - Lalgudi Shri G Jayaraman - Palghat Shri Mani Iyer concert is a delight. We also love the concerts when our Guru Chitravina Shri N Ravikiran teams up with Mysore Shri Nagaraj/ Manjunath



Though not much into pop music, we used to listen to Taylor Swift sometimes. when we were younger.



Once when I was singing on stage, I forgot the lyrics of a song. It happens a couple of times for everyone. This is a song I had sung hundreds of times before. And while I tried to cover it up, or try to remember it as I kept singing, it would not come back to me. Fortunately singer S Sowmya was in the audience. She wrote down the lyrics in a piece of paper and came up to stage and gave it to me. And I could continue.

THE TIME HIS GURU ASKED HIM TO STOP

PATRI SATISH KUMAR (Mridangam player)

What is your favourite composition?

Daarini Telusukonti by Tyagaraja in Raga Shuddhasaveri.

Who is your favourite composer?

Thyagaraja. I also love the tillanas by Dr M Balamuralikrishna and Lalgudi Javaraman, the former for their sheer brilliance and the latter for the lilting melodies.

Which is your favourite

In a Carnatic setting, I love the combination of Balamuralikrishna (vocal), MS Gopalakrishnan (violin) and TV Gopalakrishnan.

One pop song which can be done in a South Indian Carnatic raaga.

It would be interesting to explore By the Rivers of Babylon by Boney M in the Carnatic framework.



One embarrassing experience on stage:

When I was about five or six years old, I was performing for a Veena recital. I was not aware of the concept of Taana. After elaborating the raaga, the Veena artiste started playing the taana and I started playing for it! My guru came in running and asked me to stop playing. That was very embarrassing for me. Even now, when someone plays Taana on Veena, I remember this

One pop song which can be done in a

incident.

South Indian Carnatic raaga. The song Banarasiya from Raanjhana matched well with Aadum Chidambaramo of Gopalakrshna Bharati in Behag!

Embarrassing experience on stage.

We were once put in a very tight spot. Just as we reached the venue in one of our concerts, the artiste before us was singing Kharaharapriya as the main piece, the raga that we had chosen to perform. We asked the organiser what the other ragas were that the artiste had rendered earlier in the concert. With just five minutes left to get on stage, we had to change the whole set.

A MARKETING INITIATIVE

NRIs can Count on the Home Advantage and Financial Returns

Samir Arora

on-Resident Indian, the NRI, is an integral part of India's economy and the saying, "Heart is where the Home is" is so significantly true for the NRI. The time to buy a property in India for an NRI is just perfect at the moment and a CREA (I) affiliate member makes for an obvious choice to be the best partner advisors for NRI investments. NRI investments peak with a falling or fluctuating currency and with the subtle changes the World is witnessing, nothing else could be more reassuring than owning a

Home, back Home for the NRI. The testimonials of services rendered by CREA (I) members for their NRI clients range from a simple Wow experience to a

raving one and it truly shows the kind of world class service and experience levels CREA (I) has been able to bring into the Real Estate Industry transactions. Buying an immovable property

in India for an NRI is at par with a Resident Indian and does not require any special permissions for a Residential or Commercial property. There are very few limitations like the Payments cannot be remitted by NRI in foreign currency and they cannot purchase Agricultural land, Farmhouse or Plantations without prior approval of RBI and Govt. Funds can be transferred by banking channels and invested from Nonresident accounts like NRO/NRE under FEMA, Foreign Exchange

Management Act. $UA\bar{E}, USA, Singapore, UK form$ the major hub of NRIs who invest in India besides People of Indian Origin (PIO) settled across the globe in various continents and countries. NRIs have even formed a Pool of Investors and invested in large commercial and high ticket residential properties in India.

Besides the home advantage. it has also been an extremely rewarding financial returns option for the NRI Investors over the years. Bangalore, in specific has been the darling of NRI Investors and the Silicon Valley of India has paid back its earthlings across the Globe for the wise decision of investing in a piece of earth back home. CREA (I) has played an admirable role in providing Advisors par excellence with not just investment



route knowledge but full domain knowledge on repatriation of funds and NRI taxations on sale of immovable property.

The tax deduction at source for a NRI selling a property in India is 20.6% on long term capital gains (reduced from 3 years to 2 years in the recent budget) and 30.9% on short term capital gains. While the TDS for NRIs is higher, the final rate of tax is the same as a Resident Indian and NRIs can get a refund on their income tax accordingly.

Most NRIs enjoy the benefit of bilateral treaties between India and their country of stay by the virtue of avoidance of double taxation laws. NRI's enjoy the benefit of availing the loans at same interest rate as a resident Indian from Banks and Housing finance companies registered with National Housing Bank.

The travel costs, time and effort is nil for a NRI to invest in property in India as a Power of Attorney (POA) can be executed by NRI favoring a family member or a friend to complete the process of purchase without physical presence in India. A CREA

(I) member can seamlessly be the Advisor for Finance (Loans), Legal (POA and Registrations), Negotiations with Developers, and Documentation for Agreements making them the go-to-man for the NRI for anything correlated with the property transactions in India.

The repatriation of funds back to the foreign country of stay does have a few rules and regulations to follow as prescribed for NRIs via RBI but reinvestment of funds in Indian property is treated at par as for Resident Indians.

The change of order in the World environment, the Demonetisation and its ensuing impact in India, especially the creation of cleaner and greener Real Estate environment in India, the stronger currency, the easy and

financial institutions flushed with funds, the near final Real Estate Regulation Act introduction with accountability from developers on time and quality of the project, the push towards Infrastructure in the recent Budget, the large commercial space consumption and IT growth coupled with the reach and ease of buying a property via a CREA (I) member makes it a sure shot winner moment for a NRI to invest in a Property in Bangalore. Think Global, Act Local. NRI does have a winner in CREA (I)

cheaper loans from banks and

(The writer is the CEO/Founder of Huts Global and the Spokesperson and General Secretary of CREA (I). For queries, write to query@creaindia.in)