

Mastery over firm footwork

RECITAL Srithika captivated the audience with her teermanams and jatis.

LALITHASAI

Srithika Kasturirangan held the audience spell bound with her mastery over nritta. The choreography by Guru Ambika Kameshwar in all the items was novel. As usual the choodamani of the recital was the varnam which was a composition of Dhandayuthapani Pillai in Thodi.

Thunderous applause

Srithika had definitely focused well on visualising the compositions. Uncluttered were her teermanams and jatis in the varnam. Each time she delivered the jatis it drew a thunderous applause from the audience. The choreography in it had sculpturesque poses. In the sanchari for the line 'Padhi Udalil Pennai ...'Srithika's expressions were natural. Her abhinaya resembled a frightened swan. She brought in a little bit of sringara rasa towards the end of the piece when she presented the nayika pining for tender moments with Lord Shiva. Thought it was an



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eclectic piece on rasa it was heavy with its footwork with lots of movements across the stage.

A spotlight on vatsalyam was Chinnachiru Kiliyee, Mahakavi Bharathi's composition with music scored by Rajkumar Bharathi.

She started with the tillana in Vasantha. The sprightly item of the evening was the kurathi, also a composition of the guru. Dressed in a chequered sari and sporting a bamboo basket she presented a short but sweet recital of the traditional folk dance of Tamil Nadu. It was about a kurathi, who resides in Thiruvannamalai and who says what a special place that is for her.

Ambika Kameshwar who



SPRIGHTLY THROUGHOUT: Srithika Kasturirangan.

PHOTO: M.KARUNAKARAN

is associated with RASA has done the nattuvangam for the recital. Mridangam is by Balu and violin by Sugandhi Seshadri. Vocal support was given by Vaishnavi Poorna and guru Ambika Kameshwar.

The common thread that was running through the assortment of items was Lord Ramana. Srithika can definitely add more dynamism to her renditions with her

experience.

Srithika Kasturirangan runs a dance school - Sri Kalaranga at Alwarpet for the last three years. She is been in to performing art from a tender age of five and has given performances with Anita Ratnam and Krishnakumari Narendran. She also teaches the art at RASA (School for Special Children) for the last 12 years.