

ARTIST PROFILE

Most Sought After Artist, Exponent, Performer & Educator..

Sonorous Voice With A Unique Vocal Timbre..

Intricate And Complex Laya Patterns..

Superb Clarity Coupled With Unmatched Speed..



Konnakkol Somashekar Jois is a naturally talented and accomplished artiste, making definite strides to reinstate the ancient art form of Konnakkol, into the main stream of Carnatic Classical music. Several notable concerts performances at prestigious music organizations. Distinguished as a forerunner in accompanying well-established Carnatic Classical Vocal and Instrumental artistes during full-fledged concerts. Creative streak - introducing new approaches that brought to crescendo instrumental and percussive ensembles. Deep research insights with rich expertise in spreading the rare art form among musicians, connoisseurs and aspiring students through captivating lectures, demonstrations and workshops. Creditable insights into practical methodologies of applications adopting digital platforms and social media.

In furtherance to this dream of popularizing Konnakkol among musicians, dancers & aspiring students, Somashekar Jois has founded **WORLD KONNAKKOL ACADEMY LLP**, world's premiere and only music conservatory, dedicated exclusively & purely for propagation & promotion of Konnakkol Arts, in 2017. Despite having a highly successful profession at **92.7 BIG FM Radio** (Reliance Broadcast Network Limited), he left his lucrative position to follow his passion of bringing Konnakkol back to its former splendor.

GURUS

- 'Gaana Kalabhushana' Vidwan Shri K N Krishnamurthy
- 'Gaana Kalashree' Vidwan Shri B C Manjunath
- 'Kalaimamani' Vidwan Shri K V Prasad
- 'Karnataka Kalashree' Vidwan Shri Anoor Ananthakrishna Sharma

MENTORS

- 'Khanjira Praveena' Vidwan Shri N Amrit
- Mridangam Vidwan Shri B Sivaraman
- Vidwan Shri Sanak Kumar Athreya

PRIZES, AWARDS & DISTINCTIONS

- **2nd Prize** Winner (Konnakkol) in All India Radio National Level Music Competition
- **A Grade (Konnakkol)** from All India Radio, Prasar Bharati
- **HRD Scholarship** Recipient (Mridangam) from the Ministry of Culture, Government Of India
- **1st Rank** in Vidwat Proficiency Examination (Mridangam), conducted by KSEEB
- **3rd Rank** in Senior Examination (Mridangam)
- **3rd Rank** in Junior Examination (Mridangam)
- **C-M-A-N-A Endowment Prize** (Carnatic Music Association of North America) from Percussive Arts Centre, Bengaluru
- **'Swara Laya Bharathi'** title from Malleshwaram Sangeetha Sabha Trust, Bengaluru
- **Raga Laya Prabha** Award from Sri Rama Lalitha Kala Mandira, Bengaluru
- **Ananya Yuva Puraskar Award** from Ananya GML Cultural Academy, Bengaluru
- **Ananya Prathibhe Award** from Ananya GML Cultural Academy & Nadajyothi Shri Thyagarajaswamy Bhajana Sabha, Bengaluru
- **Kala Kusuma Award** from Chinthalapalli Krishnamurthy Sangeetha Academy, Bengaluru
- **Parinithi Laya Shrunga** Award from Parinithi Kala Kendra, Sagara
- **Vani Star Award** from Sri Vani Education Centre, Bengaluru
- Prathibha Puraskar from The National Co-operative Bank, Bengaluru
- Davanam Lakshmi Narayana Shetty Memorial Scholarship
- Thirunarayana Memorial Endowment Award
- Babburkamme Seva Samithi Award



LECTURES & DEMONSTRATIONS

- All India Radio, Bengaluru (**Nominated for Akashvani Annual Awards 2011**)
- Madras Music Academy, Chennai
- Sri Shanmukhananda Fine Arts, Mumbai
- Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvavur
- University of Hyderabad, Telangana
- Kannada University, Hampi
- R V University, Bengaluru
- Sri Sathya Sai University For Human Excellence, Muddenahalli
- Sri Swathi Thirunal College of Music, Thiruvananthapuram
- Chembai Memorial Government Music College, Pallakkad
- RLV College of Music & Fine Arts, Tripunithura
- Kalamandalam, Kolkata
- JSS Sangetha Sabha, Mysuru
- Percussive Arts Centre, Bengaluru
- Bengaluru Gayana Samaja, Bengaluru
- Ananya Cultural Academy, Bengaluru
- Suswaralaya College of Music, Bengaluru
- Indian Institute Of World Culture, Bengaluru
- Indian Foundation of Arts, Bengaluru
- Bharatiya Samagana Sabha, Bengaluru
- Academy Of Music, Bengaluru
- Sapthaswara Academy, Bengaluru
- Naadaranjani Sangeetha Sabha, Bengaluru
- Vishwapragnaa Academy, Bengaluru
- Naadaloka, Bengaluru
- MES Kalavedi, Bengaluru
- Natya & STEM Dance Kampni, Bengaluru
- Lasya Vardhana School of Performing Arts, Bengaluru
- UTSAAH Online Series, by Durga Jasraj
- IBM, Bengaluru
- ALSTOM, Bengaluru
- Great lakes Aradhana Committee, Michigan USA

WORKSHOPS & MASTERCLASSES

- Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvavur
- Sharda Sangeet Vidyalaya, Mumbai
- Mohana's School of Arts & Indian Culture, Kolkata
- VOXGURU Margazhi, Chennai
- Indian Music Experience, Bengaluru
- Shaale, Bengaluru
- ThaDhim, Udupa Centre For Performing Arts, Bengaluru
- Saamagaana Sangeetha Sabha, Bengaluru
- Svasti Art Foundation, Bengaluru
- Naadabindu School of Music, Bengaluru
- Dance Jathre, Shambhavi School Of Dance, Bengaluru
- Pranavanjali Academy For Performing Arts, Bengaluru
- Achchi Classical Dance Center, Bengaluru
- Arunodaya School Of Music, Bengaluru
- Kala Coast, Udupi
- Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, London UK (Month Long Summer Workshop)
- Konnakol Italia & Accademia Musicale della Versilia ITALY
- Konnakol Italia & Fondazione Luigi Tronci ITALY

PROJECTS

- Designed Konnakol Curriculum & Recorded 20 Hrs of Konnakol Exercises for **SWAYAM Prabha**, Educational DTH Channel, Ministry of Education, Govt. Of India
- Worked as **Consultant Chief Program Designer** for designing the 'Integral Achievements in Music & Sound (IAMS)' Curriculum, project powered by **Prestige Foundation's** Teaching for Artistic Innovation (STFAI)

CONCERTS & PERFORMANCES

Somashekar Jois has performed countless Laya Vinyasa - Tala Vadya Kacheri - Percussion Ensembles with **LAYA LAVANYA**, popular ensemble conceptualized, composed, directed by Vidwan Shri Anoor Ananthakrishna Sharma.

Somashekar Jois has performed Konnakol with eminent artists of the country, at prestigious venues across Indian & abroad. He has been closely associated with popular Percussion Ensembles such as Laya Lahari, Laya Milana, Sunaada Vadya Vaibhava etc.

Some of the notable concerts/events are

- **G20 Summit 2023**, Indian Institute of World Culture Bengaluru, Palace Grounds Bengaluru & Sri Krishna Gana Sabha Chennai
- **All India Radio** (MW 612 kHz, FM Amruthavarshini 100.1 MHz, & National Program)
- **Doordarshan Kendra** (DD Chandana & SRSN South Zone Hookup)

- **Bengaluru - Bengaluru Gayana Samaja, Karnataka Ganakala Parishat, Percussive Arts Centre, Anoor Ananthakrishna Sharma Foundation For Music,** Chowdiah Memorial Hall, Ravindra Kalakshetra, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Gurunanak Bhavan, Ananya GML Cultural Academy, Gokhale Institute of Public Affairs, Indira Gandhi National Centre For Arts, Indian Music Experience, National Gallery of Modern Art, Shri Vani Kala Kendra, Shri Rama Lalitha Kala Mandira, BTM Cultural Academy, D. Subbaramaiah Fine Arts Trust, Vishesha Fine Arts, MES Kalavedi, PES University R V University, Sri Vidya Kendra SMART School, Vishwapranaa Academy, Sheshadripuram Sri Ramanavami Music Festival, Bharatiya Samagana Sabha, Malleshwaram Sangeetha Sabha, Girinagar Sangeetha Sabha, Shri Tyagaraja Gana Sabha, Shri Surabharathi Sanskrit and Cultural Foundation, Swarakshema Foundation, Samatva Foundation, Shruti Sindhura Academy of Music, Gurusmruthi Kala Kendra, Naadabindu School Of Music, Sri Jayarama Seva Mandali, Sri Pattabhirama Seva Mandali, Bangalore Habba, Academy Of Music, Adama Chetana, Viveka Hamsa Ramakrishna Ashrama, Swadeshi Mela, Gudiya Sambhrama, Shaale, Ananda Dhvani Whitefiled Music Festival, Rajarajeshwarinagar Cultural Association, Pyramid Valley International, Bengaluru Ganesha Utsava etc.
- **Karnataka - Mysore Dasara & Yuva Dasara, Mysore Jaganmohana Palace,** Mysore Ganabharathi, Hampi Utsava, Heggodu Ninasam, Sagara, Shringeri Shri Sharadamba Temple, Udupi Paryaya Shri Krishna Mata, Kateelu Shri Durga Parameshwari Temple, Shri Madhwa Purandarotsava - Udupi, Kushtagi & Palimaru, Kasargodu Edaneeru Mutt, Hariharapura Shri Mutt, Gokarna Vishnugupta Vishwa Vidya Peetha, Belaguru Shri Veera Prathapa Sannidhi, Gadag Veereshwara Punyashrama, Hubballi Shri Ramakrishna Ashrama, Sirsi Marikamba Jathre, Belagavi Vishwa Kannada Sammelana, Honnavara Keremane Shambhu Hegde Rastriya Natyotsava, Mangalore Expert PU College etc.
- **Tamil Nadu - Madras Music Academy, Thanjavur South Zone Cultural Centre,** Chennai - Arkay Convention Center, Narada Gana Sabha, Sri Krishna Gana Sabha, Sri Parthasarathy Swamy Sabha, Bharath Sangeeth Utsav, Naada Inbam, Beats Festival, Madrasana etc.
- **Kerala - Swathi Sangeethotsavam** Thiruvananthapuram, Parassala Ravi Foundation, Thrissur, Thripunithura, Palakkad, Payyanur, Ernakulam, Kottayam, Irinjalakuda, Chakkamkulangara, Chettikulangara etc.
- **Others - TTD SVBC Naada Neeraajanam, Benaras Hindu University,** Pyramid Valley - Hyderabad & Kanigiri, Vallabh Ashram - Mumbai, National Integration Music Festival - Barmer Rajasthan, Satara-Kolhapur Music Festival etc.

ABROAD TOUR

- Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan - **LONDON UK**
- Kannada Sangha - **SINGAPORE**

SINGER

- Ranked one among Top 20 Finalists in Suvarna TV **CONFIDENT STAR SINGER** 2008
- Playback Singing for ‘Telide Neeli Baanu’ from Kannada Film **KARODPATHI**, composed by G Abhiman Roy

MUSIC COMPOSER - AUDIO ENGINEER

- Composed Music & Sung for a private Kannada album **KANASU**
- Composed Music for **NAATYAATMA**, a special dance performance involving Bharatanatyam and Manipuri cultures
- Composed Music & Background Score for Kannada plays like Mritchakatika, Haddu Meerida Haadi, Alegalalli Raajahamsagalu
- Sound Designer for Kuchupudi Dance Production **MANO MANTHANA**
- Re-recording Engineer for Kannada Film **HUBBALLI**, starring Kiccha Sudeep
- Mixing-Mastering Engineer for Devotional Album **DOORVAPRIYA VINAYAKA**

FILM & THEATRE ACTOR

- Acted in Kannada Films **VICTORY, KANNAD GOTTILLA & ABA JABA DABA**, Short Film **RISHABHAPRIYA**
- Recipient of Best Actor **LOKESH AWARD** for Kannada play ‘Muktaadhara’, held at Bharatha Yatra Kendra Theatre Festival (2004)
- Enacted more than 50 Kannada plays including Kabir das, Swatantra Sangrama, Bharatha Baahubali, Raavi Nadiya Dandeyalli, Dangeya Munchina Dinagalu, Abhinava Brihannala Vilasa, Ondu Loka Kathe, Nachiketa, Mukthadhara & The Last War for Times Group Theatre Fest

CELEBRITY JUDGE

- Appeared as Guest Artist in Show **ZEE ROCK & ROLL**. on Zee Kannada Channel
- Appeared as Guest Artist in Show **HAADIGONDU HAADU** on Asianet Suvarna Channel
- Judged music events / competitions in Vijaya Junior College, Kristu Jayanti College (Nrityanjali), UVCE (Milagro), Christ School

RADIO PROFESSIONAL

- Worked with **92.7 BIG FM** Radio as Regional Music Manager - South
- Worked with **FEVER 104 FM** Radio as Prime Time RJ, Music Manager & Promo Producer
- Worked with **RADIO CITY 91 FM** Radio as Promo Producer
- Recipient of prestigious **IRF Award 2008** for the best in-house production - A R Rahman Concert Promo
- Recipient of prestigious **Radio Duniya Award 2008** for the best radio spot - Big Bazaar



WORLD KONNAKKOL ACADEMY

WORLD KONNAKKOL ACADEMY LLP, established in 2017, is world's first and only music conservatory which is dedicated purely, exclusively for propagation of Konnakkol Arts. It is founded and headed by **Vidwan B R Somashekar Jois**, Konnakkol Exponent - Performer - Educator.

The Academy offers One - To - One Classes, Basics to Advanced Courses for students, Lectures - Demonstrations - Workshops - Customized Programs for aspirants as well as professionals in Music & Dance, Training & Corporate programmes, Konnakkol Therapy to realize the grand ambition of reinstating Indian Traditional Art - Konnakkol.

VISION

World Konnakkol Academy aims to build an amazing world-wide community of Konnakkol artists who will be the torch bearers of the tradition and pioneers in positively influencing music genres around the globe.

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

- To inspire students in the study of Konnakkol heritage, tradition, culture & historiography.
- To research the possibilities of applying Konnakkol in diverse fields, thereby exploring unparalleled potentials.
- To reach out to all segments of the society, sharing the goodness of Konnakkol.
- To achieve a status of world class recognition in music education.

VALUES

- At World Konnakkol Academy, we work with -
- Deep sense of commitment & respect to the ancient tradition of Konnakkol.
- Uncompromising attitude towards maintaining superior quality.
- Creative ideas to revive the art form.
- Enthusiasm to develop the universal appeal of Konnakkol.

KONNAKKOL ACROSS THE WORLD

Currently operating in over **25 countries**, World Konnakkol Academy LLP outreaches **1000+ students** via distance learning, online, and offline modes.

World Konnakkol Academy LLP is headquartered in Bengaluru, and has academic collaborations in USA (**Kala Vandanam**), ITALY (**Konnakkol Italia**), MEXICO (**Konnakkol Mexico**), ARGENTINA, SPAIN, RUSSIA, BRAZIL, & BOLIVIA



EVENTS CONDUCTED SO FAR

- Sep 8th & 9th 2018 - Konnakkol Workshop by Shri **B C Manjunath**
- Dec 1st & 2nd 2018 - Konnakkol Workshop by Shri B R Somashekar Jois
- Dec 15th & 16th 2018 - Konnakkol Workshop by Shri B R Somashekar Jois
- Apr 27th & 28th 2019 - Summer Rhythm Workshop by Shri **N Amrit**
- Nov 17th 2019 - Karnataka Sangeetha Mathematics Workshop by Shri **Anoor Anantha Krishna Sharma**
- Feb 12th & 13th 2022 - Online Konnakkol & Compositions Workshop by Shri B R Somashekar Jois - Konnakkol Italia, ITALY
- June 18th & 19th 2022 - Nattuvangam Basics Workshop by Shri **Kiran Subramanyam**
- June 1st & 2nd & 2nd 2023 - Karnataka Sangeetha Tala Shashtra Prayoga Masterclass by Shri **Srikantham Nagendra Shashtry**
- May 4th & 5th 2024 - Karnataka Sangeetha Mathematics Workshop (Season 2) by Shri **Anoor Anantha Krishna Sharma**
- Nov 16th & 17th 2024 - Konnakkol Workshop by Shri B R Somashekar Jois

COMPETITION

- July 2020 - **Online Konnakkol Competition**, jointly organised by World Konnakkol Academy LLP & Sri Mookambika Talavadya Sangeetha Kalashale, in memory of Mridanga - Konnakkol Vidwan Dr. B. K. Chandramouli.