

Satiating music

T. M. Krishna's two-hour concert for Kartik Fine Arts at the Narada Gana Sabha Hall on December 10, delivered what one expected — a satiation of the thirst for serious classical music. Maintaining this hue of commitment, Krishna followed up his rendition of "Sri Guru Guha" at a slow pace in Sriranjani (and not too common Khandajati Triputa) with a swaraprasthara at a matching pace. His long build-up of this at the end was well developed, and predictably, drew applause. He demonstrated that a good tempo can be achieved even without resorting to high speed in kalpanaswara. He relied also on Nagai Murali (violin) and Tanjavur Murthy (mridangam) to augment the effort.

The juvenile Anirudh on the stage, with his kanjira, turned out to be a stalwart, particularly during the quarter-hour tani, beautifully devised, captained and executed by Tanjavur Murthy. The giant, with his mridangam, and the cherubic artiste with his kanjira, made an endearing pair.

That the first response of the kanjira to the poser by the mridangam drew lusty applause was a unique feature.

Following "Bhogindra Sayinam" delivered in a lively style without missing out on any nuance of song or tune, the singer settled to an enjoyable exploration of Kedaragowlai, through a classy ten-minute alapana, moving from 'pa' to upper 'sa' and above before descending to manthara and anumanthara Rishabha. There was excellent



Kartik Fine Arts

ravai in Nagai Murali's rejoinder in alapana.

Tyagaraja's "Tulasi Bilva" was handled with

commitment, with neraval at "Jalajasanarchita". One felt

that this piece could have shone more at a slower pace.

After tukkada in Kapi and Jonepuri, Krishna crowned his concert with the brisk tillana in Chenchuruti, chatusram, to conclude his wholesome fare.