



CENTER FOR WORLD MUSIC

AND RELATED ARTS

Artist-Teacher Resume



TRICHUR C. NARENDRA

Trichur C. Narendran taught and performed South Indian mridangam (classical drum) for the Center for World Music from 1984 to 1985. Born into a family of musicians and scholars, he was initiated into an early training in mridangam by Sri Kongorppilly Parameswaran Namboodiri who spotted his talent during a dance rehearsal at an annual family get together at the Manakkulam Palace and started teaching Narendran the basics of mridangam when he was just seven. David Bhagavathar of Kunnamkulam instilled in Narendran the interest in music and inspired him to seriously take up the mridangam, while Sri E. P. Narayana Pisharodi and Koduvayur Radhakrishnan trained him further. Most significantly, however, Narendran had the rare privilege to be one of the early musical disciples of the great Palghat R. Raghu.

From 1982 to the present, Narendran has performed throughout Asia and North America with more than five generations of the most prestigious vocalists and instrumentalists of South India. His awards and accolades are extensive. For example, as a young musician he won first prize in the annual All India Radio music competition, then served as a regular performer for All India Radio from 1992 to 2011. He is currently distinguished as a “Top Rank Artist” for All India Radio.

Narendran’s intricate rhythmic patterns, sense of proportion, sharp anticipation, short and carefully calculated phases of silence, and his ability to give the mridangam a much-needed soft touch sets him apart from other seasoned South Indian musicians.