Panchabhutas

Dyaava, Prithvi, Vayu, Tejas and Apas the panchamahabhutas, better known to us as Earth, Ether, Air, Fire and Water are the main components that make up this vast universe. Each element though individually supreme, work together in tandem to maintain the beautiful balance of nature. Not only are these panchabhutas the reason for the existence of life on this planet, but every creature is a mini universe or a microcosms containing the 'panchatattvas' within. The whole of creation is a perfectly harmonized symphony, in which, every component has a place and a role to play. When man fails to recognize this unison and acts with disregard, then a jarring note is struck which throws the entire cosmic pattern into disarray. It is this danger of chaos and confusion that is staring mankind in its face today. So let us understand this sublime truth and make amends. Let us revere and bow down before mother nature. Let us protect this womb which has created and nourished us with love and care.

It is this thought which is reflected in this production. This feature, in the Kathak style of dance makes an attempt to show case different aspects connected with the power and significance of the panchamahabhutas.
Amritavarshini is a fusion classical music group created by employees of technology companies in the Hyderabad area. The group contains graded performing artists and enthusiasts with varied musical backgrounds but with a common vision - To promote and celebrate the glory of Indian classical music and create medley of cultures through world music.

Since its inception in early 2009 the group has been involved in several musical events and initiatives. For three years now, it has participated in the annual SiliconAndhra Annamacharya Jayanti events - Lakshagana Sankeertanarchana (2009-Hyderabad), Akhanda Sahasra Sankeertanarchana (2010- Vijayawada) and Annamacharya Utsav (2011-Vishakapatnam).

The group has also organized Thyagaraja Aradhana utsava for two years now where it has performed a tasteful selection of Utsava Sampradaya keertanas and Pancharatnas. All these performances have been very well received and applauded. The group has also organized regular classical music training within Infosys campus to provide an opportunity for the employees to pursue this interest after work hours.

The group endeavors to spread the essence of classical music by extending its activities beyond the work place; this through participating in various events and supporting similar initiatives.

The profiles of some members of performing group are given below:

**Srinivas Prabhala**
Srinivas Prabhala is a popular musician who has been pursuing classical music for the last 30 years. He learnt music from legends including Mahamahopadhyaya Dr. Nookala Chinna Satyanarayana garu. He has composed music for over 30 albums, 15 ballets, animation and short films. He has performed extensively with various popular artists across the globe and is a founder member of Amritavarshini.

**Sri Ranjita Settaluri**
Sri Ranjita Settaluri is a versatile singer who has been pursuing classical music for the last 18 years. She has been the student of Mahamahopadhyaya Dr. Nookala Chinna Satyanarayana Garu and is currently the student of Sri Malladi Sri Ram Prasad (one of Malladi Brothers).

**Raghu Kishore Vempati**
Raghu Kishore Vempati is a very talented singer who has been pursuing classical music for the last 22 years. He is the student of Sri Dwaram Satyanarayana Rao Garu (Top Grade Artist, All India Radio) and occasionally performs in the Yuvavani Program of AIR.

**Siva Ram Gurazada**
Siva Ram Gurazada is a very talented flute player who has been learning from Sri V Nagaraju garu (A Grade Artist, All India Radio) for the last 10 years. He is the founder member of the Amritavarshini group.

**Uma Prabhala**
Uma Prabhala is a good singer and grade B performing artist with veena. She is regular artist with various AIR programs and recordings. She has learnt classical music from Sri Neti Srirama Sarmaguru and veena legend Sri D. Srinivas.