

Portraits of a versatile artist



(From left) Pappu Venugopala Rao, Aruna Sairam, N. Murali and Lakshmi Devnath at the book launch on Tuesday — PHOTO: V. GANESAN

Staff Reporter

CHENNAI: “When you saw Brindamma sing Thygaraja Yoga Vaibhavam, you realised how she redefined Anandha Bhairavi, something we don’t see these days,” said musicologist Dr. Pappu Venugopala Rao. Speaking at the launch of book, ‘T. Brinda — Bowing to Classicism’, a pictorial biography of Sangita Kalanidhi Smt. T. Brinda, he said the book was a fascinating portrait of a versatile artist.

“When Brindamma taught anyone, including Semmangudi, she made it very clear that they have to sing the way she taught them. She would say that they cannot take liberties with the song after they left the room,” he added. The func-

tion was organised by Nadayogam Trust, run by singer Aruna Sairam and her husband T.S. Sairam.

N. Murali, president of the Music Academy and director, Kasturi and Sons Ltd., who released the book, said that Brindamma’s music will always be remembered for its uncompromising adherence to tradition.

Appreciating the author Lakshmi Devnath, he said that she has found a unique way of portraying the life, music and accomplishments of the legend.

Lakshmi Devnath said that such stories of legends are as inspirational as their art. She said that the aim was to take such stories to children in an easy and enjoyable format.