

# A pictorial treat to Carnatic music lovers

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**Chennai:** Introducing fresh melodic streams in the 'Pictures of Melody' series of books by researcher-writer Lakshmi Devnath, a book on Maharaja Swati Tirunal was launched here recently.

The new book in the composer series, is a graphic treat to carnatic music lovers. Maharaja Swati Tirunal (A King of a composer) was released by Sajith EN, Director South Zone Cultural Centre and Gopika Varma, Mohiniyattam exponent, received the first copy.

Speaking on the occasion, Devnath said that the book would be an invaluable experience for the melody driven. The author also pointed out that her pictorial series of books on Carnatic music legends was thoroughly researched with a racy narrative style and



fabulous hand illustrated pictures.

The Tamil version of the book, MS Subbulakshmi (The Queen of Song), written by Devnath was also launched. Radha Bhaskar, musician and editor of Samudhra magazine, released the book, whose first copy was received by musician Gayathri Venkataraghavan.

Nandini Ramini, Bharathanatyam exponent and managing trustee of Dr V Raghavan Centre for Performing Arts, was also pres-

ent. The initiative was supported by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.

A thematic concert of Swati Tirunal kritis and Tamil songs popularised by MS Subbulakshmi was presented by Gayathri Venkataraghavan, accompanied by Pakkala Ramadas on the violin and Neyveli Skanda Subramaniam on the mridangam. Both these books contain 24 pages and are distributed by the Heritage Publishing House.