

Pictorial books released



Pictures of Melody by researcher and writer Lakshmi Devnath is the world's first graphic biography on Carnatic music legends. This series of pictorial story books is a labour of love and a deep passion and mission of Lakshmi to reach the greatness of our art and culture to the younger generation. Earlier books released by her are on M. S. Subbulakshmi, GN Balasubramaniam, Madurai Mani Iyer, T.Brinds and the latest releases are on Swathi Thirunal and the Tamil vernacular version of MS Subbulakshmi.

A grand function was organized for the book releases. Dr. Sajith E.N., Director, South Zone Cultural Centre launched the book on Maharaja Swati Tirunal, -

A King & a Composer and Gopika Varma, Mohiniyattam exponent, received the first copy. In his speech, Dr.Sajith appreciated how the story of the Maharaja had been told by Lakshmi in a simple and lucid way, yet retaining all the minute and intricate details. Dr. Radha Bhaskar, musician and Editor, Samudhra magazine launched the Vernacular Series of M.S. Subbulakshmi and Gayatri Venkataraghavan, received the first copy. Dr.Radha said that Lakshmi was reaching her work both globally and locally by publishing the story books both in English and vernacular languages. She also appreciated how attractively Lakshmi had presented the book so as to make it captivating to children. Dr.Radha appealed that all schools should buy copies of the books and motivate children to read them. Nandini Ramani, Bharatanatyam exponent and Managing Trustee, Dr V. Raghavan Centre for Performing Arts was the guest of honour and felicitated. Nandini lauded the efforts of Lakshmi and her dedication in bringing out a series of such unique books.

The launch was followed by a thematic concert of Swati Tirunal Kritis and Tamil songs popularised by Smt. M.S.Subbulakshmi, rendered by Gayatri Venkataraghavan