



The Oxford Illustrated Companion to South Indian Classical Music (Second Edition)

By Ludwig Pesch

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Celebrated as the most authoritative reference on South Indian classical music, the Companion provides

an overview of the historical and cultural contexts of the music, its forms, instrument, composers, leading practitioners, and schools.

Fully cross-referenced, the Companion describes and assesses the musical conventions, instrumental music, intonation, embellishment, and tala and rhythm among a host of other topics, and includes detailed biographical notes on composers and musicians. The highly accessible and insightful Preface provides a broad outline of the subject and sensitizes readers to the intricacies of Carnatic music.

The rich artwork-comprising more than 100 photographs, colour plates and drawings by S. Rajam, illustrations by V.C. Arun, and staves-add to the appeal of the volume. In addition to staff notation for all the 72 scales (melakarta ragas), this volume carries a special guide to pronunciation and transliteration. Additionally, the Companion comes equipped with a comprehensive bibliography an further reading section, detailed indices of ragas and scales and names, and a glossary-cum-index.

An indispensable and enriching reference for the connoisseur, practicing

musician and dancer, interested amateur, impresario, teacher, and student, this completely revised, updated, and enlarged edition will also inform and engage anybody keen on learning more about Indian culture.

Ludwig Pesch is regarded as an authority on South Indian classical music.

Trained at

Kalakshetra College of Fine Arts, Chennai, he has performed both with his guru, the late H.

Ramachandra Shastry, and solo. He is the author of Ragadhana: An Alpha-Numerical Directory of Ragas

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