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Melodious desire

CARNATIC VOCALIST MADHUMOHAN'S HINDI MUSIC ALBUM *MERI CHAHAT* IS BASED ON THE THEME OF *CHAHAT* (DESIRE)

By P Vasudeva Rao
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HE is an engineer by profession but music is his passion. Meet the Toronto-based 30-plus Carnatic vocalist Madhumohan, who has come up with a *ragam*-based Hindi album *Meri Chahat*.

Based on the title theme *Chahat* (desire), the album consists of eight melodious songs sung by Madhumohan, including two duets featuring the voice of Bollywood singer Sadhana Sargam. One of the duets *Zindagi mein bahar tumse hai* is a video song which is being aired on Zee music, Channel V and B4 U channels.

"I had a passion to come out with a melody-based album. It has come true with *Meri Chahat*," says Madhumohan.

Despite being a Telugu, Madhumohan chose to bring out the album in Hindi. "As I wanted my songs to reach a wider audience, I brought out the album in Hindi. It was recorded in Mumbai to add local flavour," he explains.

Interestingly, Urdu poets Asthana Saher, Atyab Aijaz, Narendra Rai, Rashid Azar and Saquib Banarasi, all from Hyderabad wrote the lyrics for the album.

Apart from singing the songs, Madhumohan has himself com-

posed the music for the album.

After doing his Masters in Engineering, he pursued MA in Music from Potti Sri Ramulu Telugu University, thanks to his passion for music, and secured a gold medal in it in 1995. Later, he joined a nuclear power industry as an electrical design engineer in Canada.

Madhumohan returned to India in 2001 to pursue his studies in music and secured a PhD from Madras University for his fundamental research on pitch analysis.

"My songs are on the lines of old songs which are based on melody. I believe they will be patronised as they are melodious," he asserts.

Madhumohan comes from a family of artistes and literary figures. His father late KV Bhoopal Rao, an IAS officer, was also a writer while his mother Savithri Devi is a musician. Noted novelist Yaddanapudi Sulochana Rani is his aunt.

"People like Balamuralikrishna and Jesudas for their originality, which along with creativity, are the two things to be imbibed by any professional," he says.

"I have not yet decided my next move though I have a couple of offers. So far, I have been able to pursue both engineering and music simultaneously but I don't know what lies ahead," he says. "My next album will be philosophical in nature," he adds.

The album has been priced at Rs 99. For further details and sample listening, visit www.meri-chahat.com or Youtube.

EXPRESSPHOTO BY A RADHAKRUSHNA