



Amarasiri Peiris presents
Hanthanata Payana Sanda

Renowned musician and violin maestro Amarasiri Peiris' Solo Concert *Hanthanata Payana Sanda*, a classical musical event was held on June 22, from 6.30 pm at the Musaeus College Auditorium, Colombo 7.

Wasantha Rohana was the compere of the evening proceedings and Rohana Weerasinghe directed the music. The event was the brainchild of former Inner Wheel Club of Negombo Member the late Dilanie Wijayapura who passed away four days before the event at a private Hospital. She was a fundraiser for the Inner Wheel and Rotary Clubs of Negombo, for the upcoming projects for 2014/2015.

The Sunday Observer was the official print media partner and the official TV & Radio partner for the concert were Siyatha TV and Siyatha FM.



Amarasiri Peiris with his daughter Janani Peiris



Narain Wijayapura, Dilanie's only son paying a floral tribute to his mother during the concert. Amarasiri Peiris sang his popular number *Aeya yanna giya mekila*, bringing tears to everyone's eyes.



Sathyendra and Dilanie Wijeyapura present a token of appreciation to T.M. Jayaratne from the Rotarians. Wife of veteran singer, Malini Jayaratne accepted the award.



Reviving solo concerts of veteran singers

At a time when veteran vocalist T.M. Jayaratne did not have a solo concert for many years, an ardent fan, Dilanie Wijayapura and husband Sathyendra Wijayapura inspired TM to make a comeback with a full house audience at the Musaeus College auditorium.

The duo was not inter-

ested in financial benefit and only keen in getting TM back on stage for a live solo concert. Dilanie and Sathyendra initiated artist Visharada T.M. Jayaratne's first solo concert after a lapse of many years and were the main sponsors for - 'Sonduru Atheethaya' in May 2013. Bringing his music for T.M. Jayaratne's music fans.

Recalling the effort in making 'Sonduru Atheethaya' a success, at the beginning veteran singer T.M. Jayaratne had said that Dilanie made his dream come true and such a concert was long-awaited, after a lapse of more than four decades. He said although initially he refused to have a solo show acceding to Dilanie's

and Sathyendra's request he finally relented and held the first 'Sonduru Atheethaya' Concert. TM and his wife said that Dilanie and her family became close to their family from then on. Dilanie and Sathyendra were making arrangements with the second concert, this time around reviving the solo concert of veteran

vocalist Amarasiri Peiris. But Dilanie could not fulfil that dream as she met with an untimely death, just a few days before the event. Nevertheless, her husband Sathyendra and their nephew Jithendra Wijayapura insisted that they should go ahead with the Amarasiri Peiris concert as a mark of respect for Dilanie and her keenness

to revive popular solo concerts of veteran singers. "Though we knew her for a short time, Dilanie was a kind-hearted and friendly person. "She always said that many songs that I have sung should beat in the hearts of fans and that is why she wanted to hold this concert," said Vis-harada Amarasiri Peiris

recalling his first meeting with the couple prior to organising the show. He said that Dilanie was trying to get official rights for certain songs that were treasured by fans which Peiris has not sung for the past few years at public shows, since these songs had legal implications. "Since she was not well during the last few weeks

prior to the concert, we were unable to bring these songs on stage. However upon Sathyendra's request we decided to hold the concert just after the day of her burial, since it was one of her last wishes to see the *Hanthanata Payana Sanda* concert being a success."