



**Philharmonie  
Luxembourg**

**Varijashree**  
**Venugopal**  
Vari

---

# Varijashree Venugopal

## Vari

**Varijashree Venugopal** vocals

**Vivek Santosh** keyboards

**Pramath Kiran** percussion

**B C Manjunath** mridangam

**Apoorva Krishna** violin

**Special Guest**

**Michael League** bass, percussion

---

**Chill at the Phil**

---

**05.03.26**

---

**Jeudi / Donnerstag / Thursday**

---

**19:30** 80' without intermission

---

**Salle de Musique de Chambre**

---

---

### **Varijashree Venugopal** vocals

The Bangalore-based Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter Varijashree Venugopal was widely recognised as a child prodigy who could identify 100 Carnatic Ragas at the age of 18 months and began performing concerts at the age of four. She initially trained under her musician parents Vidwan HS Venugopal and Vidhushi TV Rama, and later under Vidhushi H Geetha, Vidhushi Vasantha Srinivasan, Vidwan DS Srivatsa and Ganakalanidhi Vidwan Salem P Sundaresan. Coming from a rich background of an intricate classical form of music such as the Carnatic one, she is one of the pioneering artists applying the techniques, fundamentals, and the sound and soul of Indian singing in the global music context. Her capabilities of using her voice as an instrument and the blending of her singing with various music cultures using Indian singing techniques have led her to being featured alongside and collaborating with some of the most notable musical personalities in the world, such as Bobby McFerrin, Victor Wooten, Béla Fleck and more. She received a Grammy nomination for her work as a featured artist on Jacob Collier's «A Rock Somewhere» along with Anoushka Shankar in 2025. «Vari» is Varijashree Venugopal's first original music album, released on GroundUpMusic, produced by Grammy Award-winning artist Michael League and co-produced by Pramath Kiran, percussionist and rhythm arranger. This album is a rich exploration of the global soundscape, where Indian classical music meets a diverse array of musical traditions, all brought together by the rhythmic tapestry of Indian percussion. It is a sonic journey with a singular mission: to unite cultures through the universal language of music. «Vari», in Sanskrit, translates to water – a symbol of life, fluidity, and grace. Water embodies purity, clarity, and transparency – qualities that inspire the harmonious interflow of diverse musical cultures within this album. Each track on this critically acclaimed album invites listeners on a transcendent odyssey, merging boundaries and carrying India's rich musical heritage to far-flung corners of the world. «Vari» is a vibrant celebration of global diversity, skilfully weaving together sounds, melodies, and rhythms from across the planet.

### **Vivek Santosh** keyboards

Vivek Santosh is a classically trained pianist holding an Licentiate of Trinity College London Diploma Certificate with a profound passion for progressive and improvised music. Additionally, he holds a Masters Degree in Carnatic music, highlighting his versatility and profound musical expertise.

### **Pramath Kiran** percussion

A versatile percussionist, Pramath Kiran seamlessly bridges classical instruments such as tabla and morching with a spectrum of global percussion, including djembe, congas, and cajon, each played with authenticity. He is sought-after for his unique ways of adding percussion soundscapes across genres.

---

### **B C Manjunath** mridangam

B C Manjunath is an internationally recognised Carnatic percussionist, mridangam virtuoso, konnakol exponent, composer, and educator from India. Trained in a distinguished musical lineage, he is known for his powerful yet sensitive rhythmic voice that bridges classical Carnatic tradition with contemporary, cross-cultural, and interdisciplinary performance. A recipient of the prestigious Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar, he has performed and taught in over 60 countries, collaborating with leading musicians, dancers, and ensembles across genres.

### **Apoorva Krishna** violin

A highly accomplished South Indian classical violinist in the Carnatic style, Apoorva Krishna was taught at the renowned Lalgudi Bani by Guru Lalgudi Srimathi and Anuradha Sridhar. She holds an 'A' ranking from All India Radio, Bengaluru, and is a graduate of the Berklee College of Music. Apoorva Krishna has been significantly contributing to the world of Carnatic and global music with her extraordinary talent and innovative collaborations.

### **Michael League** bass, percussion

Special guest Michael League is the driving force behind the renowned band Snarky Puppy. As its bandleader and accomplished bassist, he has led Snarky Puppy to international acclaim with their unique blend of jazz, funk, and world music. League's visionary approach to music has earned him and the band multiple Grammy Awards and a dedicated global following.

Prochain concert du cycle  
Nächstes Konzert in der Reihe  
Next concert in the series

---

**28.04.26**

---

### **Ballaké Sissoko & Piers Faccini**

Our Calling

**Piers Faccini** guitar, vocals

**Ballaké Sissoko** kora

---

**19:30** 80'

---

**Salle de Musique de Chambre**

---



LE GOUVERNEMENT  
DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG  
Ministère de la Culture

 Mercedes-Benz