

ERICKAVU N. SUNIL

Assistant Professor (Mridangam)

Kerala Kalamandalam Deemed to be University for Arts & Culture

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Professional Summary:

Sunil N, popularly known in the musical circle as Erickavu N. Sunil, is an acclaimed South Indian percussionist, author, educator, and A-Grade Mridangam artist (All India Radio & Doordarshan), currently serving as Assistant Professor of Mridangam at Kerala Kalamandalam Deemed to be University for Arts & Culture, Thrissur, Kerala. Trained under eminent gurus and having performed alongside legendary vocalists and instrumentalists, Sunil contributes significantly to the fields of performance, research, and global outreach in Indian percussion. Renowned for his work in Carnatic Rhythmology, Sunil seamlessly blends tradition with innovation, and performance with pedagogy. He is the author of *Resounding Mridangam* (2021), a globally referenced English title, and *Mattolikkollunna Mridangam* (2025), a comprehensive work in Malayalam published by the Kerala Bhasha Institute.

Academic and Administrative Roles:

- Assistant Professor – Mridangam, Kerala Kalamandalam Deemed to be University for Arts & Culture, Thrissur, Kerala.
- External Expert Member on the Board of Studies for the Department of Performing Arts, Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning, Andhra Pradesh.
- Member, Academic Advisory Committee, IGNC (Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts), Regional Centre, Thrissur.
- Member, Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), Kerala Kalamandalam.
- Member, Expert Committee on Audio-Visual Documentation Infrastructure, Kerala Kalamandalam.
- Chairman, Indeevaram Cultural Trust, Trivandrum – a non-profit cultural organization dedicated to the promotion of classical and traditional art forms.

Publications & Research Contributions:

- *Resounding Mridangam* (2021) – English treatise on Mridangam; widely acclaimed and published via Amazon KDP. The work has been incorporated into the graduate and postgraduate music curricula of multiple universities.
- *Mattolikkollunna Mridangam* (2025) – Malayalam title, published by Kerala Bhasha Institute. Padma Bhushan K. S. Chithra formally released the book on 01 March 2025.

Teaching & Outreach:

- Conducts Faculty Development Programmes (FDPs), National seminars, lecture-demonstrations, and workshops across premier institutions and universities.
- Mentors international students in Mridangam and Konnakol (vocal percussion) through online platforms; students hail from many parts of the world.
- Scripted and directed *Nadasanjeevani* – a unique music therapy programme telecast as a 9-episode series on Asianet Cable Vision (ACV) in 2006.

Performance Credentials:

- A-Grade Mridangam artist, accredited by All India Radio and Doordarshan.
- Performed alongside stalwarts including T. V. Sankaranarayanan, Neyyattinkara Vasudevan, Prof. Parassala Ponnammal, Prof. Mavelikkara Prabhakara Varma, Madurai G. S. Mani, Dr. S. Sowmya, Dr. K. Omanakkutty, Thiruvengadu Jayaraman, among many others. Also shared stages with Senior and emerging musicians including Bangalore S. Shankar, Prof. K. Venktaramanan, Dr. Cherthala Renganatha Sharma, Dr. Sreevalsan J. Menon, Pranavam Sankaran Namboodiri, Bangalore T.S. Pattabhirama Pandit, Kunnakkudi Balamuralikrishna, Sharreth, Mathangi Sathyamoorthy, Dr. Baby Sriram, M. Jayachandran, Balabhaskar, Kavalam Sreekumar, Sriram Gangadharan, T. V. Ramprasad, Vishnudev Namboodiri, to name a few.
- Featured at prestigious platforms including National Programme of Music (AIR & Doordarshan), SVBC Nadaneerajanam (Tirupati), Thureeyam National Music Festival (Payyannur), Nishagandhi Monsoon Raga Festival (Trivandrum), Ragasudha National Music Festival (Thrissur), Sree Swathi Thirunal Sangeeth Sabha (Trivandrum), Fine Arts Society (Palakkad), Sree Poornathrayeesha Sabha (Tripunithura), and other major sabhas and temples across India.
- Founder and artistic director of *Laya Vadya Sudha* – a pioneering Indian percussion ensemble featuring Mridangam, Kanjira, Ghatam, Morsing, Mizhavu, Thakil, and Tabla.

Awards & Recognitions:

- Kerala Kalamandalam Kalagrandham Award (2023)
- Chembai Trust Award (2006)
- Government of India Cultural Fellowship (2011)
- Government of India Senior Cultural Scholarship (1996)
- Chaithanyashree Puraskar (2019)
- Gold Medallist, Inter-University National Youth Festival (1995)

- First prize winner - Kerala University Youth Festivals, for four consecutive years (1993 – 1997)
- Special recognition from Parakkadathu Koyikkal Trust, Tripunithura (2021)
- Special recognition from Sree Poornathrayeesa Sangeetha Sabha, Tripunithura (2021)

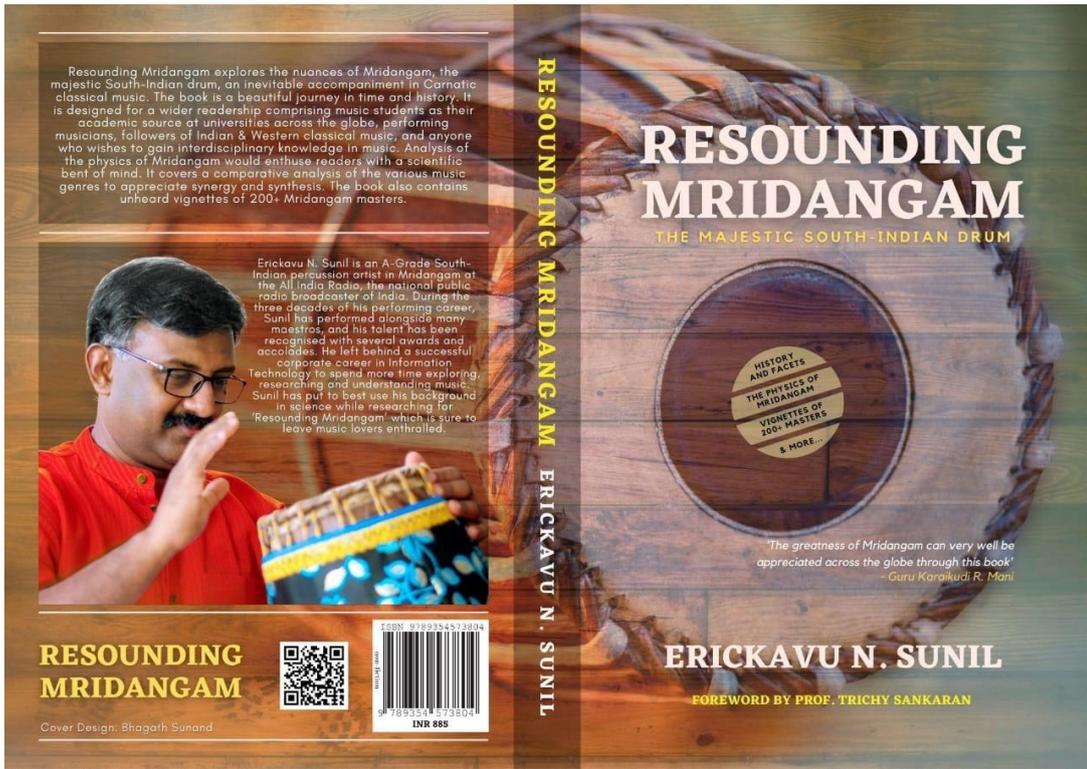
Educational Qualifications:

- Master of Computer Applications (MCA) – College of Engineering, Trivandrum
- Bachelor of Science in Physics – Mar Ivanios College, Trivandrum
- Executive MBA – National Institute of Business Management, Chennai

Personal Details

- Date of Birth – 15 March 1977
- Address – INDEEVARAM, SNRA 24A, Sangeeth Nagar, Chenkottukonam, Trivandrum – 695587, Kerala.
- Website - www.erickavunsunil.com
- Father's Name – K. Narayana Panicker
- Mother's Name – V. Saraswathi Amma
- Spouse's Name – Indumol Sunil
- Children - Bhagath Sunand & Bharath Sunand

Resounding Mridangam – Amazon KDP - 2021



Mattolikkollunna Mridangam – Kerala Bhasha Institute - 2025