



CARNATIC INSTRUMENTAL
MUSIC

Sikkil Sisters : V Kunjumani & N Neela



Born in 1930 and 1940 in Sikkil, Tamil Nadu, Shrimati Venkataraman Kunjumani and Shrimati Natesan Neela — popularly known as the Sikkil Sisters — studied flute in the Thanjavur *sampradaya* with Shri A Narayanaswamy Iyer and their father Shri A Natesa Iyer.

A popular flute duo, the Sikkil Sisters have to their credit many successful recitals in India and abroad. They have issued several gramophone records and cassettes. Besides honours from Sabhas, they received the title of Kalaimamani from the Tamil

Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram in 1973. Shrimati V Kunjumani has taught a number of students including Shrimati N Neela herself.

Shrimati V Kunjumani and Shrimati N Neela receive the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for their contribution to Carnatic instrumental music.