



*Campanas*

April 1984

Dear friends,

We write this, as our tenure as editors of *Campastimes* comes to an end, to assess whether it has served the purposes it should have, to wish the incoming editors a happy association with the magazine and to express to everyone who helped us (actively or passively), our heartfelt thanks.

When we started the *Campastimes* year, we set for ourselves a few goals, most important of these being the resolve to increase student and staff participation in the institute literary magazine, to hopefully keep the aforesaid glued to their tables and pens, writing frantically to us. True, this picture is one associated with the wildest dreams of editors in colleges around the world. But consider: we held contests for the "General Student Body" (as the Students Affairs Council would have it) to overcome the inertia and then for the particularly non-participating sections - the first years learning the ropes, the fairer sex and the postgraduates. Except from the postgraduate students the response was overwhelming in its unexpected enthusiasm. We are particularly happy to record that the dark horses who trotted out put in brilliant performances, outstanding the established favourites (a perusal of the issues of *Campastimes* will prove the point more eloquently than any number of words). Our trumpets will have to be brutally plucked from our lips if we are questioned by any one about staff contributions to the magazine. It is very hard to accept the fact that the entire staff of the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras could come up with not more than a lonely pair of articles.

A point which we have found much to our advantage is the sheer lack of responsibility. Any creases on our forehead were before selection; after that, we could bring out an issue as leisurely and as unpalatable as you could ever bring one - and nobody would still call foul. Suited as it is to the Indian milieu, we feel that any sluggishness is definitely due to this.

A definite disadvantage we faced was the insufficiency of just "Three musketeers" for the task on hand. With any one of the editors away on 'Quiz-leave' or 'Assignment-leave', the remaining two were forced to work overtime (and sometimes over-overtime). The possibility of constituting an Editorial Board of 7 members with one of them acting to coordinate all activity is being studied by the Publication Committee. The idea is commendable and gets our good wishes.

We hoped to improve the layout and art section of the magazine and introduce notions of regularity of appearance in the minds of hor polloi. Introduce, we did not, we know. Improve, we did, hopefully. The problem with the appraisal of editors is that it lies in their own hands, and they are not bound to be very objective, are they? So, we will stop the self-administered pats to our backs to go on to thank the number amongst us who are responsible for all that was good in Campastimes 1983-84, if anything.

Thanks firstly, to the contributors without whom the magazine would have been so much rough paper (Sriram contests this view, saying he would have filled up Campastimes with his own articles anyway); to the Lit. Secs of the hostels (except some like Jamuna) who helped root out talent; To the artists who helped us out so often: Rafeeq, G.C. Prasad, Joseph Joy and Bhadra; special thanks to Mrs. Parimala Rao (wife of Mr. Raghunatha Rao, our Assistant Registrar) who produced the piece of art adorning this cover - a pity we "discovered" her too late. Thank you Prof. Schleusener, for the complete freedom and words of encouragement he gave us. Thanks to Mr. T.K. Subramanian for hours of patient typing. We thank our worthy and hard-striving production team: Mustafa, Rama Rao, Kalyan, Manickam, Hari and all of you guys who did the trying job of stapling and distributing the magazine. It would be ungrateful of us if we did not acknowledge the help of the Library (particularly the Reprographic Section) and its staff who between grunts of complaint, indifferent snorts and inordinate delays did help us out.

As we hand the mantle over to Rajat, Mani and company, wishing them all the best, may we take this opportunity to wish the students passing out this year a very prosperous and happy career and life?

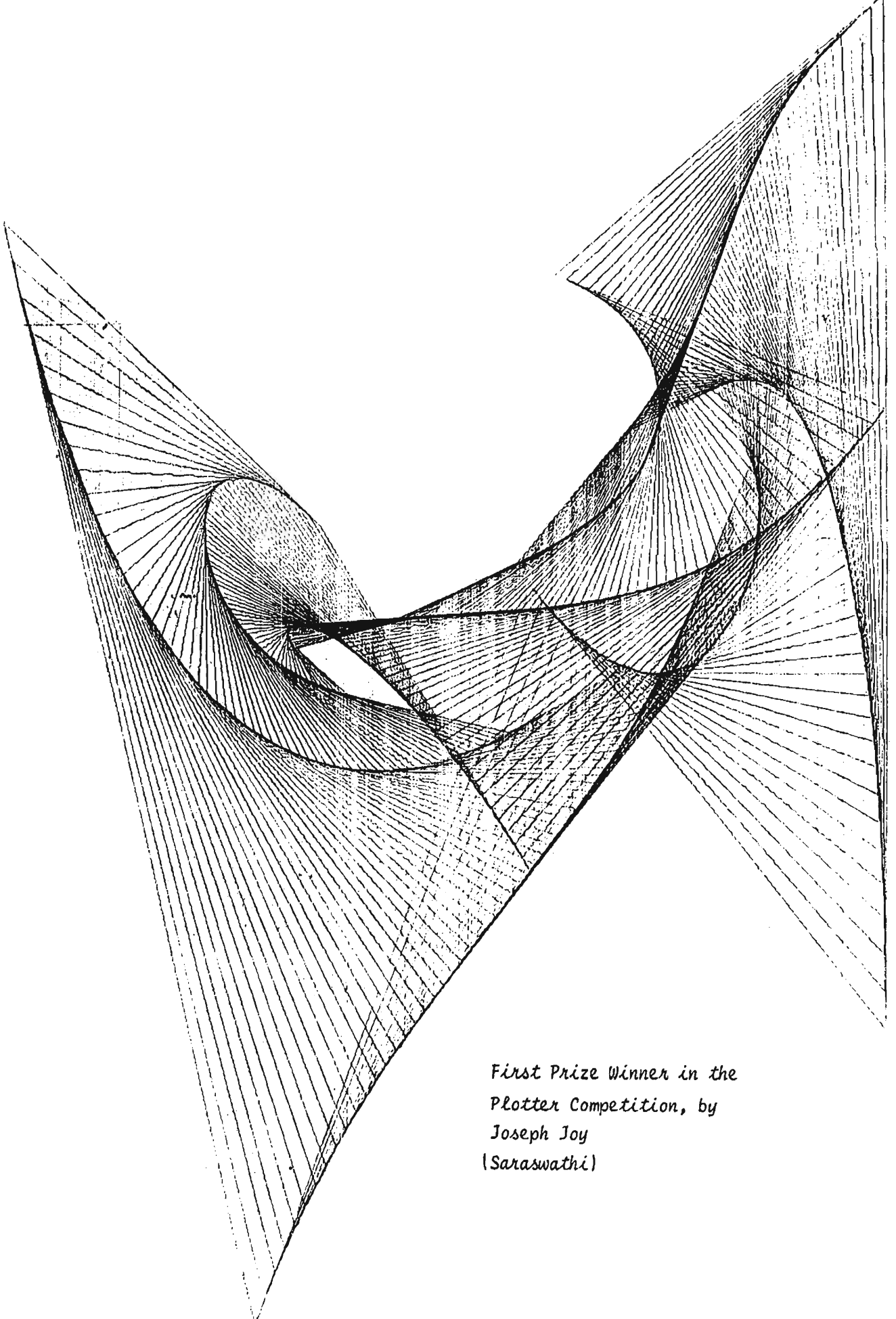
Finally, we wish all those who read us goodbye. We hope you enjoyed listening to us as much as we enjoyed gassing to you. Have enjoyable vacations!

THE OUTGOING EDITORS:

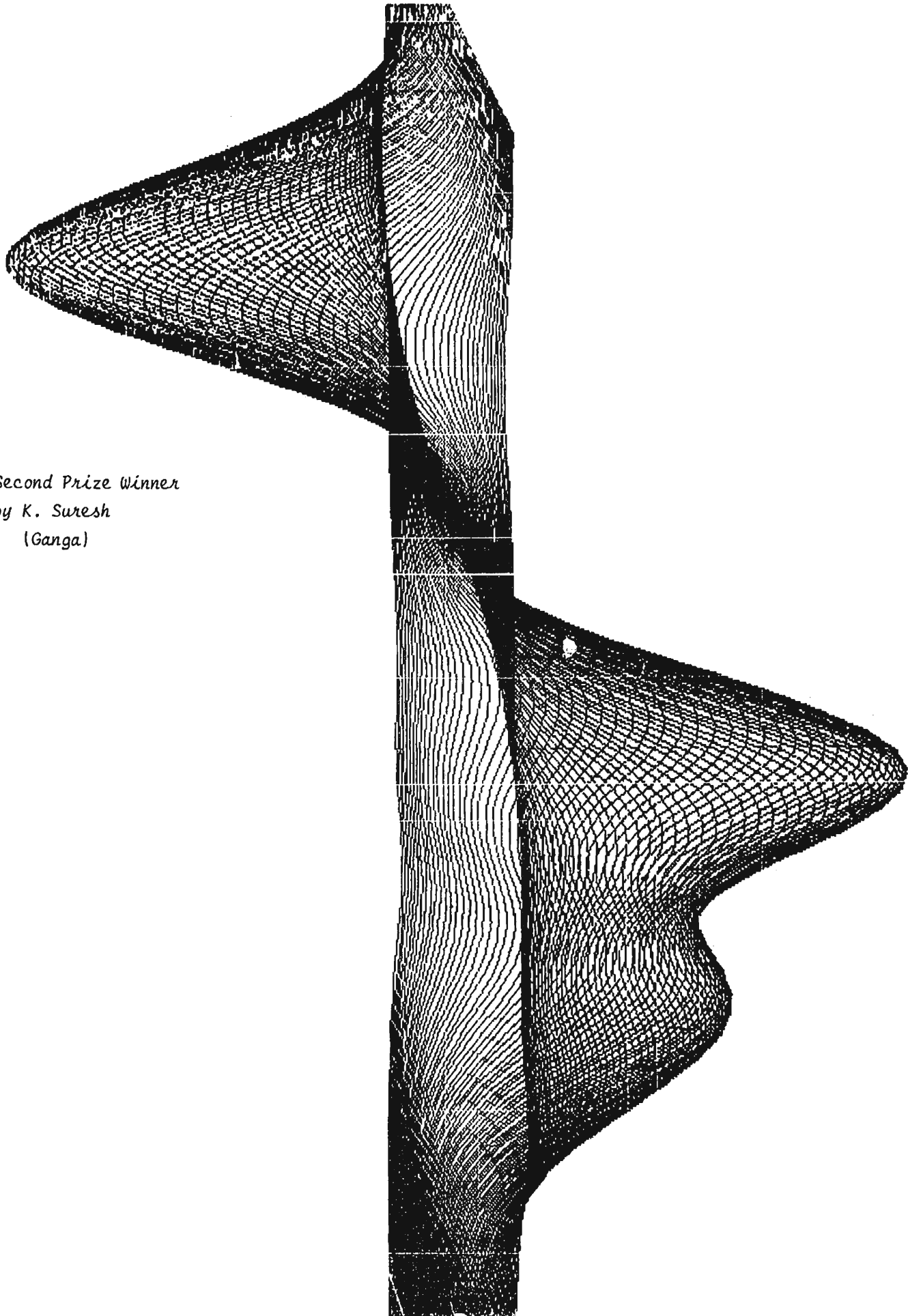
Srivatsan R.

Sriram R.

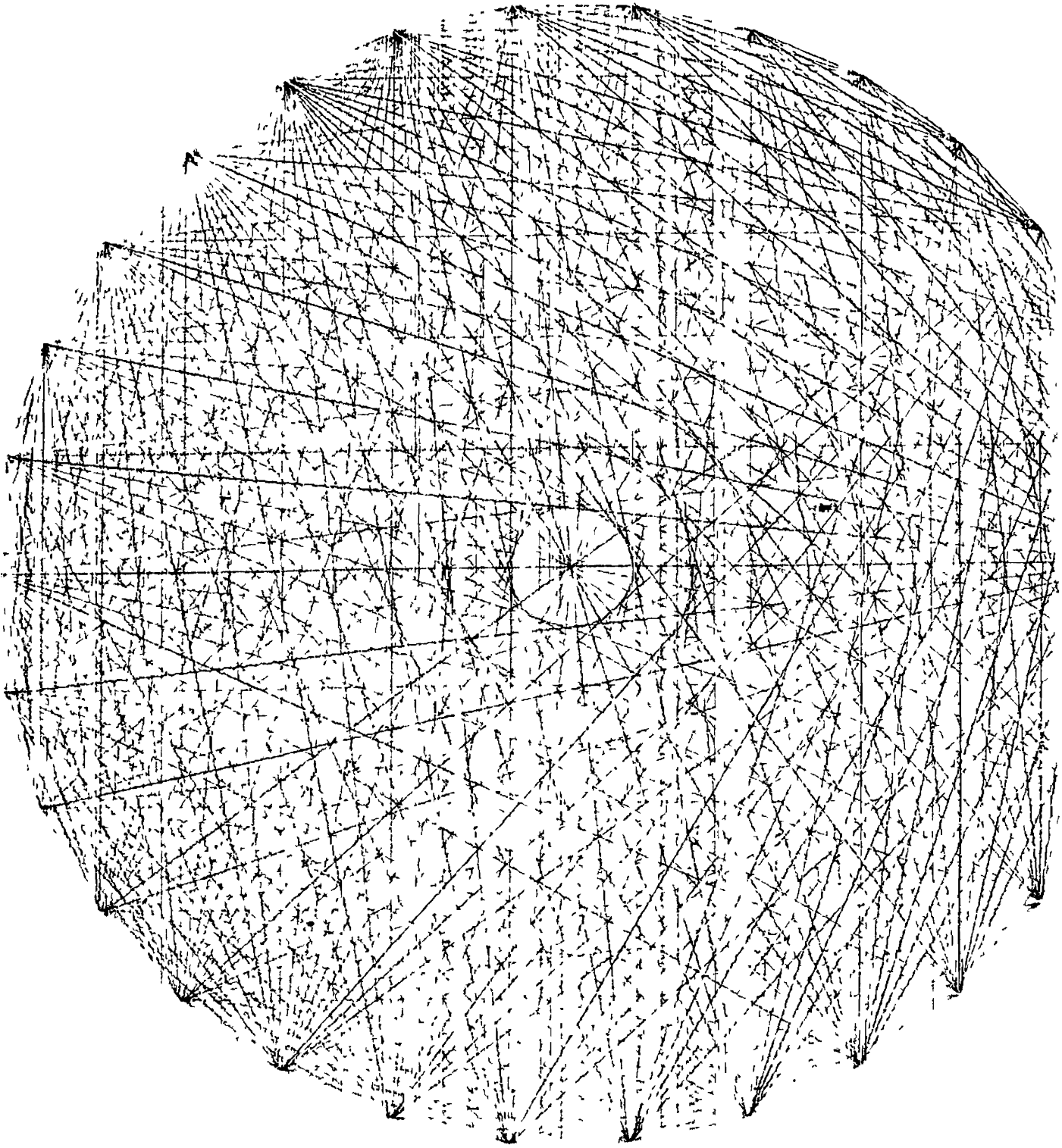
Kumaran Sathasivam



*First Prize Winner in the  
Plotter Competition, by  
Joseph Joy  
(Saraswathi)*



*Second Prize Winner*  
*by K. Suresh*  
*(Ganga)*



*Third Prize Winner  
by Ashq (Godavari)*