



ODISHA
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35th KONARK FESTIVAL

OPEN AIR AUDITORIUM, KONARK, ODISHA, INDIA

1st to 5th December 2024

6.00 pm to 8.30 pm



KONARK FESTIVAL

The five-day-long Annual Konark Festival of classical dance, performed by celebrated dancers of the country in an Open -Air-Auditorium with the famous Sun Temple at the backdrop entralls the connoisseurs of dance every year from 1st to 5th December. The winter breeze from the sea and the magic of various dance forms create an atmosphere filled with rhythmic beats and melodious tunes.



PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS 2024

1 December

ODISSI

Utkal Sangeet
Mahavidyalay,
Bhubaneswar

KATHAK

Malti Shyam & Group
New Delhi

2 December

MANIPURI

Priti Patel & Group
*Anjika-Center for
Manipuri Dance, Kolkata*

ODISSI

Aloka Kanungo & Group
*Shinjan Nrityalaya
Kolkata*

3 December

ODISSI

Arnab Bandyopadhyay
& Group
Darpani, Kolkata

MOHINIYATTAM

Sunanda Nair & Group
USA

4 December

KUCHIPUDI

Deepika Reddy & Group
Deepanjali, Hyderabad

ODISSI

Bichitrananda Swain
& Group, *Rudrakshya
Foundation*
Bhubaneswar

5 December

ODISSI

Dona Ganguly & Group
Diksha Manjari, Kolkata

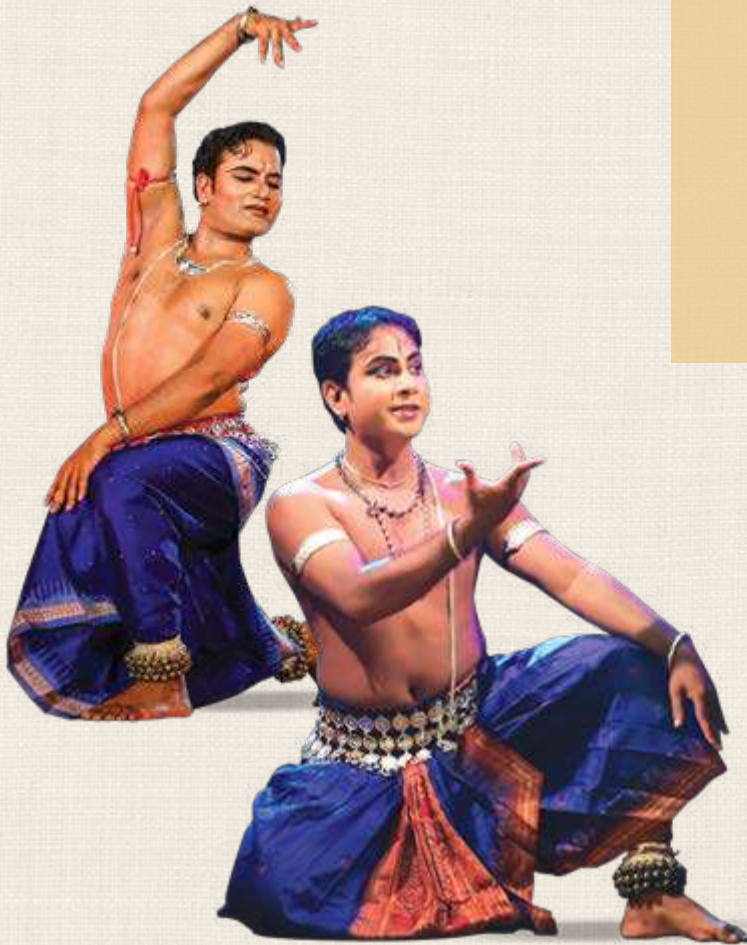
BHARATNATYAM

Geeta Chandran & Group
*Natya Vriksha Dance
Collective, New Delhi*



1 DECEMBER

6.30 pm - 7.30 pm



Utkal Sangeet Mahavidyalay Bhubaneswar

Utkal Sangeet Mahavidyalaya, Bhubaneswar established on 14th April, 1964 is a state's recognised institution which has always been in forefront promoting the rich culture of Odisha. Utkal Sangeet Mahavidyalaya is the only college of its kind in the state of Odisha. The College has teaching facilities in 10 Branches of Music, namely Odissi Dance, Chhow Dance, Odissi Vocal, Hindusthani Vocal, Flute, Violin, Sitar, Tabla, Mardala and Drama from intermediate to Bachelor Degree level.

**Guru Sri Lingaraj Pradhan,
Guru Sri Pankaj Kumar Pradhan
and Group**

Odissi



Sri Jagannath Astakam : Sri Jagannath Astakam, composed by Adi Shankaracharya, describes the Lord of the universe, glorifying his divine entity.

Bhavaranga : A melodious passage created from the synchronised orchestration of traditional 'anadha' instruments. The recital tradition of each instrument presents an insight into some myths and tales.

Shakti : SHAKTI, the active dynamic energy of SHIVA is present in nature, in form of female deity SHAKTI. The Trideva – 'Bhrama', 'Vishnu' and 'Mahesh' bow down to her in reverence . Invocating Shakti, the worshiper is blessed with fulfilment of all desires, courage, health ,wealth and Moksha.

Music: *Guru Dr. Bijaya Kumar Jena*, **Rhythm:** *Guru Sri Bijaya Kumar Barik*, **Choreography :** *Guru Sri Lingaraj Pradhan and Guru Sri Pankaj Kumar Pradhan.*

1 DECEMBER

7.30 pm - 8.30 pm



Malti Shyam
New Delhi

A professional dancer, choreographer & teacher, Malti Shyam is one of India's foremost exponents of the Lucknow Gharana of Kathak. She is known for the lyrical grace and technical precision of her dance. A 'Top Grade' artist of Doordarshan and an 'Outstanding Dancer' of the ICCR given innumerable performances and attended most of the major festivals.

Malti Shyam
and Group

Kathak



Nartan Manjari: “Darshan Deejey Tribhuvan Paali”, is an invocation steeped in devotion and longing. This piece celebrates the eternal bond between the divine and the devotee - a dance of love, surrender, and spiritual fulfilment.

Shudh Nritta Paksha which delves into the profound depths of rhythm and movement, showcasing Taal Basant in the intricate cycle of Naumatra (9 beats). This presentation celebrates the power and beauty of Taal in Kathak where rhythm reigns supreme.

Naika, set in the intricate rhythm of Ek Taal and Tisra Jati, brings to life the essence of a captivating Naika. She is the epitome of grace-restless, playful, and endlessly clever. This dance celebrates her playful mystery, her undeniable charm, and the power of her artistry to captivate and conquer without a single word.

Choreography : *Smt. Malti Shyam*

2 DECEMBER

6.30 pm - 7.30 pm



Anjika-Center for Manipuri Dance Kolkata

Priti Patel through her efforts has tried to preserve the essence and authenticity of Manipuri Dance through her system of instruction, performance and research. Her institution Anjika is a unique Centre of Dance with a dual curriculum. It is a centre for Manipuri Dance and also a centre for Movement Therapy for the disabled. Priti Patel has received numerous awards, the prestigious Sangeet Natak Akademi award from the President of India. "The Telegraph SHE Award" for her pioneering contribution to Classical Manipuri Dance. To name a few. Fulbright fellow she went to USA for further research in dance and movement therapy. She has served on numerous committees of Ministry of Culture, Government of India, India Council for Cultural Relations and Prasar Bharati.

Priti Patel
and Group

Manipuri



Nachom Lei : The Dances of Manipur and Nature are deeply entwined to create an amazingly aesthetic tradition. Nachom Lei in Manipur is a bouquet of flowers. They symbolise pristine purity and play a significant part in the Manipuri dance tradition. There are numerous legends around these beautiful flowers which find expression in the dances. They symbolise devotion, love, bravery and sacrifice and nostalgia. In Nachom Lei the dancers of Anjika bring alive the dance traditions in a symbolic representation through these flowers in their different emotions.

Concept & Choreography: Smt. Priti Patel | Assisted by: S. Karuna Devi & Th. Imocha Singh

2 DECEMBER

7.30 pm - 8.30 pm



Shinjan Nrityalaya

Kolkata

Aloka Kanungo, disciple of Padmabibhushan Guru Sri Kelucharan Mohapatra is one of the front ranking classical dancers of India. She is a rare combination of dancer, choreographer, teacher & scholar. As a soloist she has performed at most of the major dance festivals in India, Aloka has been recognized as one of the most intelligent choreographer who has the contemporary sensibilities yet rooted very much to our tradition. She is empanelled by ICCR as an outstanding dancer & recognized as a TOP Grade dancer by Doordarshan. For her dedicated work she has been awarded with the Central Sangeet Natak Akademi award, She heads Shinjan Nrityalaya, Calcutta.

Shinjan Nrityalaya was established in 1996 under the able guidance of Ms. Aloka Kanungo. It is a non-profitable charitable organization dedicated in promoting & preserving our Heritage, Art & Culture.

Aloka Kanungo
and Group

Odissi



Bande Mataram: A tribute to Bharat Mata based on a poem by Bankim Chandra

Music: Sri Himansu Swain | Choreography : Guru Smt. Aloka Kanungo

Tara Pallavi: A pure dance item based on Raag Tara and Taal Mallika

Music: Susri Sangeeta Panda | Rhythm : Guru Sri Dhaneswar Swain

Soorya Labanyam: Script Sri Nityananda Mishra

Music: Sri Laxmikanta Palit | Choreography : Guru Smt. Aloka Kanungo

3 DECEMBER

6.30 pm - 7.30 pm



Darpani Kolkata

Arnab Bandopadhyay, an artiste par excellence, who has been simultaneously trained in two most beautiful Indian Classical dance forms, Bharatanatyam and Odissi. A mentor for many young talents, Arnab lends his teachings from his organization Darpani. He has travelled extensively in many countries as a solo performer.

Darpani : Darpani, a premier Dance Institution, founded with the sole aim of promoting the rich cultural heritage of India through the medium of Indian Classical and Contemporary Dance forms. To unleash the true spirit of dance by the amalgam of the classical dance forms and the ever evolving art of choreography has been the primary aim of Darpani. Since its inception in the year 1995, Darpani has been striving heart and soul for promoting and enriching the classical forms of dance and reaching out to the various strata of the society.

Arnab Bandopadhyay
and Group

Odissi



Srita Kamala Kucha Mandala : An Ashtabadi from kavi Jayadeva's Geeta Govinda. The magnanimous beauty of Lord Vishnu, his glories and deeds have been described with grand benediction.

Music: Pt. Bhubaneswar Mishra | Choreography: Padmabibhushan Guru Sri Kelucharan Mohapatra

Hamsadhwani Pallavi : Pallavi is a pure dance which implies elaboration. The graceful lyrical movements with intricate rhythmic patterns create a beautiful tapestry of rhythm, music and movement.

Music: Pt. Bhubaneswar Mishra | Choreography: Padmabibhushan Guru Sri Kelucharan Mohapatra

Krishna Katha : Krishna Katha, the divine story of Lord Krishna depicts the incarnation of Lord Krishna, the eternal saviour of humanity in different forms to protect and preserve humanity. Lord Krishna considered both as a cosmic force and a compassionate guide illuminating the path of Dharma, righteousness, Bhakti or devotion and Karma or self-realization. The dance piece reflects Krishna's presence in all of creation, as the source of both destruction and creation embodying the eternal cycle of life.

Music: Sri Himanshu Shekhar Swain | Rhythm: Sri Soumya Ranjan Nayak

Choreography: Sri Arnab Bandopadhyay

3 DECEMBER

7.30 pm - 8.30 pm



Dr. Sunanda Nair

USA

Dr Sunanda Nair is an accomplished Mohiniyattam dancer, performer, teacher, choreographer and seniormost disciple of 39 years of the Late Padma Bhushan Dr Kanak Rele. Sunanda is a luminary in the world of Mohiniyattam who is celebrated for her mesmerizing performances, revival and preservation of this art form, and deep academic understanding of Mohiniyattam. Recognized as the "prima ballerina among Mohiniyattam dancers of her generation" senior critic George Paul and Known as the "Global ambassador of Mohiniyattam".

Dr. Sunanda Nair
and Group

Mohiniyattam



Grapathy Talam : A distinctive and intricate rhythm cycle often dedicated to Lord Ganesh. It reflects the performer's mastery over rhythm, blending tradition with innovation to honor the divine.

Kartiyayani Devi : A devotional hymn praising the goddess known for grafting boons and fulfilling desires. Thampi's poetic genius is evident in rich imagery and rhythmic beauty of the verses.

Madhurashtakam : Composed by Vallabhacharya, is a beautiful Sanskrit hymn dedicated to Lord Krishna. It glorifies Krishna's sweetness, describing every aspect of him as "Madhuram" (Sweet) his form, actions, speech, and nature.

Choreography: Dr. Sunanda Nair

4 DECEMBER

6.30 pm - 7.30 pm



Deepanjali Hyderabad

Deepika Reddy's journey in dance started five decades ago. She is recognized as an accomplished performer, a creative choreographer, a cultural ambassador and a dedicated Guru. Groomed by the legendary Guru, Padma Bhushan awardee Dr. Vempati Chinna Satyam, she is acknowledged as one of the leading exponents of the Kuchipudi art form in the present times. Deepika has performed extensively in prestigious dance festivals in India and abroad. With a passion to take Kuchipudi to the next generation, Deepika Reddy founded Deepanjali, an institute striving for excellence in Kuchipudi where she imparts training to hundreds of students. She has also made a concerted effort to train economically disadvantaged children. For Deepika, dance is not only a passion, but worship of the divine art form.

Deepika Reddy
and Group

Kuchipudi



Kuchipudi Vandana : An invocatory piece that seeks the blessings of various deities. The dancers first offer their prayers to Lord Ganesha, the remover of obstacles, for the successful completion of their endeavor. Then invoke the blessings of Lord Shiva, and honor the presiding deities of Kuchipudi village.

Thakkuvemi Manaku : Thakkuvemi Manaku is a melodious piece by the renowned Vagyeyakara, Sri Bhakta Ramadasu, an ardent devotee of Lord Rama. Here the poet enthusiastically praises Lord Rama saying that we lack nothing if Lord Rama is with us.

Madhuram Madhuram : Madhuram Madhuram is a charming depiction of Lord Krishna's Leela's .The Gopikas recount to Lord Krishna, various incidents from his childhood, sharing cherished memories and playful stories that highlight his divine and mischievous nature.

Nritya Neerajanam : Nritya Neerajanam, a joyous dance with complex, brisk and rhythmic movements and intricate footwork where dancers weave aesthetic patterns on the stage. The Sahithya is in praise of the grace and beauty of the Kuchipudi art form.

Music: DSV Sastry | Choreography: Guru Smt. Deepika Reddy

4 DECEMBER

7.30 pm - 8.30 pm



Rudrakshya Foundation Bhubaneswar

Rudrakshya Foundation was Established in the year 2000 by Guru Sri Bichitrananda Swain. It is not just a dance institute but a crowning institution where art and dance form blends up to create an embodiment of pure performing art envisaging the perfection of artistic comprehensibility, lucidity and precision. The students of Rudrakshya's ensemble have performed all over India and abroad have gathered appreciation for its excellence.

Bichitrananda Swain
and Group

Odissi



Hamsakalyani Pallavi: Pallavi in Raga Hansakalyani. With intricate footwork, elaborate movements and expressive melody captivates the audience. The dance is based on the Nritya or pure dance form of Odissi. Beautiful dance passages run parallel with rhythmic syllables and melodious rendering of a Raga. This particular pallavi is set to Raga Hamsakalyani and Matha taal.

Music : Guru Sri Ramhari Das | Rhythm : Guru Sri Dhaneswar Swain | Choreography: Guru Sri Bichitrananda Swain

Sakya Muni Buddha: This is a story of a prince who chose to be a beggar. A child who took his first step as soon as he was born. A champion of compassion whose heart ached for the suffering of others. A soul who gave up his life for the betterment of the world. This is the story of Sakyamuni Buddha. This production leads the audience to the world of Sakyamuni Buddha through his stories and philosophy. The journey begins from his divine birth and ends in the spectacle of Dharma chakra pravartana - setting in motion the wheel of Dharma.

Music : Guru Sri Srijan Chatterjee | Rhythm : Guru Sri Dhaneswar Swain

5 DECEMBER

6.30 pm - 7.30 pm



Diksha Manjari

Kolkata

Dona Ganguly a renowned name in the field of Odissi dance took to dance at the age of 3. Her dance flourished in the Odissi format under late Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra, who trained her for 25 long years. She has a school of her own in the name of "Diksha Manjari" inaugurated by Smt. Lata Mangeshkar in the year 2000. She along with her students have performed at several prestigious festivals in India and abroad. In the year 1995 the Mayor of San Francisco Mr. Frank M. Jordan had declared the 9th day of June as the "Dona Roy Day" in San Francisco, which is the most important award she has received ever. She has also received Honorary Citizenship from Metropolitan Nashville, Memphis.

Dona Ganguly
& Group

Odissi



Surya Vandana : The Shri Surya Pratah Smarana Stotram, a hymn to Sun God.

Mangala Charana Shantakaram : A devotional verse that praises Lord Vishnu, the preserver of the Universe.

Choreography: Guru Smt. Dona Ganguly, Guru Sri Ratikant Mohapatra

Pallavi- SAVERI : The pure dance item in which raga is elaborated through eye movements, body postures and foot work. Literally pallavi means blossoming.

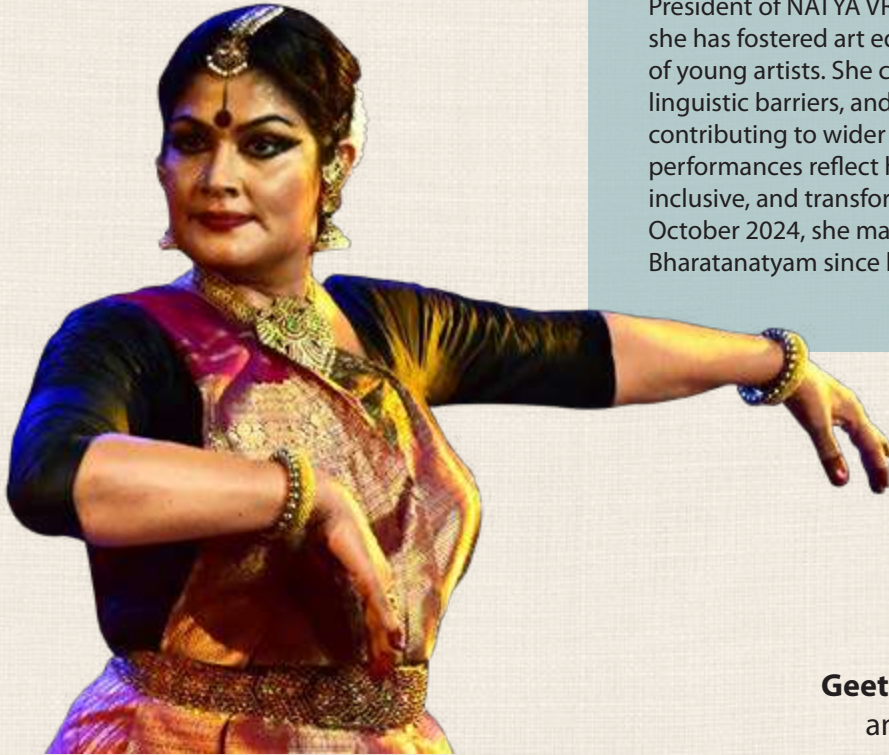
Music : Pt. Bhubaneswar Mishra | Choreography: Padmabibhushan Guru Sri Kelucharan Mohapatra

Durga : Goddess Durga is a form of Shakti worshipped for her gracious and horrifying aspects and she is visible when evil forces threaten the very existence of God.

Music: Guru Sri Debashish Sarkar | Choreography: Padmabibhushan Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra

5 DECEMBER

7.30 pm - 8.30 pm



**Natya Vriksha
Dance Collective**
New Delhi

Guru Vidushi Geeta Chandran, Padmashri and Sangeet Natak Akademi Awardee Celebrated as one of the leading figures in Indian classical dance across the world today she is also a highly accomplished Dance Guru, Scholar, Choreographer, Media Personality and Carnatic Vocalist. She is Founder-President of NATYA VRIKSHA, NEW DELHI, where since 1991, she has fostered art education, mentoring and development of young artists. She champions tradition, transcending linguistic barriers, and creating meaningful choreographies contributing to wider societal dialogue. Her dynamic performances reflect her vision of an interconnected, inclusive, and transformative cultural experience. In October 2024, she marked 50 years of engagement with Bharatanatyam since her arangetram in 1974.

Geeta Chandran
and Group

Bharatanatyam



Pravahati unveils Geeta Chandran's metier as a choreographer with a unique vision that brings alive the essential elements of Bharatanatyam— experimenting constantly with content and form. Pravahati Geeta explores time and space both as non-stagnant, but which are forward propelling of both imagination and execution. Pravahati unfolds in three choreographies: MALLARI, SAKHI-SWARAM & RAAS.

Choreography: Vidushi Geeta Chandran



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