Mangala & Raghav Raj Bhatt

- the Kathak duo dedicated to art & culture

PROFILE

About Mangala & Raghav Raj Bhatt

Mangala & Raghav Raj Bhatt, have been in the service of art and culture for more than four decades with their proactive contributions to art communities, institutions, State and National Governments.

The world renowned duo is recognised for their artistic efforts, some of which are below:

- Kathak Exponents
- Choreographers
- Artistic Directors and Curators
- Experts in Indian Folk & Tribal Arts
- Stage designers
- Sketch artist focusing on Art Forms across the world
- Experimental presentations with a multitude of art forms
- Organized various Cultural Festivals and Exhibitions in India and Abroad.
- Organized, Designed & Choreographed for Sangeet Natak Academi, New Delhi and Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, for Govt. of Telangana and Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.
- Worked as cultural representatives, teachers and performers at Indian Cultural Center, Moscow (Russia), for 3 years Tashkent (Uzbekistan) and Singapore for 3 years under Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India.
- Involved in organizing and presenting numerous cultural evenings with Government Departments of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh such as Tourism, Information & Public Relations, Film Development Corporation, Shilparamam Crafts Village, Animal Husbandry, Labour Department, Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, Department of Language & Culture etc.

Organized and curated several vents since the formation of the Telangana State, some notable ones being:

- The first Telangana Tableau at the Republic Day Celebrations in New Delhi 2015, themed around "Bonalu" with 30 artists
- Special choreography at the 19th International Children Film Festival, 2015 for the Opening Ceremony with "Swagatam featuring 60 child artists and Closing Ceremony with "Dances of India" with 280 child artists. Also choreographed Children's Film Festival 2017 Opening Ceremony "Bharateeyam" with 400 child artists.
- Representing Telangana State after being appointed as a Nodal Officer for the Telangana Theme State at "Surajkand Crafts Mela" 2016.
- Choreographed "Bangaru Telangana" for the Telugu New Year Celebrations "Ugadi", 2016.
- Organizing and curating the annual Kathak Dance Festival "Antarang" at Ravindra Bharati, inviting artists from all over the country with the support of Sangeet Natak Academi, New Delhi, Department of Language and Culture, Govt. of Telangana, presented by Aakruti Kathak Kendra in Hyderabad.



Our Gurus: Pt Birju Maharaj Ji, Pt Durga Lal Ji, Dr Gopal Raj Bhatt

Raghav Raj Bhatt - Introduction

Acclaimed Kathak artist, celebrated performer, revered Guru, ardent champion of Indian Tribal and Folk arts, Kathak evangelist and cultural ambassador for India - Shri Raghav Raj Bhatt is a multifaceted individual whose contributions to the field of art, culture and international relations are incomparable.

The threads that bind Raghav's destiny came from a multitude of sources. His legacy of folk and tribal art from his illustrious father Janapada Kala Bramha Dr Gopal Raj Bhatt ignited the flame in him to relentlessly work towards improved facilities, techniques, awareness and appreciation of these art forms worldwide, taking the mandate of the Bharat Folk Arts Academy founded by his father in 1950, to the next level.

His training in traditional Kathak gave him ta sense of how frontiers of dance can be pushed to create something that was hitherto unimagined. After initial training from Guru Gopal Rao and Vishaarad Diploma in Kathak, a National Scholarship saw Raghav Raj enter the hallowed portals of Kathak Kendra, New Delhi. At the feet of the living legend, the maestro, Padma Vibhushan Pandit Birju Maharaj, Raghav's ethos as a performer and teacher of Kathak took shape. He seeks to touch the transcendental and the subtle interplay between form, colour and rhythm is his hallmark. His collaborative performances and teaching residencies in different countries have contributed immensely to the international cultural relations and have presented the current evolution in Kathak art. Some of these works are: Paroksh, experimental composition using two mediums - visual and performing arts that is dance and painting Pratyavabhas - manifestation of inner self choreography and compositions based on Kalaripayatu, Kathak, poetry and music. The dance was set to music by contemporary western composers John Tavener and Avow, Samanvaya, choreography presentation consisting go three dance styles in honour of delegates from China, choreography with 40 Russian dancers in four Indian classical forms - Bharatnatyam, Kathak, Oddisi & Kuchipudi in 23 cities of Russia.

He represented Indian in several international festivals including Festival of India in USSR, South East Asia, West Indies, Hungary, Singapore, UAE, France, USA and Netherlands. He was also faculty at Singapore Indian Fine Arts Society, Singapore for three years, promoting Indian Art and Culture for national celebrations in Singapore and has given lectures and demonstrations in many universities, training hundreds of students.

His unique 360 degree approach to dance forms has taken Kathak, tribal and folk arts to the people. Raghav has choreographed many dance ballets, dramas and contemporary recitals in India and abroad. He is an empaneled artist of Doordarshan and the ICCR, New Delhi. He has organised major events for Bharat Folk Arts Academy Hyderabad and the Government of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh in stage craft, stage design and artistic productions for over 30 years. He has also led the production unit of the repertoire wing of Kathak Kendra, New Delhi for over a decade. Notable productions have been the very first tableau of the new state - Telangana. He has also led stage design at Shilparamam, the flagship arts and crafts village in Hyderabad for over a decade, besides organising and choreography of a festival to mark the 75th anniversary of the Dandi March in Gujarat in 2005.

As a guru and custodian of the next generation of Kathak performers, Raghav Raj has mentored many youngsters in their professional journeys. He founded Aakruti Kathak Kendra in 1990 along with his wife, Mangala Bhatt, who is herself an artist, through which he has been actively propagating and popularising the art form through events, programs, education, lectures, workshops, choreographies and artistic designs. What started as a centre with the objective to popularise Kathak in South India has now grown into a full fledged learning centre with numerous productions and art shows to its credit.

His God given gift of sketching has led him to uniquely combiner two different media to communicate a unified message - that of the beauty, grace and inner peace that dance brings to the soul. A few powerful, free flowing strokes give shake to forms of the beauty and symmetry. The pulsating rhythm of his figures is a rare style and has earned him rave review globally. Highlights of his sketching repertoire include inspirational line drawings titled Kathak Rekha on themes of kathak and other dance forms. He also has to his credit profile illustrations based on dance notations for Ang Kavya, a book authored by Padma Vibhushan, Pt Birju Maharaj, dance sketches in the book "Dances of India" edited by Smt Shanta Sarvjeet Singh and sketches on modern dancer Uday Shanker in the 10 day dance festival in his memory. He has been invited to participate and exhibit in several events by Sangeet Natak Academi.

Raghav's contribution has been highly appreciated and acknowledged numerous times by Presidents, Prime Ministers of India, Chief Ministers, Cabinet Ministers, Statesmen, VIPs, renowned Gurus, musicians, dancers, painters, critics, cultural organisations, press and media and art lovers.

Raghav Raj Bhatt

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Facets of a Pioneer

Trained in Stage crafts, Traditional Costume Design, Ornaments, Makeup and Lighting by father Janapada Kalabramha Dr. Gopal Raj Bhatt who was a well known for his tremendous work in folk and tribal arts of India.

Organized and choreographed several major and special Folk & Tribal Arts events taking the mandate of Bharat Folk Arts Academy Hyderabad ahead.

Organized and designed Traditional Folk Festivals, Classical Music and Dance Festivals, Painting Exhibitions for the State and National Government

Organized, Designed and Exhibited with the guidance of the Director Shri. Keshav Kothari for Kathak Festivals in Kathak Kendra, New Delhi.

Organized and Designed for Stage Craft, specially designed Sketches for the invitations and brochures for many Kathak Festivals in India and Abroad. (Under the guidance of Shri. Jeevan Pani, New Delhi).

Designed sets and lights for Kathak Kendra Production Unit including Dance Dramas

Organized many events in Andhra Bhavan, New Delhi

Appointed as an organizer and covenor by State Government to organize "Festival of Hyderabad",

Organized a 14 days festival at 14 venues highling folk traditions of India, music and dance, light music, ghazals, classical instrumental music and dance, dance ballets with eminent artists of India and also choreographed an opening ceremony with 60 dancers.

Organized special events for the Dept. of Tourism and Culture for the State Government

Organized and Designed the Republic Day Tableau for erstwhile State of Andhra Pradesh at New Delhi in the year 2006.

Organized cultural events for the delegates of National Games with different groups and designed different stages in twin cities - Hyderabad and Secunderabad.

Organized, Designed Stage for many major events in folk arts, classical music and dance groups and Painting Exhibitions.

Specially organized, designed and choreographed the Opening Ceremony at the inauguration of Shilpakala Vedika, Hyderabad. Featuring three Classical Indian Art forms - Kathak, Kuchipudi and Oddisi with 30 dancers.

Organized music and dance festivals for Singapore Indian Fine Arts Society, Singapore from 1997 to 1999.

Organized and Designed Stage for the 10th National Youth Festival, Hyderabad with multiple venues and a special choreography involving 500 folk artists. Also choreographed the Opening Ceremony "Yuva Geet" with 30 dancers, lyrics by Javed Akhtar and music by Laxmikant Pyarelal, and Closing Ceremony "Dances of India" in four classical dance forms with 40 dancers.

Specially organized and choreographed the cultural activities at the 75th Anniversary of the Dandi March in Gujarat in the year 2005.

Curated and organized many cultural events and for private organizations, corporates and cultural organizations.

Organized and designed special cultural events for All India Doctors Conference in Hyderabad and for many other associations featuring classical dances, classical music and traditional art forms.

Organized, Performed and Choreographed for State Governments of Telangana State and Andhra Pradesh for festivals and special events with esteemed presence of Prime Ministers, Presidents, Central Ministers and senior officials from various Govt Departments.

Organized cultural events at World Telugu Conference,1975, a one week festival at Lal Bahadur Stadium, Hyderabad.

Organized cultural events for Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Independence Day for a week in Hyderabad, Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Osmania Medical College, Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Gandhi Medical College, Golden Jubilee Celebration of Andhra Bank and Golden Jubilee Celebration of Gujrati Samaj.

Choreographed the Opening Ceremony "Rhythms" with 400 artists folk and tribal artists (1993) and numerous other major festivals in Shilparamam.

"Festival of Hyderabad" (1994) - Convener of the festival. Specially Choreographed for Festival "Swagatham" with 60 dancers, opening ceremony in the inaugural, inaugurated by Chief Minister Shri. Vijay Bhaskar Reddy, Governor of Andhra Pradesh, Minister for Tourism and Culture Smt. Dr.Geeta Reddy and Dr. C. Narayan Reddy at Ravindra Bharati premises organized in 14 venues across Hyderabad and Secunderabad for 14 days. More then 5000 artists took part in the festival performed on Folk, Tribal arts of India, Music, Ghazals, Indian Classical Dances, Drama classical music — instrumental and Vocals based on Hindustani and Carnatic.

"Kathak duet" in Festival of Hyderabad at historic Qutub Shahi Tombs.

"Bhagyageet" with 20 dancers for Great Mall of Hyderabad Opening ceremony at Necklace Road, Peoples Plaza

Aakaar, a unique Kathak duo presentation on the occasion of World Tourism Day by Department of Tourism.

Cultural presentations of Kathak and Folk dances at Nandi Awards

"Bangaru Panta" (Golden Harvest), Ugadi Festival at Raj Bhavan a special choreography presented to the then Prime Minister Shri P V Narasimha Rao Garu and Governor L

"Ekta ki Awaaz", a ballet based on unity in diversity at the All India Assembly Speakers Meet

Cultural presentation of Kathak duet for delegates and officials of the World Bank in Hyderabad

"Dances of India", 4 classical forms - Kathak, Kuchipudi, Oddisi and Perenithandavam at Closing Ceremony of National Youth Festival at Hyderabad for the Govt of India.

Some Major Performances & Choreographies in India

All India Youth Congress Conference at Nagarjuna Sagar, A.P.

Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Government College of Music and Dance at Ravindra Bharati, Hyderabad.

Maharaj Kalka Bindadin Kathak Mahotsava, New Delhi.

ASIAD 1982 performed, assisted and choreographed with Pandit Birju Maharaj Ji for Uttar Pradesh ASIAD 1982 Opening Ceremony "Holi" consisting of 50 dancers at Nehru Stadium, New Delhi.

Uday Shankar Festival, New Delhi, organized by world renowned Sitar Maestro Late Pandit Ravi Shankar Ji.

Kathak Festivals in all major cities of India by Kathak Kendra, New Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Mumbai, Bhopal, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Bangalore, Bhubaneshwar.

Khajuraho Festival, Madhya Pradesh.

Yuva Mahotsav Sahitya Kala Parishad, New Delhi.

Apna Utsav, New Delhi.

- Bhagyachandra Dance Festival Imphal, Manipur.
- Pandit Durga Lal Memorial Cultural Festiva, New Delhi.

Kathak Mahotsav, New Delhi.

Pandit Lachu Maharaj Festival, Pune.

Yuva Mahotsav, Sahitya Kala Parishad, New Delhi.

Sharat Chandrika, Kathak Kendra, New Delhi.

Group performances choreographed by Late Pandit Durga Lal Ji and performed in New Delhi, Mumbai, Pune, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Aurangabad, Jaipur and other cities of India.

Festival of Hyderabad - celebrations of 400 years of Hyderabad city.

Vasant Utsav by Kalashram of Pandit Birju Maharaj, New Delhi.

Achchan Maharaj Kathak Mahotsav by Kathak Kendra, New Delhi.

India International Centre, New Delhi.

Choreographed many times a composition "Unity in Diversity" in many dance styles with 40 students and "Lok Yatra" in different folk dance styles with 80 students under the auspices of Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT).

"Paroksh" experimental composition using two mediums -Visual and performing arts that is Dance and Painting in Hyderabad and New Delhi.

Conducted lectures, demonstration and workshops on invitation by CCRT in Bangalore and Hyderabad.

Performance at Nehru Stadium organized by Nehru Yuva Kendra, New Delhi with 30 participants in three different dance forms.

Guwahati Kalakshetra Festival of Music and Dance.

Organized and curated Antarang Festival, edicated to Guru Pandit Durga Lal Ji inviting artists from all across the country

"Samanvaya" choreography presentation consisting of three dance styles in honour of delegates from China

Performance at "Rangaswamy Temple Brahma Utsav"

Chorepgraphy and presentation at the Opening Ceremony of NASSCOM India Leadership Forum held in Hyderabad.

Choreography and presentation at Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Conference held in Hyderabad.

Performances Globally

Sanskriti Sagar- Choreographed with 20 Russian dancers with four classical forms i.e., Bharatnatyam, Kathak, Oddisi & Kuchipudi in 21 cities of Russia. Festival of India in USSR by ICCR. Festival of India in Hungary by ICCR. Singapore Art Festival by Government of Singapore. Festival of India in West Indies by ICCR. Dubai Festival, UAE. Festival D'Avignon, France. American Dance Festival, USA. Cultural Festivals in USA, Spain, France, England & Canada. Festival of India, Port Huron Museum, USA. World Theater Festival, Netherlands. South East Asian Festival in Malaysia, Philippines, Myanmar West Indies - Celebration of 150 years of Indians arrival in West Indies. USA - Solo and Duet performances. Singapore – Solo and duet performance. World Telugu Federation at Singapore Houngbaou Festival at Singapore Workshops and performances in USA and Canada World Telugu Federation, Dubai Jury Member for event by Abu Dhabi Indian Association, Abu Dhabi Indian Folk and Tribal Arts presentation in Russia and Georgia

Awards & Felicitations

- "Cuba" The World Festival of Youth and Students, Hyderabad, 1978.
- "Art's" Secunderabad Walker Town Jaycees, 1985, Hyderabad.
- "Yuva Sahitiya Kala Puraskar 1988" New Delhi.
- "Kalapeetam" Presented by Singapore Fine Art Society, 1998.
- "Kaladeep" Presented in 1990, Patna, Bihar.
- "World Telugu Federation" Singapore, 2002.
- "TANA" Presented in U.S.A., 2003.
- "World Telugu Federation" Dubai, 2006.
- "Andhra Music Academy", 2007
- "Octave 2007" Presented at Shilparamam.
- Felicitation By Shri Rajiv Gandhi in 1988.
- Felicitation By Shri N.T. Rama Rao, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh at New Delhi, 1988.
- Felicitation By President Shri K.R. Narayanan, 2000.
- Felicitation By Shri Chinna Reddy, Governor of Tamil Nadu.
- Felicitation By Shri N. Chandra Babu Naidu, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh.
- Felicitation By Shri Balayogi, Hon'ble Speaker of Parliament.
- Felicitation By Shri Vijaya Bhaskara Reddy, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh.
- Felicitation By Shri Sunil Dutt, Minister for Youth, Sports & Culture.
- Felicitation By Smt. Geeta Reddy, Cabinet Minister.
- Felicitation By Shri Jaipal Reddy, Hon'ble Union Minister.
- Traditional Gujrati Felicitation by Shri Sunil Dutt.

"State Award (Ugadi Puraskar)" by State Government of Andhra Pradesh presented by Chief Minister Dr. Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy.

State Award for contribution in the field of art and culture by State Government of Telangana presented by Chief Minister Shri. K Chandrashekhar Rao.

Assignments Abroad

Raghav Raj Bhatt, Cultural Representative, Teacher and performer at

Singapore Fine Arts Society, Singapore 1997-1999

Raghav Raj Bhatt, Cultural Representative, Teacher and performer at

Jawahar lal Nehru Cultural Center,

Moscow (Russia) 2010-2013 by

ICCR (Indian Council for Cultural Relations) New Delhi

Global Production: Sanskriti Sagar

A 110 minute production combining four classical forms of India - Bharatanatyam, Kathak, Odissi & Kuchipudi. A total of 20 Russian dancers trained in Indian discipline participated in 23 shows conducted in 21 cities across Russia. The aim of this production was to promote classical Indian arts forms - a unique contribution in the history of Indian Culture in Russia.



Mangala Bhatt

Mangala Bhatt - Introduction

Mangala, the name at once personifies auspiciousness grace and elegance. As an artist, every movement, every pirouette and every performance is a prayer offered at the feet of Saraswati, the Goddess of learning and her Guru - Pandit Durga Lal Ji, the core of her artistic being. As a performer, the finesse, restraint, and energy of her Kathak have illumined the stage of every important festival in India and many abroad. As an ambassador of Kathak and an explorer of the arts, her work spans continents and art forms with collaborations ranging from percussion instruments to poetry. As a teacher, she has ignited the spark of love for classical dance in many a young child and has nurtured talent through her dance academy - Aakruti Kathak Kendra which he founded with her husband, Raghav Raj Bhatt who is also an artist.

Entering the artistic precincts of the prestigious Kathak Kendra in New Delhi, Mangala initially trained under late Shri Kundanlal Gangani Ji and later took advanced training under the Kathak Maestro late Pandit Durga Lal Ji, from whom she absorbed his brilliant technique and mastered the dazzling cadence and subtle nuances of Kathak. Her hard work and sincere efforts took her to major productions choreographed by Guru Pt. Durga Lal Ji and Pt. Birju Maharaj Ji staged in India and abroad. A recipient of national scholarship from the Government of India and Sangeet Natak Academi, New Delhi, Mangala successfully completed the post diploma course of the kathak Kendra and Visharada with distinction from Gandharva Mahavidyala, New Delhi. Multifaceted in her talent, she also studied Tabla and learnt Hindustani Music.

Mangala's abhinaya has been particularly appreciated because of her nuanced expression and inherent precision. Her artistic and aesthetic elegance have received high applause from both critic and rasika alike. She has been hailed as dancer with grip over laya, neatly able to construct the elegant structure of Kathak. A brilliant exponent of the Kathak form, her galaxy of performances are numerous and fabulous in their scintillating variety. Mangala has performed on many important occasions, some sterling performances include Yuva Mahotsav by Sahitya Kala Parishad; Spirit of Freedom Concert in memory of Pt. Durga Lal at Siri Fort Auditorium, Vasanth Utsav by Kalashram of Pandit Birju Maharaj; Pandit Durga Lal Memorial Society, Jayanti Mohotsava by Kathak Kendra and in the India International Centre, New Delhi. Mesmerising audiences, she has given performances in more than 30 cities all over India and performed in more than 35 countries. Mangala has received many state, national and international accolades and awards for her enormous contribution in the field of arts and culture, also being conferred the prestigious Telangana State Award by the Chief Minister.

Mangala is an empanelled artist of Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Doordarshan and has been associated with Sangeet Bharti, Kathak Kendra and ICCR for many national and international projects. She has also proactively been a part of initiatives such as SPICMACAY, Heal a Child, Rotract and others, which integrate art and culture into the upliftment of the society. She regularly features in guest lectures at schools, institutions and bodies like the Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT). Besides this, Mangala also is the curator and host of Antarang, a music and dance festival held in Hyderabad every year.

Mangala is especially known for her experimental works blending two or more art forms. Some of those productions include "Paroksh", a combination of two mediums, visual art and performing art, Pratyavbhasa a choreographic presentation combining Kathak and Kalaraipayatu. Sufi expressional, Kathak on famous Sufi poetry, Kathak with Uzbek and Russian Folk Music, Chakshush Path, Kathak choreographed on fusion music, Dances of India, an amalgamation of classical dances from India, Aventuire a collaboration with German slam poetry, western classical piano and jazz drums.

Enchanting audiences, art enthusiasts and propagating Kathak all across the globe with innumerable performances, productions, workshops, lecture - demonstrations, talks and choreographies, Mangala currently nurtures young talent at her institute Aakruti Kathak Kendra. Under her directorship, the academy has grown from strength to strength and is now a premier learning centre in the country.

She has most recently performed at Shivaji University, Kolhapur, Hyderabad Literary Festival, Kalashram Vasantotsav, Bhavanjali Festival, Guru Shishya Festival and University of Hyderabad among many others.

Many Facets of One Dancer - Performances & Presentations

Maharaj Kalka Bindadin Kathak Mahotsav by Kathak Kendra, New Delhi Guru Shishya Parampara at Bharat Bhavan, Bhopal Yuva Mahotsav by Sahitya Kala Parishad, New Delhi Sharat Chandrika by Kathak Kendra, New Delhi Nritya Mahotsav by Central Sangeet Natak Academy, Bhubaneshwar Spirit of Freedom Concert in memory of Pt. Durga Lal at Siri Fort Auditorium, New Delhi. Festival of Hyderabad, completion of 400 years of city at Hyderabad. Nritya Pratibha in memory of late Kundanlal Gangani by Kathak Kendra, New Delhi in Hyderabad. Vasanth Utsav by Kalashram of Pandit Birju Maharaj, New Delhi. Guru Shishya Parampara at Bharat Bhavan, Bhopal Achchan Maharaj Kathak Mahotsav by Kathak Kendra, New Delhi Pandit Durga Lal Memorial Society, New Delhi Shruthi Mandal, Jaipur Rajasthan Sangeet Natak Academy, Jodhpur India International Centre, New Delhi Nritya Sandhya, Chennai Barabati Festival- Cuttak, Orissa Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Bangalore Surshri Kesarbai Kerkar Smriti Samaroh, Panjim Nrityanjali Festival, Chidambaram Dushera Festival, Kulu Abhinaya Sudha, Hyderabad Nritya Sandhya, Guwahati, Assam Sangeet Natak Academy Festival, Jalandhar Andhra Academy, Hyderabad Guwahati Kalakshetra Festival of Music and Dance Sam Ved Festival in memory of Pt Durga Lal Ji, Pune, Bhopal and Mumbai SPICMACAY Workshops, Telangana

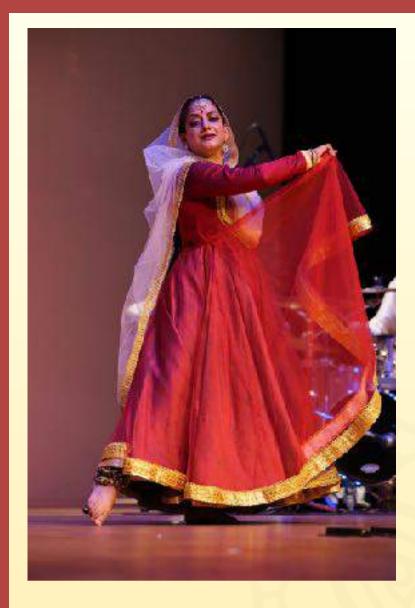
University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad C.C.R.T for educational programs with teachers Shooting for laser show at Lumbini Park, Hyderabad Kabir Vani, compositions based on Kabir's poetry-Hyderabad Kumbhakonam Temple, Tamil Nadu Ghantasala Festival in memory of singer Ghantasala, Hyderabad Silver Jubilee Celebration of LVPEI, Hyderabad Hyderabad Literary Festival, Kathak with German Slam Poetry and Classical Piano Music Kakatiya Festival, Warangal Dr. P.M. Bhargava Foundation, CCMB, Hyderabad Nritya Utsav organised by SICA, Hyderabad "Beyond Within" dance on contemporary poetry by poet Faraz, Hyderabad Kakatiya Festival, Warangal World Heritage Site, Ramappa Temple, Telangana Jugalbandi - Kathak and Oddissi, Hyderabad Doctor's Conference, HICC, Hyderabad Confluence of Kathak and Bharatnatyam, Hyderabad Narada Gana Sabha Festival, Chennai Kathak on the poetry from 16th - 19th century poets from Hyderabad in Deccani Urdu language Rekti - dance choreographed for the occasion of "Women's World Congress." Andhra Academy, Vizag Center for Economic and Social Sciences, UN Convention on Child Rights Naad Festival, Jaipur Pottai on the occasion of Dussera, Tiruchirapalli Kala - Varta in Khajuraho Festival with two creative medium Fine art and Performing art Sankatan Mochan Festival in Varanasi 1st Telangana Formation Day Hyderabad Literary Festival, Kathak with poetry Featured on BBC Documentary on history of Hyderabad Swati Festival in Chennai on Maharaja Swati Thirunal's kritees Doctor's Conference, Hyderabad Performed for many cultural organizations in all cities of India Kathak in Kolhapur, performances and workshops

For Social Causes

Choreographed the fashion show for India's leading models with Indian traditional attire for fund raiser Choreographed for tsunami fund raiser For Adya Educational Society to raise funds in the "Joy of Giving Week", Naad Niranjana, Tirupati Walked the ramp to highlight the handloom weavers of Telangana Cultural performance for Rotract Hyderabad Cultural performance for FICCI Ladies Organisation SPICMACAY Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT)

Performances Globally

U.S.A, Solo, duet performances and workshops Germany, Solo performance Singapore, Solo and duet performances West Indies, Group performance Malaysia, Philippines and Myanmar - Solo and duet performances Egypt, Group performance Dubai, Solo and duet performances Mauritius, Solo performances Kazakhstan, Solo performances Afghanistan, Group performance England - Solo performances Uzbekistan - Solo performances Canada, Solo, duet performances and workshops Mexico, Cervantino Festival, Group performance Russia - Solo performances and workshops











Assignments Abroad

Mangala Bhatt, Cultural Representative, Teacher & Performer by ICCR (Indian Council for Cultural Relations) at Indian Cultural Center, Tashkent (Uzbekistan) 1996-1999

Contemporary Productions

Paroksh -Combination of two mediums, visual art-painting and performing art- Dance at one time.

Pratyav-Bhasa - Choreographic work in different dance forms like- Kathak contemporary western and Kalaripayatu with American dancer Ms. Sandra.

Sufi- Expressional compositions on Sufi poetry especially choreographed for the occasion of Sufiyana Shyam.

Uzbek and Russian Traditional Music-Choreographed Kathak Dance numbers on this music.

Western Classical Music- composed dance with reputed western classical musician in Tashkent.

Chakush-Path - Choreographed Kathak on the fusion music.

Dances of India - a composition combining classical dances of India.

Aventuire - Collaboration with western classical music on Piano & German Slam Poetry

Jazz Drums - Collaboration with western percussion & djembe

Kathak on Hindustani Poetry

Participation in Group Choreographies

Participated in group recitals choreographed by Guru Pt. Durga Lal and Pt. Birju Maharaj, performed in New Delhi, Mumbai, Pune, Aurangabad, Lucknow, Jodhpur, Jaipur.

Performed in Jayanti Mohotsava by Kathak Kendra, New Delhi

Performed at the International Festival of Dance - in the choreographic work "Ritu – Samhara" by Smt. Kumudini Lakhia organized by I.C.C.R and Sangeet Natak Academy, New Delhi

Special Production

"Women's voices and expressions in the Deccan"

Deccani Women Movement and Women's language in Hyderabad

In this unique performance of a confluence of traditions, Kathak exponent Mangala Bhatt danced to the verses of rekhti, a special form of Deccani poetry.

The popular form of poetry peculiar to Deccani urdu was called rekhti. It has been recorded that the language of women was well preserved in this form of poetry. Feminine sentiments of love, jealousy, hatred and anger were well expressed in these poems.

The dance was specially choreographed for the evening aaj ki sham, dakhan ke naam. The poetry by Syed Miran Miyan Khan Hashmi, followed by Chandrabadan Mahiya, Quli Qutub Shah, fifth sultan of the Qutb Shahi dynasty of Golkonda and founder of Hyderabad, Mehlaqa Bai Chanda, the first woman poet,Soghra Humayun Mirza, the founder member of Bazme Khawateen-e- Deccan and Jameela Nishat

This 100 minute production was staged at the prestigious Hyderabad Literary Festival and it involved 10 musicians. The performance was dedicated to the poets of Hyderabad Deccan.

Aakruti Kathak Kendra, one of the premier Kathak learning centres of India has been nurturing young talent in Hyderabad since 1990. With the corner stone of learning at Aakruti being the values, devotion and discipline of our beloved Gurus, Raghav Raj Bhatt, prime disciple of Padma Vibhushan Pandit Birju Maharaj ji and Mangala Bhatt, senior disciple of Pandit Durga Lal ji, students learn the external aspects of Kathak while internalising the philosophy behind the art form, leading to learning that lasts for a life time. The students of Aakruti are carefully guided in their journey and are moulded to be exquisite dancers. They treat the school as a sanctuary where they come to find inner strength, discipline and joy through dance. Through a range of activities such as weekly dance classes, workshops, lecture - demonstrations as well as research into the interfacing of Kathak with other Indian and Western art forms, Aakruti Kathak Kendra offers its students, Kathak connoisseurs, art aficionados as well as general public multiple ways to engage with Kathak. Aakruti is a dance school committed to preserve, promote and facilitate Kathak in India and across the World.



Aakruti Kathak Kendra's Performances & Productions

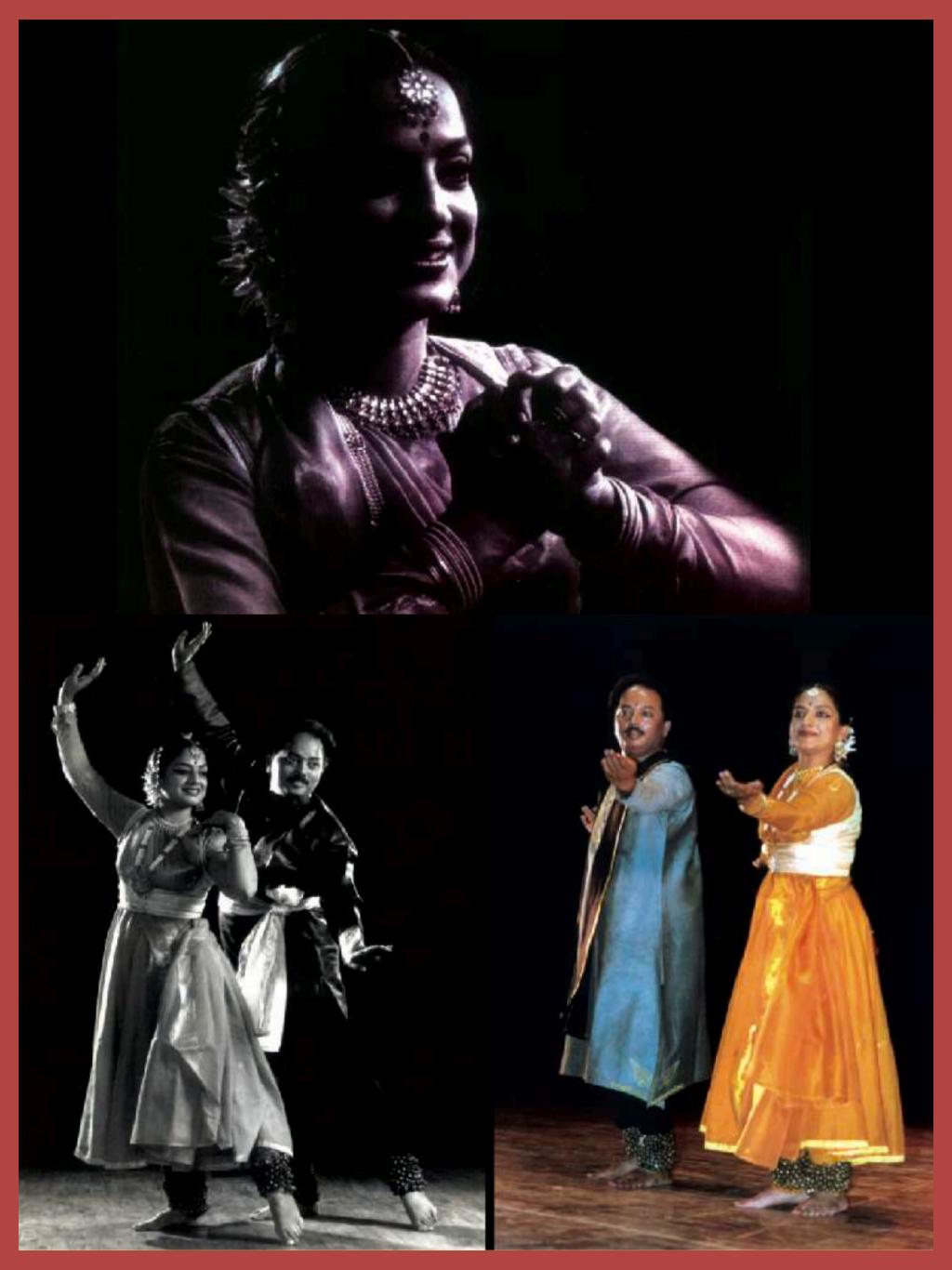
Nritya Bharati 25th Year Silver Jubilee, Bangalore Dushera Festival, Jagannath Temple, Hyderabad International Children's Film Festival, Hyderabad Annual Lamakaan Festival, Hyderabad, Euro India Summit In presence of His Highness Prince Aga Khan, dignitaries of the Aga Khan Foundation at Aga Khan Academy, Hyderabad Kathak Presentation, CCRT Amphitheatre Panchatatva, on traditional and contemporary music, Taramati Baradari, Hyderabad Round Table Conference, Hyderabad Janmashtami Celebrations, ISCKON Annual Shilparamam Festival, Hyderabad Documentary on Telangana Bramhakumari Global Peace Foundation, Hyderabad Ugadi Festival, Secunderabad Club K. W. Conference, Hyderabad IASAP (Indian Association for Secretaries & Administrative Professionals) Annual Meet Andhra Academy, Vizag 'The Last Mughal' for BBC Documentary Kathak with Qawali and Sufi poetry, Liquid Hub Annual Meet Kathak on Jazz drums and classical traditional music compositions, GMR annual event with international delegates Numerous Kathak Presentations for Corporates, Public and Private Organisations Rangsutra - solo performance based on the compositions by mystic poet Kabir with Dhrupad music and Jazz drums Golkonda Festival "Pancha Tatva" ballet based on fusion and traditional music Five students from Russia on scholarship by ICCR, New Delhi, are trained in Kathak Dance NASSCOM India Leadership Forum, Hyderabad Global Entrepreneurs Summit, Hyderabad Antarang, a curated annual cultural festival featuring renowned and upcoming artists Tarang - the annual presentation by students of Aakruti





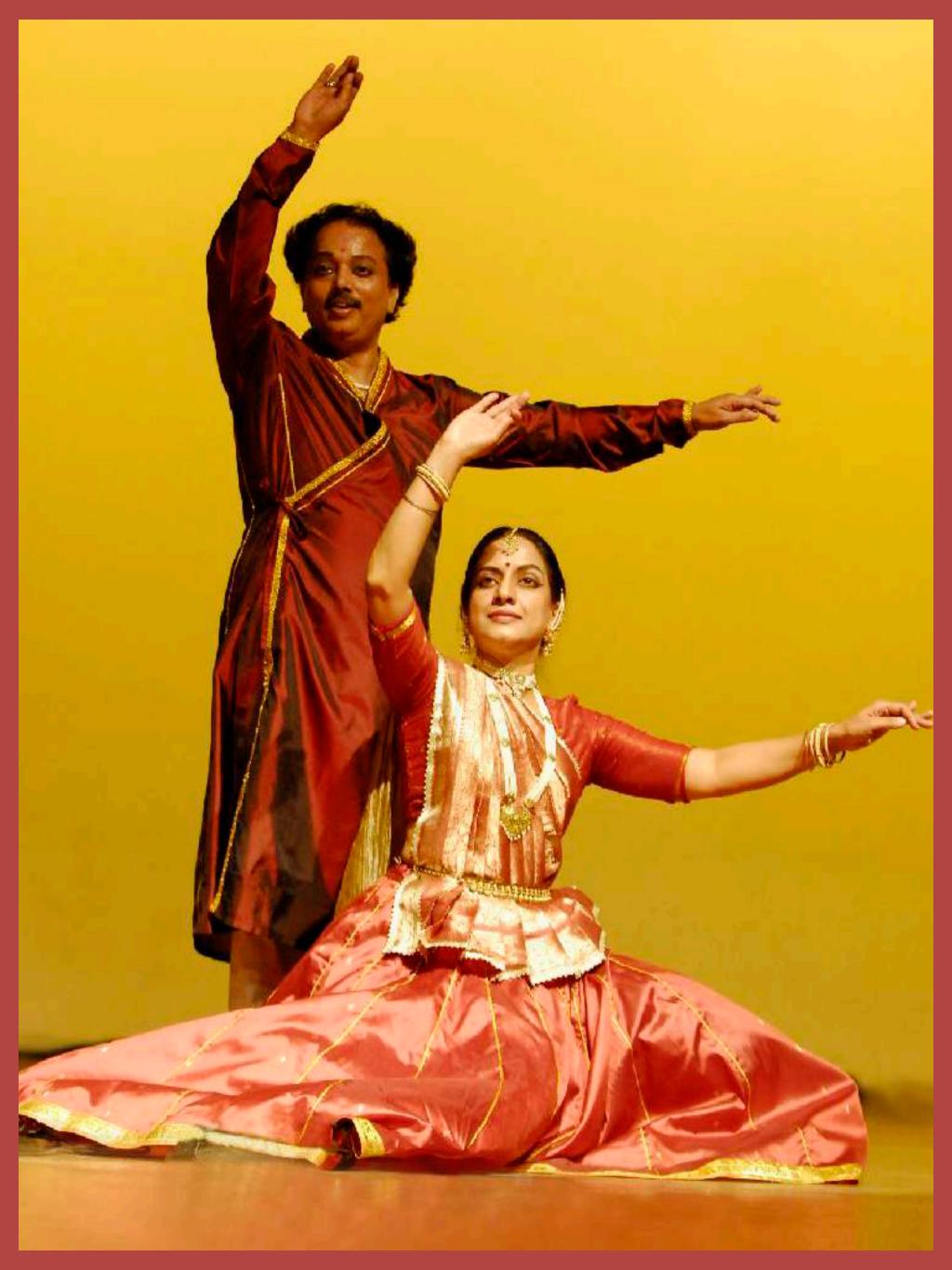
"Moments & Expressions" Glimpses from duet productions and performances

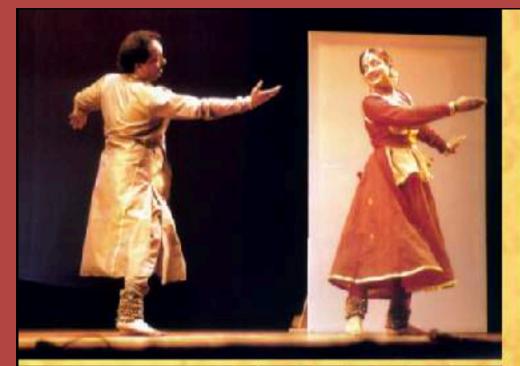


























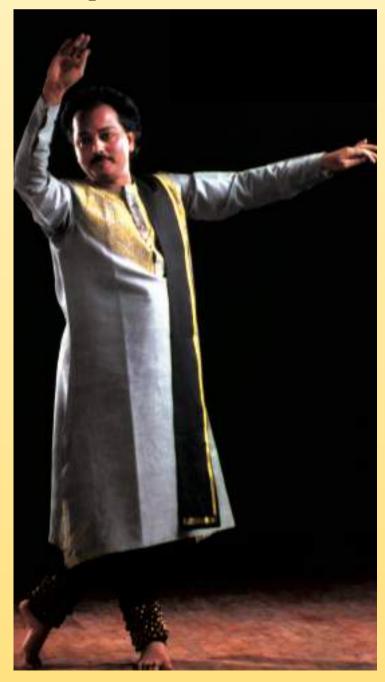






Glimpses from solo performances and productions



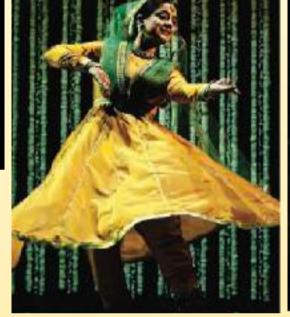








Glimpses from solo performances and productions







Raghav Raj Bhatt as a Painter

Raghav Raj Bhatt is an internationally renowned and acclaimed Kathak dancer, choreographer and artist. A prime disciple of Padma Vibhushan Pt Birju Maharaj, Raghav has created a niche in the world of art. He successfully completed diploma and specialisation from Kathak Kendra, New Delhi and was a recipient of the National Scholarship from the Government of India and the Sangeet Natak Academi, New Delhi.

Having performed in major national and international events as a solo artist, he developed his abilities in other essential stage related skills such as make up, stage craft, artistic direction and scenography. He also carries forward the rich legacy of his father, Janapada Kalabrahma Dr Gopal Raj Bhatt, of folk and tribal arts. He studied painting in the college of fine arts and architecture, JNFAU. Observing his dedication to visual arts, the then director of Kathak Kendra, New Delhi, Dr Jiwan Pani encouraged and guided him for his extraordinary talent of line drawings and sketching. Since 1980, he has designed logos for numerous festivals of Kathak Kendra including the institution's logo. He then ventured into stage design and got the opportunity to design sets for dance dramas of his Guru Pt Birju Maharaj, all across the world. He expresses the grace, poise, movement and flow of his subjects in minimal strokes, leaving a lasting wondrous impact on the viewer.

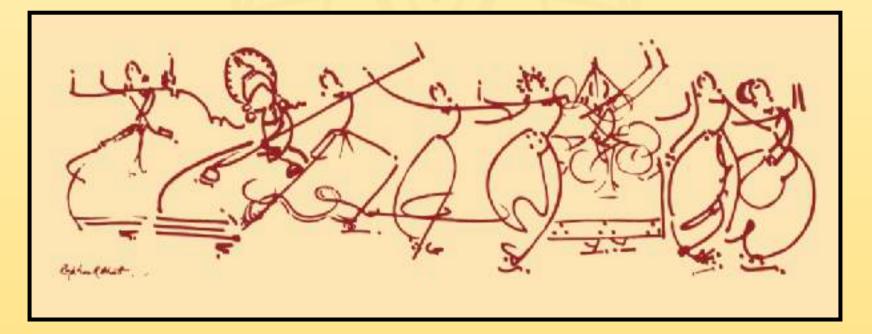
From the hills of Kathak, to the banks of the river Bharatanatyam. From the Kuchipudi coast to the valleys of Kathakali From the earthy Mohiniyattam to the celestial Oddisi, North east Manipuri to Shatriya. India dances in a myriad ways. Capturing the essence of many of these dance forms into a few strokes is an art that Raghav Raj Bhatt has mastered. Extracting the essence of each dance and then encapsulating it into a sketch is his speciality.

Pioneer in Dance Sketches, an inimitable sketching artist

I have a thousand names. And a million forms. Some of my favourites elegantly drawn by rhythm.

A few reflect dramatic flair. Some echo the spirit of folk and tribal arts.

All however are the result of a renowned, Internationally acclaimed dancer, choreographer, dramatist, performer par excellence, who has dedicated himself to divinity in art, and in life - Raghav Raj Bhatt



Dances of India

The subtle interplay between from, colour and rhythm is his hallmark and works a lasting influence on a wondering mind.

Exhibitions as a Painter

- KATHA REKHA, line drawing at India International Centre, inaugurated by Pt. Birju Maharaj, New Delhi, 1992.
- DANCING LINES, an exhibition on Indian Dances, Singapore 1997.
- MOVING STROKES an exhibition on Indian Dances, USA, 2000.
- DANCES OF INDIA an exhibition on Indian Folk & Classical Dances, Port Huron Museum, USA 2002.
- OM SHRI GANESHA an exhibition in many forms in fine Arts, Hyderabad 2004.
- CONFLUENCE OF ART, ICCR Art Gallery, Kala Bhavan, Hyderabad, 2006.
- RHYTHM LINES, Naad -Exhibition on Indian Dances, Canada, 2008.
- GANESHA & DANCES OF INDIA, Kalakshetra Foundation, Chennai, 2009.
- DANCES OF INDIA, Exhibition of dancing art, Embassy of India, Moscow Russia 2012.
- DIVINE CONTOUR, An exhibition on Ganesha & Dances of India, at ICCR Art Gallery, Kala Bhavan, Hyd -2014.
- INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY "YOGA CHAKRA" Solo exhibition and Group Exhibition Organized by Sangeet Natak Academy, New Delhi, 2015
- Sketches of the movements of Kathak dance in notation from in the book Ang-Kavya, the first of its own kind authored by Padmavibhushan Pt. Birju Maharaj and released by Sitar Maestro Pt. Ravi Shankar Ji and former Prime Minister of India, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao.
- Dance sketches in The book "Dances of India" edited by Smt. Shanta Sarvajeet Singh, Art Writer.
- Sketches on Indian Performing Arts a Mosaic by Utpal Benerjee.
- Sketches on Dance Maestro Uday Shankar at Uday Shankar Shatabdi Samaroh, organized by Sangeet Natak Academy, New Delhi, 2001.
- Instant sketches on the various dance forms and costumes during the Festival of Traditional and Performing Arts of Manipur, Imphal 2003 on invitation from the Sangeet Natak Academy, New Delhi to exhibit his talent in the special art of spontaneous sketching of dance & theatre forms.
- Instant sketches in Festival Octave 2004, a festival of traditional, folk and classical forms of north east states organized by Sangeet Natak Academy, New Delhi at Shilparamam, Hyderabad, 2004.
- Sketches on Dances of India, Jawaharlal Nehru Cultural Centre, Port Huron Museum, USA.
- Sketches on Modern Dancer Maestro Uday Shankar at Archives Museum, Sangeet Natak Academy, Ravindra Bhavan, New Delhi
- Sketches on Dances of India, Singapore Indian Fine Arts society, Singapore
- Sketches on Dances of India, Jawaharlal Nehru Cultural Centre, Embassy of India, Moscow, Russia



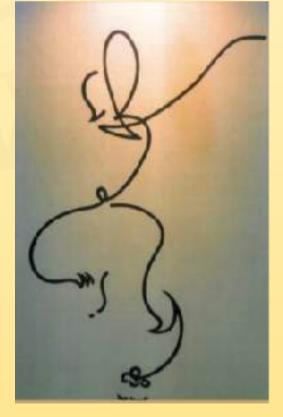
Shri KV Ramanachary, IAS (Retd) and Shri G Kishan Rao, IAS (Retd) at Om Shri Ganesha



Lord Ganesha in the form of a Kathakali dancer



Pt Birju Maharaj Ji and Shri Keshav Kothari, Secretary, Sangeet Natak Academi, New Delhi at Katha Rekha Exhibition



Line sketches depicting noted modern dancer Uday Shankar Ji





Dr Bhupen Hazarika at Uday Shankar Shatabdi Samaroh, New Delhi

At Festival of India celebrations, Port Huron, Michigan, USA

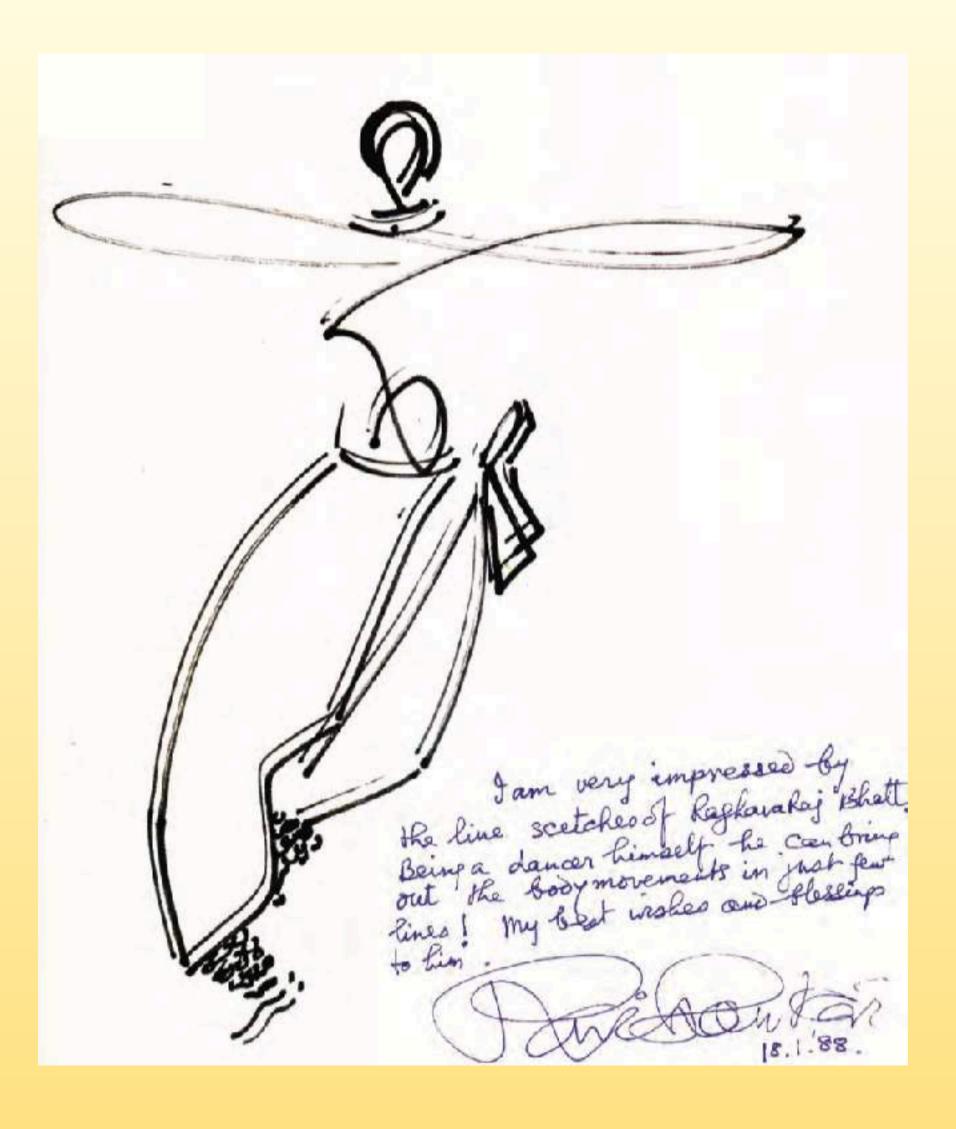


Scientist Shri P M Bhargava at Om Shri Ganesha, Hyderabad



Renowned theatre personality Shri Ratan Thyam and Shri Sarojini Devi, Director, Manipur Art Academy at Dancing Lines

Sitar Maestro Bharat Ratna Shri Ravi Shankar Ji's comments on Raghav's art work



Comments by Notable People

"I am very impressed by the line sketches of Raghav Raj Bhatt. Being a dancer himself he can bring out the body movements in just a few lines! My best wishes and blessings to him."

- Pt Ravi Shankar

"Vicharo mein gehraee hei, lagta hai mano rekhayein nritya kar rahi hai. Iss Tara ka avishkaar peil baar dekha. Adbhut! Meri shubh kaamnayein aur aashirwaad."

- Pt Birju Maharaj

"The demand fo the capacity to suggest and evoke becomes challenging when seizure of dance in drawing is attempeted. Hebbar and late Shaivax Chavda are among our greatest artists in this field. And now we have Raghav Raj Bhatt, himself a dancer who studied under Birju Maharaj, who can draw exceedingly well too. Using either pen and ink or brush and water colour, he has depicted the various movements of Kathak in lines of maximum economy and the greatest effectiveness."

- Shri Krishna Chaitanya

"After Eilean Pearcey and late Shaivax Chavda, I am seeing for the first time the vibrancy of Indian dance living and pulsating through line - in fact, economy of line. A glorious future fir sure awaits Raghav Raj Bhatt."

- Shri Mohan Khokar

"To say so much in few lines establish the sensitivity of an artist. Raghav ki rekhao main chitrakala hi nahi, nritya kala aur kavya kala ki triveni behti hai."

- Smt Manjari Sinha

"Once again I am convinced that lines can dance beautifully on a sheet of paper."

- Dr Jeevan Pani

"Exhibiting lyrical lines."

- Dr Sonal Mansingh

An absolutely amazing exhibition of line drawings and sketches, which leave a lasting impression for the grace and love and devotion with which they have been made. My warmest congratulations to Raghav Raj Bhatt on this most impressive presentation of his love for dance and art!

- Shri Ajai Malhotra

Recent Performances and Programs

Series of lecture demonstration at CCRT, Hyderabad - Folk and tribal arts Kathak workshop 2017 - Bangalore Yakshagana Festival 2018 - Chindu Bhagwatam, Folk and Tribal arts museum, Bhopal World Telugu Conference 2017 - folk and tribal arts direction and choreography Kathak Kendra and Pracheen Kala Kendra Festival 2018, Chandigarh Naad Festival 2018 - Dances of India - confluence of classical and folk dances, Surrey, Canada Antarang Festival 2018 - organised a 3 day festival of Kathak from all over India, Hyderabad Antarang Festival 2018 - presented and a unique Kathak duet at Ravindra Bharati, Hyderabad Kalashram Vasant Utsav 2019 - a duet presentation at Kamani Auditorium, Hyderabad



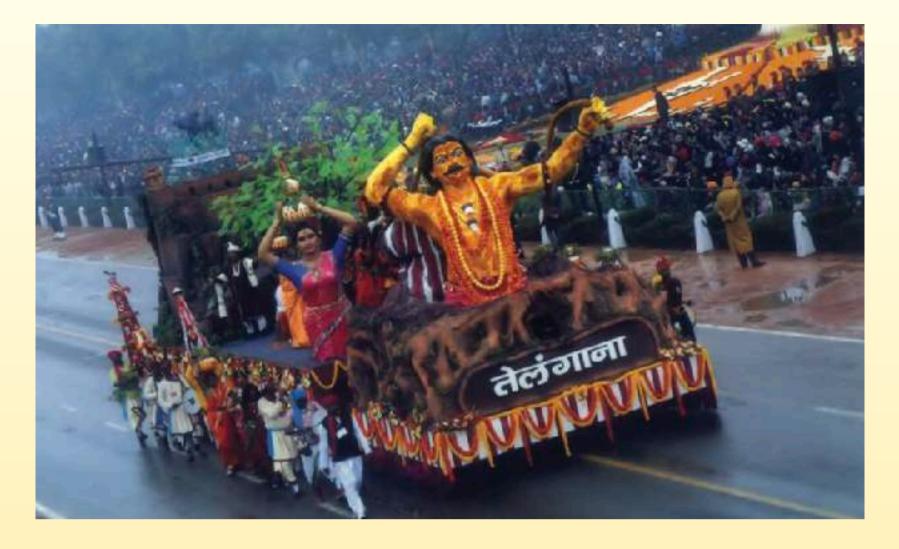
Recent Performances and Programs

Kathak Kendra and Pracheen Kala Kendra Festival 2018, Chandigarh Shivaji University - Kathak Workshop and Performance, Kolhapur Hyderabad Literary Festival - Kathak with Hyderabadi poetry, Hyderabad Kalashram Vasant Utsav 2019 - a duet presentation at Kamani Auditorium, Hyderabad Khajuraho Festival - Kathak with Odissi, Khajuraho Bhavanjali Dance Festival - a solo presentation, Hyderabad SPICMACAY Series - a series of lecture demonstrations ICCR Foundation Day Celebrations - Group presentation along with students, Hyderabad Tarang - a presentation by the students of Aakruti Kathak Kendra, Hyderabad Ikebana Club of Hyderabad - introductory Kathak, Hyderabad Kathak workshop - introductory Kathak, Hyderabad Guru Shishya Festival - Solo Kathak presentation, Khandwa University of Hyderabad - Lecture demonstration on the history of Kathak, Hyderabad Antarang Festival 2018 - organised a 3 day festival of Kathak from all over India, Hyderabad Antarang Festival 2018 - presented and a unique Kathak duet at Ravindra Bharati, Hyderabad Kalashram Vasant Utsav 2019 - a duet presentation at Kamani Auditorium, Hyderabad Gopal Raj Bhatt Tribal Arts Festival 2018 - organised a 3 day folk and tribal arts festival, Ravindra Bharati, Hyderabad

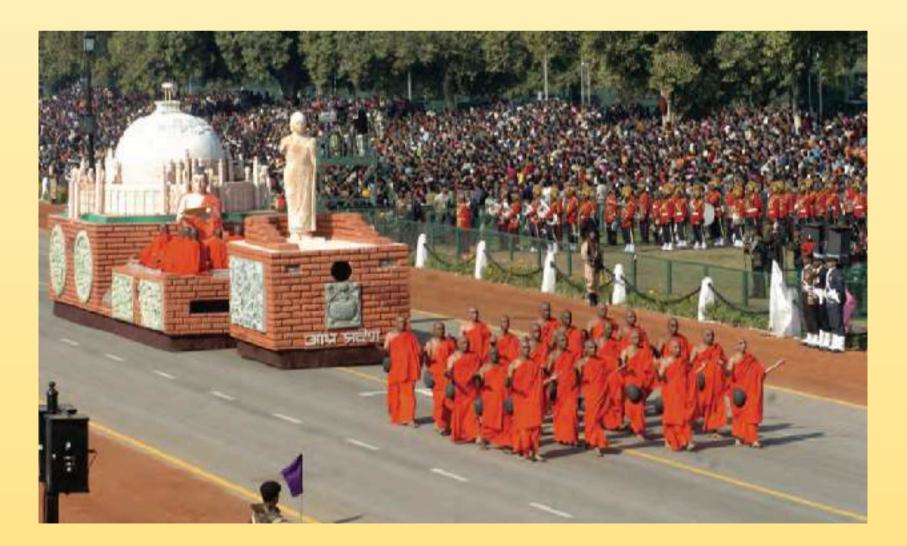




Receiving the State Award for contribution in the field of classical dance from Chief Minister Shri K Chandrashekar Rao



"Telangana State Tableau" highlighting the Golden State's festival - Bonalu, choreographed and directed by Raghav Raj Bhatt for Republic Day celebrations, New Delhi



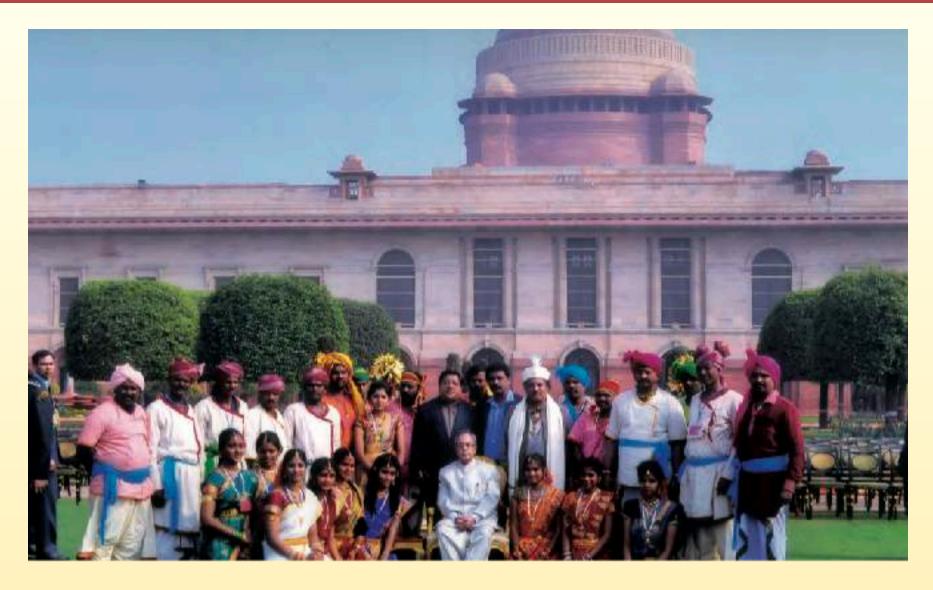
"Andhra Pradesh State Tableau" highlighting the State's Buddhist culture choreographed and directed by Raghav Raj Bhatt for Republic Day celebrations, New Delhi



Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji with Raghav Raj Bhatt and troupe at Republic Day celebrations, New Delhi



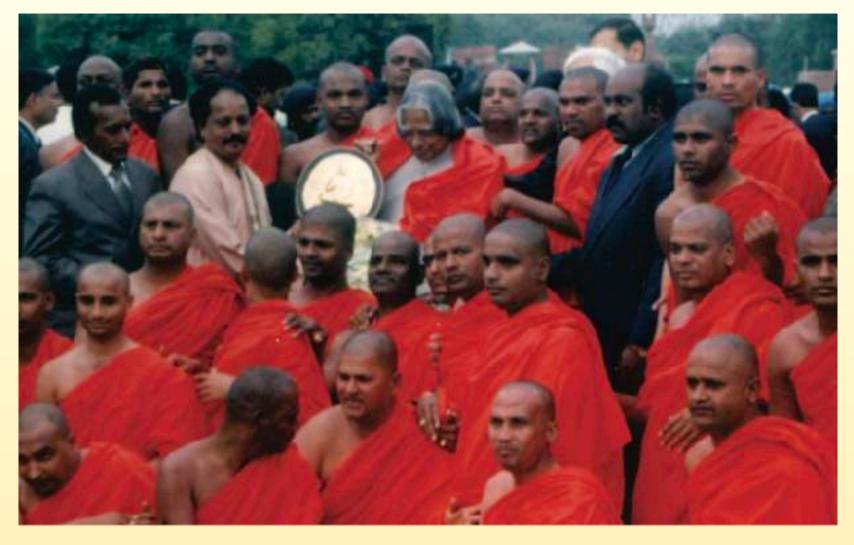
Former Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Manmohan Singh Ji with Raghav Raj Bhatt and troupe at Republic Day celebrations, New Delhi



Former Hon'ble President Shri Pranab Mukherjee Ji with Raghav Raj Bhatt and troupe at Republic Day celebrations, New Delhi



Former Hon'ble President Shri Hamid Ansari Ji with Raghav Raj Bhatt and troupe at Republic Day celebrations, New Delhi



Former Hon'ble President Shri A P J Abdul Kalam Ji with Raghav Raj Bhatt and troupe at Republic Day celebrations, New Delhi



Former Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi Ji with Dr Gopal Raj Bhatt, Raghav Raj Bhatt and troupe at Apna Utsav, New Delhi



Glimpses of productions, choreographies and presentations lead by Raghav Raj Bhatt, Bharat Folk Arts Academy for National and International events



Felicitation by former Chief Minister Shri N T Rama Rao

With former Union Minister Shri Sunil Dutt Ji at Dandi march celebrations in Gujarat



Felicitation by former Union Minister Shri Sunil Dutt and Shri Jaipal Reddy at the National Youth Festival, Hyderabad



Receiving the State Award for contribution in the field of classical dance from former Chief Minister Shri Y S Rajasekhar Reddy

Media Articles and Features







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Formidable Kesarbai Music Fiesta

Sumshiree Kesarbut Kerkar Sangeet Sammelan is never complete without the performances of a galaxy of artistes known for their mastery in reciting the ragas (classical compositions). At the recent "Sammelan", held at the Kala Academy, the connoisseurs of classical "smaller", held at the soulint heights of the Himalayan Valleys by masic were taken to the soulint heights of the Himalayan Valleys by masic base, there was a dazzling display of Kathak by Mangah Bhas, sides these, there was a dazzling display of Kathak by Mangah Bhas, sides these, there was a dazzling display of Kathak by Mangah Bhas, sides these, there was a dazzling display of Kathak by Mangah Bhas, sides these, there was a dazzling display of Kathak by Mangah Bhas, sides these, there was a dazzling display of Kathak by Mangah Bhas, sides these, there was a dazzling display of Kathak by Mangah Bhas, sides these of the tate Pandit Durga Lul, Bhat performs along with the She gave a solo performance with finesse. Veterzn PL lagdrish Prasad, She gave a solo performance with finesse. Veterzn PL lagdrish Prasad, She gave a solo performance with finesse. Veterzn PL lagdrish Prasad, She gave a solo performance with finesse. Veterzn PL lagdrish Prasad, She gave a solo performance with finesse. Veterzn PL lagdrish Prasad, She gave a solo performance with finesse. Veterzn PL lagdrish Prasad, She gave a solo performance with finesse. Veterzn PL lagdrish Prasad, She gave a solo performance with finesse. Veterzn PL lagdrish Prasad, She gave a solo performance with finesse. Veterzn PL lagdrish Prasad, She gave a solo performance with finesse. Veterzn PL lagdrish Prasad, She gave a solo performance with finesse. Veterzn PL lagdrish Prasad, She gave descent performances during the feetival.

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केम वर्ष केरकर

ासमराह



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sected with universe of Gogal Raj Bisati, who was an aethorizy on folk area, i had the opportunity of participating in compnet of the action of the sector was once known. The teleprets, tameez, the adult and karado observed during the melofile then is a Hydernbadi specialicy which cannot be found anywhere else in the world. This i say after having performed in almest all the major cities in the world. The culture of Hydernbad is in a class of hydernbad is in a class of

Hyderahad is in a class of its own. Mommeans like Gokernda, Falakonna. Chowmahalla Palace give plinapses of our next colume. Hyderabad is a control of people, it can also be called the Rock City. The formation of reacks in and around the city make it aesi obtains up for articles and formately, there are parter of both the Hostmatian and Camatic styles here.

(Roghov Rej Bhast is a Kathak exponent, painter and munician) HUSEL VEDALE

IVDERABAD-PRIDAY, PEBRUARY 15, 2013 Standing FOOT

TROPLUS

CHATLINE Kathak exponents Mangala and Baghav Rajeev Bhatt tell visunopeiva mannagan that dance is ever evolving.

western symphony plays on the plano. He slender ingers gracefully switch from on moden to the next, her face from one ab hinsya to another. He brings vitality on t the stage, as he glides across it with complet creative control. In more ways than one, Mangal and Eaghay Rajeev Bhatt are made for each other Raghav Raj Bhati hails from a family of dancer and has grown up watching and breathing art an dance. His father, Gopalraj Bhatt, was one of th first dancers from the city, and as a child Ragha performed in many of his creative ballets. H decided to pursue Kathak, worked towards wir ning the mational scholarship and was selected b the Kathak Kendra in the capital. Baghav got chance to work with Birju Mahami. "I learnt an worked under him for 15 years and collaborat with him even today," he says. Raghav new fives Moscow, where he reaches Kathak, Marga learnt Kathak at the Kathak Kendrai needless say, the too was a scholarship holder. 'I dor come from a family of dencers and even the dec

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सलयत घरही

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जालंघर कलत E TRANSMER (1007 कत्थक उत्सव : कलाकारों को किया सम्मानित

असंघर, 4 विसम्बर (ज्योति): स्थानीय ए.पी.जे. फालेब जॉक प्रदान आहेस में चल रहे कल्बक उत्सव का आज समापन हो गया। बबले को बाप पर उंगलियों और तवारी को पान पहें में की प्रेयराजों को पीछी अनकान ने उपस्थिति को मंत्रमुख कर दिया। अनक के प्रोधाम में मुख्यातिथि

के तीर पर डा. स्वर्ण सिंह (सेक्रेटरी का केन्द्र रहीं। संगीत कटक रामां। (ठाकुर)

अकादमी व जन्म प्रतिचित पुराकारों से सल्मानित उमा जीवास्तन ने विशेष प्रस्तुति दी। इनके अलावा जवपुर घराने को मंगला भट्ट ने उपस्थिति को अलम विभोर किया। वजीने गाविना सुरेज कीर को कलित पर नूत्व भी देश फिया। इसके अलावा मानसी सक्सेना में 'हे पटबर पंदरवाल...' पर प्रस्तुति दी । मुख्यातिथि द्वारा कल्डकारों को सव्यापित

अपरियात हुए। अग्रम के नजपैकम में उम्म कोव्यस्तम मुख्य आकर्षण वा. स्वर्थ सिंह, वा. राजयात सिंह कीए प्रि. गुवरिक भी फिया गया। इस अवसर पर प्रि. सुर्थारता

रामां, फिरण घटनागर, गुरचरण मिह चली, हा. राजपाल सिंह आदि उपरिषद थे।

उल्लेखनीय है कि इस कल्यक उत्सव का आयोजन कल्पक केन्द्र नई दिल्ली तथा गंजाय आईस कार्तनालिग चंडांगड् के सहयोग से स्थानीय ए.पी.चे. कालेज आफ फडन आदेस में करवाया गया था।



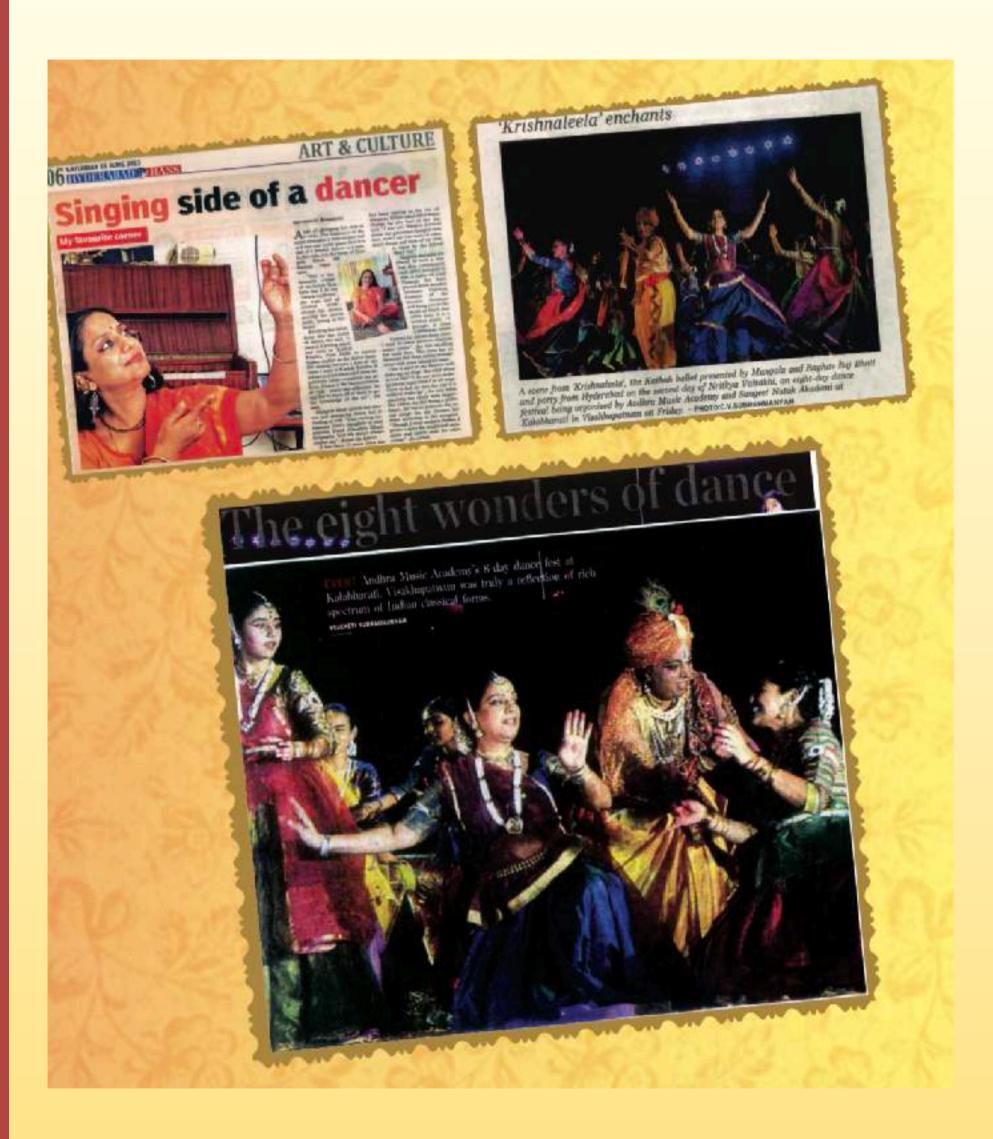
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पहित दुवर्तलाल

Talent to the

fore Senior and Junior students of Aakruti Kathak Kencha strike a pose at Tarang Dataser star



emotions, words and thoughts, based on Chhand and not Sahitya, which is not set to any raag being its distinct faatare.

Aakruti Kathak Kendra organises programmes of students at its annual event Tarang. All those students, who have just started learning Kathak, took part in Ganesh vandana, Guru Vandana, Saraswati Vandana and Vishnu Vandana. The last, which is a prayer to Lotd Vishnu had pure dance characteristics. The youngsters must observe the senior students closely, to learn to perform as there is lot to take home from them. Also, one felt the

Impressive RHYTHMIC MOVEMENTS

Aakruti Kathak Kendra's annual day Tarang brought forth the talented disciples of the institute

LAKSHMI RAMAKRISHNA

Ari giri nandini, Nand hitha medhini, Viswa rinodhini nandanathe the Mahishasura Mardim Stotram or Durga Stud, by the senice students of Mangala Bhatt and Raghav Raj Bhatt in their annual programme Tarang at Apollo Foundation Theatre, on Saturday last, was a fully energised performance that left the andience asking for more.

The senior students performed three Taranas - Tarana Kalavati and Bhupali in Teen Teal whereas Tarana Bhairawi was set to Ada Chautaal. Tarana is a type of composition in Hindustani classical music in which certain words and syllables like 'nom', 'tom', 'derend' are usuallyset to a medium or a fast pace. One must agree that 'Tarana, when combined with Kathatk, produces a two-dimensional effect and the audible also becomes visible at the melodic dimension. It highlights the besortiful interplay between the bols of the tarana and the sparkling footwork of Kathak. Kudos to the dancers, who brilliantly displayed chakkars and rhythmic movements highlighting thack, uthan, annual, parmelo, paran, thode, takke and tillais, set to a No-beat taal An all-male team of Vaibhay, Debojit and Abhljit brought the house down, when they performed Sundar Gopal, describing Lord Krishna and appreciating his teachings and influence. The three looked like the Trinity - Brahma, Vishnu and Mabesh. One of them with flowing locks looked every inch Mabeshwara and brought out the emotions stunningly, while the other two lent undoubtedly good support. Another group of senior stu-

dents displayed Kavitta, a unique interpretation of poetry through dance, expressing students must lip-sync the bol better for an error-free performance.

All presentations for the evening were conceptualised, curated and choreographed by Mangala Bhatt. The live orchestra support consisted of Urja on the vocals, with a very clear voice throughout, Dattu on the flute, swaying the filting music of Krishna, Irfan on the sitar, adding melody to the vocals and Uday on the tabla, giving the beats for precision footwork and Mangala, the guru on the cymbals for the perfect rhythm.

Mangala & Raghav Raj Bhatt

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