



# DRS. RAJA AND RADHA REDDY

The husband and wife duo - Drs. Raja and Radha Reddy are legendary Kuchipudi dancers, gurus and choreographers. Their names are synonymous with Kuchipudi dance, and they are regarded as solely responsible for bringing it onto the cultural map of the world. They were among the first to pave the way, opening prestigious avenues for Indian classical dance in the late 60s and early 70s. They have travelled to more than 105 countries and showcased our rich culture and their talent to numerous kings, queens, princesses, presidents, and other dignitaries all across the world.

The unique art of these maestros found befitting official recognition through the award of Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan, creating history in the records of Indian awards when a husband and wife were awarded for the first time, individually and simultaneously, for the same cause, i.e., propagation of Kuchipudi dance. Decorated with the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award, a doctorate from Hyderabad University, and the Sahitya Kala Parishad by the Krishna Gana Sabha of Chennai, they have bagged numerous lifetime achievement awards during their career span.

Following Dr Raja Reddy's performance at the Lincoln Centre in New York in 1973, the Juilliard School offered him a position teaching Kuchipudi dance at the school. However prestigious the offer, he refused in order to continue his extensive travel, promoting and popularising Kuchipudi dance around the world while staying in India only. In 1982, Raja Radha Reddy's Kuchipudi performance, along with five other dance styles, was presented at the Non-Aligned Meet in Delhi for one hundred and ten heads of state from across the world. Raja and Radha Reddy were then selected from these six styles by Cuban former President Fidel Castro to perform in Cuba. They danced three days back to back in Cuba, after which Fidel Castro wrote in a letter to the Prime Minister of India, "I have seen complete India in Raja Radha Reddy's performance".

If Kuchipudi ranks today as a major Indian dance form, the credit goes in no small measure to this husband and wife team for their single-minded pioneering effort. The team of Kuchipudi performers has now become the "only Kuchipudi family," with their two daughters, Yamini Reddy and Bhavana Reddy, in the dance world.



# NISHAGANDHI DANCE FESTIVAL 2023 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

DATE	TIME	ARTIST/TROUPE	DANCE FORM
45/00/00	6.00 PM	Inaugural Ceremony and Nishagandhi Dance "Puraskaram" for RajaRadha Reddy, Fusion Dance of Regatta Natya Sangeetha Kendra	
15/02/23 <b>Wednesday</b>	7.00 PM	Rama Vaidyanathan and Group	Bharatanatyam
	8.00 PM	Archana Raja	Kuchipudi
16/02/23 <b>Thursday</b>	6.00 PM	Janet James	Bharatanatyam
	• 6.45 PM	Krishnakshi Kashyap	Sattriya
17/02/23 <b>Friday</b>	6.00 PM	Aswathy Krishna	Mohiniyattam
	6.45 PM	Pavitra Bhatt	Bharatanatyam .
	8.00 PM	Prof. Dr. Sruti Bandopadhay and Group	Manipuri
18/02/23 <b>Saturday</b>	6.00 PM	• Ramdas	Bharatanatyam
	6.45 PM	Dr. Deepti Omchery Bhalla	Mohiniyattam
	8.00 PM	Sayanee Chavda	Kathak
19/02/23 <b>Sunday</b>	6.00 PM	Ananthapuri Sisters	Bharatanatyam
	6.45 PM	Hari and Chethana	• Kathak
	8.00 PM	Padma Shri Padmaja Reddy and Sanvi Group	Kuchipudi
20/02/23 <b>Monday</b>	6.00 PM	Dr. Padmini Krishnan	Kuchipudi
	6.45 PM	Malavika Menon	Mohiniyattam
	8.00 PM	Rahul Acharya	Odissi
21/02/23 <b>Tuesday</b>	6.00 PM	Ayana Mukherjee	Kuchipudi
	6.45 PM	Pallavi Krishnan and Group	Mohiniyattam
	8.00 PM	Radhe Jaggi	Bharatanatyam



#### RAMA VAIDYANATHAN

## Bharatanatyam

Rama Vaidyanathan is undoubtedly one of the most sought-after artists of her generation, having carved a name for herself in the Bharatanatyam world. She has trained intensively under the legendary dancer Yamini Krishnamurthy and the renowned Guru Saroja Vaidyanathan. While deeply rooted in tradition, she has evolved her own individual style without forsaking the core principles of Bharatanatyam. Her technique is grounded, yet there is a fresh approach to the innumerable dance compositions that she has added to the Bharatanatyam repertoire.

Rama has had the distinction of having performed before three former Presidents of India at the Rashtrapati Bhavan. Having performed at every major dance venue in the world, she has been awarded many awards and titles, including the Central Sangeet Natak Akademi Puraskar. She has received the "Kalaimamani" from the Government of Tamil Nadu, the "Kalashree" from the Government of Kerala, and the Kumar Gandharva Puraskar from the Government of Madhya Pradesh. She was also titled "Jewel of India" by the Government of Sri Lanka.

15/02/23, Wednesday, 7 PM



## **ARCHANA RAJA**

## Kuchipudi

Archana Raja is a Bharatanatyam & Kuchipudi practitioner, teacher & choreographer. She has undergone rigorous training since age 5 in the heart of Indian classical dance and music - Chennai (India) from world-renowned teachers. She has travelled extensively to perform in major dance festivals in Dubai, Ireland, California, Oman & New York. She comes from decades of experience as a soloist and her prowess in technique and presentation has given her the opportunity to work with eminent choreographers throughout the globe. Currently, she extensively trains in Kuchipudi under Kasi Aysola in the Vempati Bani.

15/02/23, Wednesday, 8 PM



#### **JANET JAMES**

#### Bharatanatyam

Janet James is a young aspiring dancer and actress. Janet's name will be very familiar to those who have closely followed the Youth Festival news over the years. Janet bagged the Kalathilakam Award for the School Arts Festival of Kerala in the years 2008, 2009 and 2010. She started learning Bharatanatyam at a young age from her mother, Jaseentha James and continued her training under veteran teachers in Bharatanatyam Padma Bhushan Shri. V.P. Dhananjayan and Santha Dhananjayan.

She is also the recipient of the CCRT Junior Scholarship Award at the age of 10. She was also the winner of the Natyamayuri Award, conducted by the Nataraja All India Dance Festival.

Janet completed her Diploma and Post Diploma in Bharatanatyam from Kalakshetra Chennai. She has also completed her MA in Bharatanatyam from Madras University. She was recognised by Doordarshan in 2019 as a B-grade artist.

Janet has performed as a soloist at a number of prestigious events, including Kalakshetra Yuva Nrithya Utsav 2021, Narada Gana Sabha in 2018-19, Surya Festival 2019, and other Kerala tourism programs.

16/02/23, Thursday, 6 PM



#### KRISHNAKSHI KASHYAP

## Sattriya

Krishnakshi Kashyap, a performing artiste of Sattriya, is a disciple of Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellow and Padma Shri Awardee Nrityacharya Shri Jatin Goswami. She is also trained under Sangeet Natak Akademi Awardee Shri Ramkrishna Talukdar in Sattriya and Sangeet Natak Akademi Awardee and Padma Shri Awardee Smt Indira P. P. Bora in Bharatanatyam.

A recipient of Young Talent Artiste Award 2017-18 by North East Zone Cultural Centre, Ministry of Culture, Govt Of India, she is a graded artiste of Sattriya Dance of Prasar Bharati, Doordarshan Kendra, Guwahati. Passionately engaged in presentation, promotion and training of Sattriya dance, Krishnakshi is also conferred with the Dalmia Cement Young Achievers' Award 2020 for her achievements in the field of Art and Culture.

She has extensively performed in various platforms across the nation. Some of her distinguished performances are in: Ganga Mahotsav (Varanasi), Nishagandhi Festival (Kerala), IIC Monsoon Festival of Dance (IIC;New Delhi), Eeshanya (IGNCA, Bengaluru), Nalanda Festival (Mumbai), Nrithyathi (New Delhi), Uday Shankar Dance Festival (Kolkata), Bharatheeyam Festival (Kochi), Sparsh Purbottar (SNA, New Delhi), Malwa Festival (Indore), International Performing Arts Festival (Lucknow), Vedvyas Sangeet Nrityotsav (Rourkela), Nritya Parva (Sattriya Kendra, Guwahati), Indradhanush Dilli (New Delhi), IPAF (Kolkata), Nritya Milan(New Delhi), South Asian Youth Conference (Bangaluru), Erasing Borders Dance Festival (Indo American Arts Council, New York- Virtual), Taj Mahotsav (Agra) to name a few. Under her initiative 'Empowerment through Arts', she has used the power of this dance form as a medium of empowerment for promising underprivileged young girls of different places with training programmes and performances.

Her most recent work is 'Prokriti'- A Saga of Mother Earth, a dance-drama in Sattriya style, conceptualised and choreographed by her. The idea of the dance drama revolves around the burning issues of environmental degradation and exploitation of nature. The purpose of the work is to use traditional arts as a tool to spread awareness about contemporary social issues. Premiered in Guwahati in July 2022, this dance production has been invited to be showcased in various platforms across the nation.



#### **ASWATHY KRISHNA**

## Mohiniyattam

Aswathy is one of the most promising Mohiniyattam dancers in the State. She was trained and groomed under gurus Dr Neena Prasad for Mohiniyattam and Bharatanatyam, Kalamanadalam Sathyabhama and Jai Kishore Mosalikanti for Kuchipudi. Her dance career got off to a successful start in 2006–07 when she competed in the 47th Kerala School Kalotsavam and acquired an A for Mohiniyattam. In collaboration with her guru Dr. Neena Prasad, she has travelled widely and given numerous performances at numerous dance festivals both domestically (Music Academy Dance & Music Festival, Konark Festival, Ananya Festival, etc.) and internationally.

She's the recipient of the Senior Scholarship for Mohiniyattam for the year 2013 from the Ministry of Culture, Government of India. She's also the recipient of the Diamond Jubilee Fellowship in the year 2018 given by the Department of Culture, Government of Kerala. At present, she is working as a faculty member in Mohiniyattam at Guru Gopinath Nadanagramam, Department of Culture, Government of Kerala, and is also a dance instructor at the Sougandhika Centre for Mohiniyattam.

17/02/23, Friday, 6 PM



#### **PAVITRA BHATT**

#### Bharatanatyam

Born in Puttur, Karnataka, Bharatanatyam dancer Pavitra Bhatt was brought up in Mumbai. He is a very vivacious and elegant performer and one of the most sparkling gems amongst the younger generation of dancers. He received his initial training from Kalanjali under Kumari Vasantha and is one of the most illustrious students of the renowned Bharatanatyam exponent Guru Shri Deepak Mazumdar.

He has conducted Bharatanatyam workshops in NCPA, Surat, Mumbai, Guwahati, Aliraajpur (MP), Pittsburgh, and Indonesia. Pavitra is also trained in the art of conducting Nattuvangam and has had the fortune of conducting Nattuvangam for his Guru, Shri Deepak Mazumdar. Pavitra Krishna Bhatt founded the P.A.V.I. (Pavitra Art Visual Institute), a Bharatanatyam institute, in a Mumbai suburb. At present, it has the strength of 300 students pursuing this art form. He has won numerous awards, including the Sangeet Natak Akademi's Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar for 2021 and Mumbai University's A.T. Govindarajan Pillai Award for Best Bharatanatyam Dancer.

17/02/23, Friday, 6.45 PM



#### PROF. DR. SRUTI BANDOPADHAY

# Manipuri

Prof. Dr. Sruti Bandopadhay is a rare combination of dancer-scholar who was awarded the Akademi Puraskar by Sangeet Natak Akademi in 2020. She was awarded the 'Top' Grade in Manipuri Dance by Doordarshan in 2002. Being a recognised artist of Sangeet Natak Academy, ICCR and other organisations, she is at present a Professor in Manipuri Dance in Visva Bharati, Santiniketan. She received the prestigious Visiting Lecturer Fulbright Fellowship in 2007 for teaching and performing in the University of California, Los Angeles (USA). She has also been the recipient of the Academic Staff Commonwealth Fellowship in 2012 with which she taught at the University of Surrey (UK. She is the first Manipuri dance artist to have been awarded the prestigious Akademi Puraskar as well as an academic DLitt in Manipuri Dance, which she received in the year of 2010 from Visva Bharati. She regularly performs, lectures and writes. She has six books and many articles on dance to her credit and over 15 students have been awarded PhD under her supervision.

17/02/23, Friday, 8 PM



## **RAMDAS**

#### Bharatanatyam

Ramdas is one of the most endearing Bharatanatyam artists of his generation. He is a disciple of Guru G. Sanilkumar and Kalakshetra Jisha Raghav of Sree Nataraj Dance Academy, Trivandrum. The young, talented Bharatanatyam devotee has performed Bharatanatyam on some of the major stages in and around Kerala.

Ramdas is also trained in Mridangam from Kerala Kalamandalam where he did his Mridangam Arangetram. He is also trained in Kathakali under Guru Sri. Kalamandalam Krishnaprasad. He also got his Kuchipudi lessons under Guru Smt. Sathyapriya Ramana. He was the top scorer and recipient of the Kalaprathibha title at the M.G. University Youth Festival in the year 2020.

18/02/23, Saturday, 6 PM



#### DR. DEEPTI OMCHERY BHALLA

#### Mohiniyattam

Dr Deepti Omchery Bhalla is a unique combination of singer and dancer, well-accomplished and talented in Mohiniyattam and Carnatic music vocals. She is currently working as a Senior Professor of Carnatic Music at the University of Delhi. Having studied Kathakali for 12 years under veteran gurus like the late Punnathur Madhava Panikkar, Guru Gopinath, Sadanam Nanda Kumar, Nelliyodu Vasudevan Nampoothiri, and Sadanam Balakrishnan, Deepti went on to learn Mohiniyattam from the legendary late Kalamandalam Kalyanikutty Amma.

Dr Deepti has also had the honour of performing at some of India's most prestigious dance festivals, including the Khajuraho Festival in Madhya Pradesh, the Awad Sandhya Festival in Uttar Pradesh, the Apna Utsav in Delhi, the Mamallapuram Festival in Chennai, the Patangotsav in Mysore, and the Lucknow Mahotsav in Uttar Pradesh, among others. Her phenomenal contribution to the realm of music and dance has won her several awards and distinctions. Her casket of honours and credentials include the Abhivyakti Kala Sangam Award (Dance), the Nana Miniscreen Award (Music), the Delhi Academy of Arts Scholarship and Fellowships for research from the University Grants Commission as well as Ministry of Culture, India.

18/02/23, Saturday, 6.45 PM



## **SAYANEE CHAVDA**

#### Kathak

Sayanee Chavda began learning and practising dance at the age of two and a half. She has given her entire life to serving this beautiful Indian dance form Kathak. She started her training under Pt. Vijai Shankarji and today has emerged as an excellent dancer in Kathak. The artist dances gracefully, and her expressions add more grace to her performances.

She has performed in numerous places, won many prestigious awards, and has conducted many workshops. She has also imparted her deep knowledge of dance to her many students, who are also performing successfully in different places. Her talent and abilities were recognised by all, and she was awarded the Sangeet Kalaratna Award.

18/02/23, Saturday, 8 PM



#### **ANANTHAPURI SISTERS**

#### Bharatanatyam

Malavika and Parvathy both hail from the holy city of Sri Padmanabha, Thiruvananthapuram. Their passion and dedication towards dance led them to join the Kalakshetra Foundation and the Rukmini Devi College of Fine Arts in Chennai to gain expertise in the nuances of Bharatanatyam Afterwards, they voluntarily and successfully undertook the task of demonstrating the spiritual power of Bharatanatyam through their expositions on various stages in India and abroad. The sister duo delivered magical performances at the Soorya festival, the Mudra International Dance Festival, the Nishagandhi Festival, and so on. They represented India in many cultural events abroad conducted by the Government of India.

The Ananthapuri sisters, multifaceted artists with exceptional choreographic skills and musical sense, synchronise various classical dance forms of India under one roof by teaching Bharatanatyam, Mohiniyattam, Kuchipudi, and other dance forms, as well as conducting shows abroad, merging all dance forms together with an emphasis on Indian tradition and culture. They have dedicated their soul and life to dance, and with that dedication, they have been successful in passing on knowledge and talent to those who have carved a niche for themselves in the field of art, with the Ananthapuri sisters continuing their journey to this day with over 500 students.

19/02/23, Sunday, 6 PM



#### **HARI & CHETHANA**

#### Kathak

Hari and Chethana were initiated into Kathak by Guru Geethanjali Lal, grounded by Bharathi Vittal and Vaibhavi Joshipura, and finally sculpted by Smt. Kumudini Lakhia. Hari is a graduate of the Natya Institute of Kathak and Choreography, where he studied under the able guidance of Guru, Smt. Maya Rao. Hari and Chethana have distinguished themselves as inspiring dancers and have given performances all over India, the United States of America, Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany, Indonesia, France, Switzerland, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, and the Middle East, and have won critical acclaim around the globe.

Their quest to pass on their fine blend of classical rigour and technical virtuosity led them to establish 'The Noopur Performing Arts Centre'. Hari and Chethana have trained more than 500 children to put on dance productions such as Yatra: The Journey of Dance, Ramayan, and Bali Yatra in the years 2003, 2005 and 2007, respectively.

They have had the honour to perform in the presence of The King of Ipoh – Malaysia. They also performed for her Royal Highness Princess of Kuwait, the Princess of Jordan, and His Royal Highness of Dubai, at Burj Al-Arab. In fact, they are officially the first Kathak dance couple with the credit of performing in Saudi Arabia.

For their valuable contribution to the art form, they have been awarded the "Natyalakshana Akademi" Award by the Former Foreign Secretary, A.P. Venkateswaran. They also received the Best Dance Couple Award from Bangalore Club for Kathakali and Arts, the Rasa Ranjini Award, the Shiva Foundation Award, the Nritya Kowmudhi Award from Andhra Pradesh and many more.



#### **PADMA SHRI PADMAJA REDDY**

#### Kuchipudi

Padmaja Reddy is an Indian Kuchipudi performer and a music teacher who specialises in ballets based on mythological themes and contemporary social issues. Reddy received Kuchipudi lessons from Shobha Naidu. Reddy choreographed Kakatiyam, a Kuchipudi visual dance form. It is a two-part Kuchipudi classical visual dance form based on the history and themes of Ramappa Temple, as well as on sculpture and dance forms during the period of the Kakatiya dynasty. She also developed and performed several Kuchipudi dance forms that build awareness of contemporary social issues, some of which include the ballets Bruna Hatyalu, Jagruthi, Vajra Bharati, Namaste India, and Season of Flowers. Bruna Hatyalu condemns female foeticides—selective abortions of female babies, Jagruthi explores issues surrounding HIV/AIDS and Vajra Bharati tries to ignite the ethos of national integrity among people.

Reddy received several honours and awards for her raw talent and contributions to art. Prominent ones include a doctorate degree from Sri Krishnadevaraya University in 2005 and an honorary doctorate from Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam in 2022. In 2006, she was awarded the Kala Ratna by the united Andhra Pradesh Government. She was awarded the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award, the highest award for arts in India, for her contributions to Kuchipudi in 2015 and became the first dancer from Telangana to receive the award. Later in 2022, the Government of India conferred her with the Padma Shri, the country's fourth highest civilian award in the field of arts.

19/02/23, Sunday, 8.00 PM



#### DR. PADMINI KRISHNAN

## Kuchipudi

Dr Padmini Krishnan was introduced to Indian classical dance forms at the age of three. During this period of early passion, she was trained in Bharatanatyam, Kuchipudi, Mohiniyattam, Kathakali, and Carnatic music, and she has received various acclaimed honours and recognitions (including the famous Kerala State Kalathilakom title three times) in each of these art forms. Later, she focused her interest on the subtleties and nuances of Kuchipudi alone for the last 12 years, under the supervision of Gurus Jaikishore Mosalikanti and Padmavani Mosalikanti. She received her MBBS from Kottayam Medical College and her PG diploma in Diabetology from Vinayaka University in Tamilnadu.

In 2007, Padmini received the Navarasa Yuva Pratibha Award. In 2015, she was awarded the Natyasree Puraskar by Sabah, Kuwait. In 2017, she won the Devdasi Award for Excellence in Kuchipudi. Jaydeva Rashtriya Puraskar was awarded to her in 2018 by Bhubaneswar.

20/02/23, Monday, 6 PM



#### **MALAVIKA MENON**

## Mohiniyattam

Malavika, a young, ardent Mohiniyattam performer from Kerala, was first exposed to the classical dance form through Bharatanatyam. For the past 18 years, she has been studying Mohiniyattam under Guru Smt. Vinitha Nedungadi. As a senior disciple of her Guru, she has appeared in numerous group productions and, more recently, as a soloist. She continues to receive advanced training in Mohiniyattam and also choreographs and performs actively in the field.

Malavika was one of the empanelled artists of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) in 2019. She is also the recipient of the Senior Scholarship in Mohiniyattam awarded by the Centre for Cultural Resources and Training, Ministry of Culture, New Delhi, 2019-2021. The gifted choreographer is also the founder of 'Sadhana,' an art space that teaches and promotes the Mohiniyattam art form.

20/02/23, Monday, 6:45 PM



#### RAHUL ACHARYA

#### Odissi

Rahul Acharya is one of the most loved and popular Odissi soloists in the international arena today. The world knows him fondly as the Divine Dancer. Rahul is treasured for his mastery of the technical aspects of Odissi and his display of sublime emotions. His dance is imbued with beauty, artistry and precision. Rahul began his study of Odissi with Guru Durga Charan Ranbir and continues to work with his Guru. He is also receiving theoretical and literary dance training from renowned Sanskrit scholar Pandit Nityananda Mishra. Internationally renowned as a virtuosic artist, he has performed all over the globe—in Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Central America, South America and throughout the United States. Rahul has danced extensively in India, participating in many of the most celebrated festivals as a soloist, including the Khajuraho Dance Festival, Natya Tarangini's Parampara Series, several Sangeet Natak Akademi-sponsored festivals, the Udayshankar Dance Festival, etc.

He has conducted a workshop and performed at major universities around the world. Rahul is part of UNESCO's International Dance Council. Since 2003, he has been an Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR)-empanelled artist. He has received both junior and senior scholarships from the Department of Culture, Government of India, along with a junior fellowship, and is a member of the World Movement for Indian Fine Arts, Italy. He is a regular contributor to various journals. In 2009, he co-authored an authoritative book on Jagannatha Puri, and he is currently writing an authoritative book on the Odissi dance.

Mr Acharya was the first male Odissi dancer to receive the Sangeet Natak Akademi's Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar award in New Delhi in 2009, and the Dance History Society of India honoured him with the Ram Gopal Best Male Dancer Award in 2013. In 2014, he was honoured with the Aditya Vikram Birla Kala Kiran Award. In 2019, he was awarded the Guru Kelu Charan Mohapatra Yuva Puraskar. He is the first Odissi dancer to be honoured with the Kavichandra Kalicharan Yuva Pratibha award by the Odisha Sangeet Natak Akademi.



#### **AYANA MUKHERJEE**

## Kuchipudi

Ayana Mukherjee, a disciple of Padma Shri Guru Jayarama Rao and Vanashree Rao started her dance career at the age of 16 years. From 2006 to 2008, she studied Kuchipudi at the Kuchipudi Art Academy in Chennai, under the tutelage of Padma Bhushan Dr Vempati Chinna Satyam, the doyen of Kuchipudi. She has performed in several places along with the troupe of Kuchipudi Art.

In 2011, she performed for the Years of India in over ten cities across Canada as part of the ICCR with her gurus and their troupe. In 2015, she performed as a Kuchipudi artist in the multi-dance production "Vandemataram," choreographed by Padma Shri Pratibha Prahlad, at the Kulu Festival, India Festival, Malaysia, and Delhi International Arts Festival; She also performed for the Commonwealth Games events organised in Delhi by Sangeet Natak Akademi and the Delhi Government.

She received the UGC Scholarship as a student in 2006 for her excellence in Kuchipudi Arts from Rabindra Bharati University in Kolkata. Tarana Samman Delhi was bestowed to her. On the occasion of Women's Day, she was also honoured by the Telugu Association of Delhi for her contribution to Kuchipudi as a female dancer (2016).

21/02/23, Tuesday, 6.00 PM



## **PALLAVI KRISHNAN**

## Mohiniyattam

Pallavi Krishnan, a well-known performer of Mohiniyattam, is renowned for her versatility as a choreographer, trainer, and performer. In the beginning, Pallavi Krishnan was trained in Kathakali and Mohiniyattam under the able tutelage of Guru Kalamandalam Sanakaranarayanan at Santiniketan. However, as Mohiniyattam became more and more of a passion of hers, she eventually made her way to Kerala Kalamandalam to advance the dance style and achieve success.

As a performer, Pallavi Krishnan has developed a style that is distinguished by originality and grace. Pallavi Krishnan demonstrates both adavu and abhinaya with equal ease. Today, she is regarded as one of the most sought-after Mohiniyattam performers. She is the recipient of several honours, including the Kerala State Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for her contributions to Mohiniyattam. In 1992, she was chosen for the Anupama Puraskar for her exceptional talent.

21/02/23, Tuesday, 6.45 PM



#### RADHE JAGGI

#### Bharatanatyam

An aspiring Bharatanatyam dancer, Radhe Jaggi received her initial instruction at Kalakshetra Foundation. Today, she is a disciple of Leela Samson. Radhe spent the first two years of her career performing in over sixty temples across Tamil Nadu. She has since then performed in leading venues like Narada Gana Sabha, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Brahma Gana Sabha, Sri Krishna Gana Sabha, the Soma Festival for the Shankaraa Foundation in Bangalore, Bharat Bhavan in Bhopal, the ITC Sangeet Research Academy in Kolkata, the Tamil Isai Sangam, and the Arudra Festival at the Chidambaram Nataraja Temple, among many other temple festivals.

In addition to her performances around India, Radhe has completed dance tours of North America in 2012, 2016, and 2019. She was invited to South Korea in 2012 as part of an InKo Centre initiative with the performance theatre group 'Tuida'. Radhe has also performed on many global stages including those in Malaysia and at Cambridge University in the United Kingdom.

Radhe is the recipient of the Natya Ratna from Trinity Fine Arts, Chennai, in 2017 and the Rukmini Devi Endowment Award from Sri Krishna Gana Sabha in 2016. She also received the Natya Kalai Arasi title from the Tamizh Isai Sangam in 2013.

## 21/02/23, Tuesday, 8 PM







#### **Department of Tourism**

Park View, Thiruvananthapuram 695033
Phone: +91-471-2321132, +91-471-2560426
Email: marketing@keralatourism.org

mail: marketing@keralatourism.org Website: www.keralatourism.org