

नालन्दा Celebrates Golden Jubilee
(1966-2016)

नालन्दा सुवर्ण महीत्सव
(१९६६-२०१६)



नालन्दा

विना तु नृत्यशास्त्रेण चित्रसूत्रम् सुदुर्विदम्

nalanda dance research centre

takes pleasure in inviting you to

**NALANDA - BHARATA MUNI SAMMAN - 2015
SAMAROHA**

**and Premier of Latest Dance Production
'A-NEETI' - Injustice**

Presenting

Dr. Kanak Rele and senior students

at:

Ravindra Natya Mandir, Prabhadevi,
Mumbai

on: Sunday, the 17th January, 2016
at: 6.30 p.m.

Admit 2

Children under 6 years not allowed

NALANDA'S BHARATA MUNI SAMMAN

Dedicated to the preservation and propagation of Indian dance in particular and Indian culture in general from its founding in 1966 Nalanda Dance Research Centre has unswervingly trodden on its chosen path with single minded determination. Nalanda has always upheld the priceless nature of all that is India and her great ancient culture which consists of the various performing arts, visual arts, the mother of all languages Sanskrit and Sanskritic studies, the religio-philosophical thought and other co-related facets.

Being a highly recognized research centre, Nalanda recognizes and appreciates all those endeavours that probe deep into the all encompassing cultural phenomena of this great country. Very naturally these endeavours come from most dedicated individuals who not only delve into this vast ocean that is Indian culture but also have the intellectual calibre to unravel, re-interpret and re-invent this knowledge and wisdom to conform with their own times.

From 2011 Nalanda has initiated a process of honouring such individuals who have acquired iconic status.

By honouring them Nalanda is honouring India on behalf of all Indians.

Hence the annual

NALANDA - BHARATA MUNI SAMMAN

Recipients for 2015 in alphabetical order

Kalamandalam Gopi

(Dance)

Dr. Kanak Rele

(Dance and Dance Pedagogy)

(Founder Director, Nalanda)

Shri. Rudraprasad Sengupta

(Theatre and Drama)

Dr. Umayalpuram K Sivaraman

(Music)



KALAMANDALAM GOPI

Kathakali, the south Indian traditional dance-drama, is globally recognized as a profound cultural and aesthetic heritage. Ever since its evolution in the 17th century, scores of icons have developed the art form using their body-discipline and imaginative prowess. In the 20th century, a cream of artists catapulted Kathakali to a universal art cutting across geographical and linguistic boundaries. Among them is Kalamandalam Gopi, the top- ranking actor who has won universal fame by means of

his matchless artistry.

Poet laureate and cultural ambassador, Vallathol Narayana Menon who founded Kerala Kalamandalam in 1930 was instantly impressed by Gopi when he came before the Selection Committee for admission to the acting course of Kathakali. Gopi underwent rigorous training in Kathakali under Kalamandalam Ramankutty Nair and Kalamandalam Padmanabhan Nair, the two great Acharyas. On completion of his training, Gopi was appointed Instructor in the Faculty of Kathakali (1958).

Astute sense of rhythm, command over tempos, graceful figure, expressive facial features and a fierce commitment to the art collectively contributed to the meteoric rise of Gopi in Kathakali. His Raudra Bhima who confronts Dussasana in the Kurukshetra battle has few parallels in the history of Kathakali.

Gopi has travelled extensively in India and abroad for over five decades and has won critical acclaim from art lovers all over the world. The intensity with which he identifies with the characters, power and precision in the execution of hand gestures and kalasams (dance units) and pithy improvisations are enviable. Gopi is the last link of a glorious heritage in the kalluvazhi chitta of Kathakali which gave birth to a host of titans in the 20th century.

Gopi retired as Principal of Kerala Kalamandalam in 1992 after serving the institution for over three decades.

He has won acclaim from art-lovers all over the world. Gopi is equally well-versed on stage and in the kalari. He has an astounding skill for tuning the body and limbs of the Kathakali students in relation to the text, contexts and characterization.

Some Major Awards:

- Padmasree – 2009
- Fellowship from the SangeetNatakAkademi, New Delhi – 2011 (Akademi Ratna)
- Kalidas Samman – 2011
- Sangeet Natak Akademi Award– 1987
- Kerala Sangeeta Nataka Academy Award – 1995
- Kerala Kalamandalam Fellowship – 2002



DR. KANAK RELE

The renowned performer, educationist, research scholar and above all a Guru / Teacher par excellence Kanak Rele has today become a legend in her own lifetime. The President of India has honoured her as "A pioneering dance educationist".

Research Scholar and Institution Builder:

50 years ago, in 1966, Kanak Rele established Nalanda Dance Academy (later to be renamed Nalanda Dance Research Centre), where Kanak has done pioneering work in nurturing pedagogical studies in dance and allied subjects. Today Nalanda Dance Research Centre is recognized officially as a Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation – SIRO -by the Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt. of India, the only dance institution to be thus recognised.

Unique Pioneering Research Contribution:

- Body Kinetics in Indian Dance. (Copy Right)
- Music Kinetics to Accompany Dance. (Copy Right)
- Dance, Yoga and Martial Arts as Adjuncts to Human Movement Science.
- Svasti system for Human Wellness and Fitness. (Trade Mark)
- Space Time Perspective of Dance Co-relationship with Physics, Ayurveda, Yoga, Grammar, and Psychology.

Rejuvenator of Mohini Attam: Widely acclaimed as one of the most distinguished Mohini Attam exponents, today her name is synonymous with the dance style. But her fame is not only limited to performance. This most lyrical of Indian classical dance styles was facing extinction 45 years ago. It is acknowledged that Kanak Rele has played pioneering and most significant role in re-establishment, rejuvenation and popularisation of Mohini Attam not only in India but abroad as well.

Dance Educationist: Today Kanak Rele has emerged as the most distinguished dance educationist in the country. She is universally recognized and respected as an outstanding guru / teacher / research guide. It was on Kanak's proposal that the University of Mumbai introduced the Bachelor of Fine Arts (Dance), Master of Fine Arts (Dance) and Ph.D. in Dance degrees. She is the architect of the Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Mumbai and is the Founder-Principal of the renowned college of classical dance Nalanda Nritya Kala Mahavidyalaya established in 1972. Kanak was the chief architect of these courses. Over the years, Nalanda college has created an exceptionally well trained, highly qualified and scholarly generation of dancers who are not only proficient performers but also excellent theoreticians, analysers and teachers.

An Author: Kanak Rele has three excellent books to her credit which have won critical acclaim. The first editions are sold out and revised second editions are already released.

- i) Mohini Attam - The Lyrical Dance.
- ii) A Handbook of Classical Dance Terminology : Edited by Kanak Rele.
- iii) Bhaavaniroopanna – On Indian system of Abhinaya.

A Documentary Maker: One of Kanak's greatest achievements is the video film Nriya Bharati – on the seven classical dance styles of India and their shastric base. This has been acquired by the Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India as the official capsule to be kept by all the Indian Missions abroad.

Superb Choreographer: Kanak has choreographed some highly acclaimed dance – productions apart from the Mohini Attam repertoire. Each dance – drama is significant for its unique choreography which is based on deep research. Kanak also designs the costumes of her dance – dramas and also contributes in arranging the musical score.

Nalanda's Productions:

- Santa Vani' in Marathi based on the abhangas of the saint poets of Maharashtra. This dance-drama has been sent abroad by the Govt. of India. It has completed more than 100 performances.
- Shilappadikaram' in Hindi translating the immortal ancient Tamil epic of the same name into a poem in dance.
- Kalyani' in Hindi based on the immortal lyrics Chandalika of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore.
- Svapnavasavadattam the immortal ancient Sanskrit drama by Bhasa. The production is cast in the classical "Total Theatre" mode of Sanskrit "natya".
- Kanchan Mrig in Hindi dealing with wildlife preservation and "ahimsa" (non-violence) towards all beings.
- Rukmini Svayamvara in Marathi using the 600 years old Bharud lyrics by Saint Eknath of Maharashtra.
- The Enlightened One – Gautama Buddha
- Vitthala Tuze Charanee
- Prithvee Anandinee

Some of Major Awards and Positions:

- Padma Bhushan
- Sangeet Natak Akademi Fellowship (Akademi Ratna)
- Padma Shri
- Sangeet Natak Akademi Award
- Kalidas Samman
- Maharashtra State Gaurav Puraskar
- Gujarat State Gaurav Puraskar
- Sangeet Pracharya Bharat Ratna M.S. Subbulakshmi Best Teacher Award
- Advisor for Culture to Planning Commission
- Member Curriculum Development Committee U.G.C.
- Ex-Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Mumbai
- Ex-Trustee, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya



SHRI. RUDRAPRASAD SENGUPTA

Rudraprasad Sengupta is a veteran in the field of theatre and drama. Hailing from Kolkata, he today enjoys nationwide eminence not only as an actor but also as an adaptor of plays.

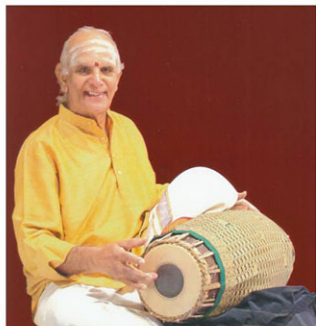
His college education which earned him Bachelor's and Master's degrees in English literature, has given him an enviable vision into the nuances of this universal language. He taught English at the Rabindra Bharati

University of Kolkata.

His association with the renowned theatre group Nandikar since 1961 has resulted in the dual role of actor and adaptor of plays. His adaptation of Pirandello's 'Six Characters in search of an Author' (Natyakarer Sandhane Chhati Charitra) catapulted him to instant fame. His adaptation of the works of like Euripides, Brecht, Arthur Miller and Arnold Wesker established him as the most consistent as well as prominent director in Bengali theatre. He gradually blossomed into a very fine actor. His forte appears to be presentation of anti-heroic or malevolent characters.

Rudraprasad's independent and distinctive directorial style came to the fore from 1977 when he assumed the leadership of Nandikar. A dedicated advocate of theatre as a career he formed the Calcutta Repertory Theatre with Sombhu Mitra and other major actors of Kolkata in 1980. In 1983, Sengupta started the Nandikar Theatre Festival where theatre troupes from all over India participate. Under Rudraprasad's directorship Nandikar conducts workshops for school children as well slum-dwelling children in theatre craft. He has written a book 'Ibsen Theke Albee' (From Ibsen to Albee).

Rudraprasad received the prestigious Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 1980.



DR UMAYALPURAM K SIVARAMAN

Dr Umayalpuram K Sivaraman born on 17th Dec 1935, has by dint of superlative artistry on the art of mridangam, earned himself a unique place as one of the greatest legends. In a career spanning 70 years till date, he has covered the entire gamut of percussive music, accompanying the greatest legends in Carnatic music & Hindustani music, playing with the best of Jazz bands and Fusion music, exclusive percussion concerts with a variety of instruments, lecture demonstrations, research on the science of design & construction of mridangam. He has documented his unique 'bani' through his book "The voyage of mridangam and its high voltage art@" covering all facets of mridangam playing techniques and nuances. He has been honoured with many prestigious awards including the Padma Vibhushan awarded by the President of India, and nuances unique place.

He has established unique bani (style) of his own, "the Umayalpuram Sivaraman bani" and trained hundreds of students in India and abroad and has bequeathed his knowledge of this great art form, techniques, nuances to these disciples to continue this tradition globally. He has pioneered the comprehensive documentation of this through his magnum opus; a 22 and ½ hour, 7 pack DVD "Mrudanga Chintamani". These DVD sets include excerpts from his book, "The Voyage of Mrudangam and Its High Voltage Art@". As a sequel to this, another 2 pack DVD "MorasondKarvais" that runs for 10 hours and contains 200+ compositions has been released. A significant highlight is the demonstration of his own compositions for dance (Adavus) and the pinnacle of glory for any percussionist.

Major Awards:

- Padma Vibhushan, 2010
- Padma Bhushan, 2003
- Padma Shri, 1988
- Sangeet Natak Akademi Award, 1992
- D. Litt. (Doctorate) from University of Kerala, 2010
- State artiste Govt. of Tamil Nadu. 1981 to 1986
- Asthana Vidwan-Kanchi, Sringeri, Ahobilam, Srirangam Sri Andavan, Mutts
- Fellow, Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi (Akademi Ratna), 2012

Receipients for 2011 in alphabetical order

- Dr. (Smt.) Kapila Vatsyayan – Indology
- Shri. Kavalam Narayana Panikkar – Theatre and Musicology
- Smt. Kishori Amonkar – Hindustani Vocal
- Guru Ramankutty Nair – Kathakali Dance
- Prof. Suresh Upadhyay – Sanskrit and Indian Philosophy

Recipients for 2012 in alphabetical order

- Shri. Guru Adyar K. Lakshman – Bharata Natyam Dance
- Dr. M. Balamurlikrishna – Carnatic Vocal
- Mahamohopadhyaya
Dr. R. Satyanarayana – Indology
- Dr. (Smt.) Vijaya Mehta – Theatre

Recipients for 2013 in alphabetical order

- Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia – Music
- Shri Ratan Thiyam – Theatre
- Dr. Yamini Krishnamurti – Dance

Receipients for 2014 in alphabetical order

- Sangeet Martand Pandit Jasraj – Music
- Shri. Mahesh Elkuchwar – Theatre
- Rajkumar Singhajit Singh – Dance



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