



VID. MEGHA P RAO

Director, Dhirana Academy of Classical Dance

DANCE TO

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An Accomplished and dedicated artist of Bharatanatyam in a revered Indian classical dance form. She has over 20+ years of experience in performance and teaching Bharatanatyam and have won many honors and awards during her career. She was an early achiever in the dance form and achieved national/state level recognition since high school. Have performed at widely watched public venues nationally and Internationally in India and the US and has been a performing artist on Indian National TV Doordarshan. As sole proprietor and Director she currently runs a commercially successful 'Dhirana academy of Classical Dance' based in Bentonville Arkansas, which trains 100+ students in the US every year.



A scintillating performance at a major dance event 'Sargam' in 2011, Bentonville Arkansas introduced her to the audiences in the USA. Since then she regularly directs, organizes and performs at various public events in USA

- ❖ **Organizes 'Pradarshana' every year, an event to encourage young students to perform before a wider audience**
- ❖ **'Arangetram' a 2-3 hrs solo performance by her senior disciples**
- ❖ **Team Dhirana performance for various social and commercial events across US**
- ❖ **She also performs at various charitable events in the US to support various social causes**

She also works with school districts and other organizations to bring Bharatanatyam to the young and adult in the community. Her goal is to Bridge the gap between society and divine art form by inspiring, educating and guiding budding talent.

Her performances were acclaimed for the Agile movements and the pristine purity of expression, helped by her intrinsic charisma and irreplaceable cheerfulness, creating spellbinding magic, holding the viewer enthralled. She has diversified into American art forms such as classical Ballet.



Core Accomplishments

- ❖ Graded Doordarshan Artist – Doordarshan is an Indian national television channel.
- ❖ Has extended her creative journey in choreography combining many Indian dance forms. Uniquely conceptualized and choreographed productions like NAVARASA MARGAM, THE EXILED KING and ARDHANAREE.
- ❖ Established Dhirana Academy for Indian Classical Dance which trains 100+ students and creates opportunities for them to perform and also exposes them to various learning opportunities such as dance workshops, dance competitions, events. Also graduates senior disciples through Arangetram. Since 2017 Dhirana Academy organizes an annual event 'Pradashana' for young students to have the experience performing for a wider audience
- ❖ Since 1996 performed 1000+ dance performances across India and the US, some of them nationally significant events such as Nrityotsav–Mumbai, West Bengal Tourism Festival Calcutta, Pallavothsav Mysore, Navaraspur Utsav Bijapur, Hampi Utsav, India Fest – Little Rock, 21st TANA Conference –St louis.
- ❖ She was an early achiever in the Bharatanatyam and won many national and state competitions conducted by government and private organizations. Considering her accomplishments in the field she was invited to perform by various organizations in Karnataka State India.



Recognitions

- ❖ Award of Excellence in Entertainment for Stage Performances 2015 – Tamil Community, Northwest Arkansas, USA
- ❖ Rajyothsava Prashasthi awarded by Jilla Kannada Sahitya Parishat an organization promoting art and culture in Karnataka
- ❖ Aryabhata Award 2006 by Aryabhata Cultural Organizations Bengaluru
- ❖ Karnataka State IMA Cultural Award 2003 as part of 69th state medical conference o Ugadi Puraskar 2004 by Chaitanya Balaga, Mandya which promotes social and cultural development in Mandya Karnataka India



Honors for contributions and achievement in the field of dance

Karavali Samskruthika Sangha Mandya honored Ms Rao as part of Vasantotsav 2004 ❖

Shiv Sena Karnataka Mandya District honored Ms Rao with Puruskrita Pratibhe -2001 ❖

Sri Ranjini Kalavedhike Mandya – Ugadi Puraskar 2003 ❖

Chaitanya Balaga 2006 ❖

Prathiba Sanje 2005 – Akhila Karnataka Karavali Samskrithika Vokutta ❖

Kannada Bharati-2006 ❖

Mandya zilla Brahmana Sabha 2002 ❖

Gurudev Academy of Fine Art ❖



Media



Online Article Links

- ❖ <https://www.kuaf.com/post/emotions-explored-through-dance#stream/0>
- ❖ <https://www.daijiworld.com/news/newsDisplay.aspx?newsID=642563>
- ❖ <https://www.ra-veculturalfoundation.org/post/navarasa-margam-performed-by-megha-p-rao>
- ❖ <http://nwamedia.photoshelter.com/image/I0000PwJmaq2ZaQo>



Daijiworld Article

- ❖ <https://www.daijiworld.com/news/newsDisplay.aspx?newsID=642563>



Productions : Conceptualised and Choreographed by Megha P Rao

- ❖ <https://youtu.be/gku9is4ehGo>
- ❖ <https://vimeo.com/463677979?ref=em-share>



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