

Nritya Nipuna

Juhি Lalwani

Foram Patel

Saturday, July 28th, 2018

Nritya Nipuna

Nritya (dance) Nipuna (expert) means one who has mastered the art of dancing. This performance represents a graduation and marks the completion of the rigorous training that the Shishya undergoes for several years and is an important milestone in the dancer's life.

Program Details

Pushapanjali

In Sanskrit, pushpa means flower and anjali means prayers. The dancers offer both of these to Lord Ganesha and Lord Nataraj. They also welcome the audience and seek their good wishes.



Tandav Nritya

Tandav Nritya, or the celestial dance of Lord Shiva, is extremely thrilling and charming. It is associated with Lord Shiva and his divine consort, Parvati. It symbolizes the cosmic cycles of creation, destruction, and the daily rhythm of birth and death. The dance is the pictorial allegory of the five principle manifestations of eternal energy.

Mangalam Ganesham

A dance in the praise of the elephant faced lord Ganesha who destroys obstacles and restores confidence.

Jatiswaram

Jatiswaram is a beautiful and harmonious combination of jatis (rhythmic syllables) and swaras (musical notes). In this abstract rendition of movement, the graceful hand gestures and rhythmic patterns of fast movements performed by the dancer, combine to form a harmonic blend.



Natesha Kautukam

A dance in the praise of Lord Shiva, the god of dance, in his "Nataraj" form. This is a fast paced dance that has beautiful poses of Natesha, the one who is worshipped by all the sages and demons.



Fusion

A Bharatnatyam dance on the musical blend of east and west.

Shiv Parvati

Natya Shastra is considered the fifth Veda. It is believed that at the request of the Devas, Brahma created Natya Shastra and Bharat Muni and presented it to Lord Shiva and Parvati. They introduced the dance part of Natya Shastra. Lord Shiva dances in Tandava style and Parvati in Lasya.

Thillana

Thillana, the grand finale of Bharatnatyam dances, is an exciting and elaborate sequence of pure dance. Thillana is enriched with vibrant passages of movement and rhythm and uncovers a patterned imagery of exceptional beauty. The mood of this dance is one of joyous celebration. In the end, the dancer surrenders themselves to God.

INTERMISSION

Manipuri

Manipuri is a peaceful form of dance that originated from Manipur. A classical form of Manipuri dance is inspired by the theme of Lord Krishna and his beloved Radha's love story. It is characterized by colorful costumes, devotional songs, expressive grace, and gentle swaying gestures, which create hypnotic movements.



Kanha

A dance on a melodious song of Krishna. Gopis (milkmaids) lovingly complain about Krishna's pranks such as his stealing butter, or following them to the river and breaking their pots.



Folk Dance

Folk dances are upbeat, energetic, colorful, and illustrate the life of a common man. The diversity in folk dance from region to region keeps India's tremendously rich culture alive. This medley originates in Gujarat, which is located in the Western part of India. Within this dance, we find a warm expression, an energy and a beauty which is unique to the state of Gujarat.

Mangalam

This prayer marks the end of an artistic performance. The dancers express their gratitude to God, their guru, their parents, and the audience.

The Shishya (Student)

Juhi Lalwani

Juhi is a rising junior at Chelmsford High School. Starting from the age of 5, Juhi began her dancing journey under the guidance of her guru Smt. Jasmine Shah. Over the past 10 years, Jasmine Shah has not only grown Juhi's passion for dance but also instilled a greater appreciation for her Indian heritage, religion and culture. Juhi has brought her passion of dance to the stage at various events and competitions in the New England area, such as Gurjar, IAGB, IANH, Swaraag, and many more. Along with dancing, singing is another one of Juhi's passions, and she has won several Bollywood singing competitions in the area. Juhi is also a dedicated member of Chelmsford High School's all-female accapella group, The Crescendos. In addition, Juhi volunteers at Shishu Bharati, sharing her love for Indian culture and language with young children.

The Shishya (Student)

Foram Patel

Foram is a rising junior at Chelmsford High School. She is an active member of many clubs at her school such as Speech and Debate, DECA and Key Club (Community Service). She is a graduate and now a volunteer of Shishu Bharati, Indian School of Culture and Language. Dance has been an integral part of her life since first grade and even today among tough courses she maintains her passion and love for it. Her guru, smt. Jasmine Shah has had a tremendous influence on her, being not only her mentor, but also one of her greatest supporters throughout the years. Through her guru, Foram has learned many valuable lessons such as patience, dedication, confidence, and an appreciation of the art of dance and her culture. When she is not creating original choreography in her free time, Foram loves to draw and bake.



Juhi and Foram have been working diligently towards this day for the past year, and would like to thank everyone for attending their Nritya Nipuna. Lastly, they would like to thank their guru Jasmine Aunty for her continuous love and support.

The Guru (Teacher) Jasmine Shah

Jasmine Shah is a highly accomplished dancer of Bharatanatyam, Manipuri, and Folk dances from several regions of India, under the guidance of Shri S.K. Rao, Shri Arjun Desai, and Smt. Niranjana Bhargav. She founded Aangikam Dance Academy in 1982 and has personally trained over 2,000 students since then. She is famous for her innovative style and grace. Her name has become synonymous to dance itself.

Jasmine Shah and her students have been a part of many charities, fundraisers, competitions, and annual shows. She currently volunteers at Shishu Bharati, the Indian School of Language and Culture, to educate young children about their Indian heritage. Her relentless efforts to promote Indian Culture have been recognized in North America.

Jasmine Shah has earned the designation of Roster of New England Council of Arts and has also been recognized as Woman of the Year for New England. Most recently, for her contribution to Indian culture, Jasmine Shah received the prestigious "Lifetime Achievement Award" in 2016 from India New England News.

"Jasmine Aunty" has encompassed every single quality of a teacher who we know and trust to bring out the best in Foram and Juhi. She has truly found a special place in our hearts. Foram and Juhi are extremely lucky to have had the opportunity to learn under her guidance.



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Online Brochure

Credits

Light & Sound	:	Mark Buchanan
Makeup	:	Vidhi Dalia
Photography	:	34studios
Videography	:	Kolam Media Creations
Auditorium	:	Mike Deneault
Decoration	:	A & K's Creation