

# Asian Spring <sup>21st Edition</sup>

Town Hall Birmingham, Victoria Square, Sunday 3 March, 6pm  
Programme

## **STUDENTS OF GURU KAJAL SHARMA - KATHAK RAAS**

*Performers: Shreya Pathak, Nitika Banerjee, Suhaavi Sehgal, Aarya Kumar, Tvisha Shaiva, Rhea Sud, Dr.Sonal Pathak, Dr. Sadhna Bhatnagar. Choreography: Guru Mrs Kajal Sharma*

Raas, a popular theme in Kathak, is part of the traditional story of Krishna described in Hindu scriptures like Bhagvat Puran and literature like Geet Govind where he dances with his beloved Radha and her milkmaid friends Gopis, who joyously dance amongst the flowers, creepers and trees of the Vrindavan forest, to the mesmerising tune of his divine flute, abandoning all worldly concerns.

It is considered a dance of divine love whereby this romantic earthly depiction of love represents one's soul's ecstatic love for Krishna, the God, in the spiritual world.

The music is composed and sung by Padma Vibhushan Pandit Birju Maharaj .The group learns from Guru Kajal Sharma in Manchester in the VOICE (Vedic organisation of Indian culture and education).

## **SECOND CHANCE - NATESHA KAUTUVUM**

*Performers: Sudha Balakrishnan, Gayathri Chandar, Mohana Ramesh Kumar, Anuradha Venugopal. Choreography: Anuradha Venugopal*

Second Chance celebrates the concept that it is never too late to realise dreams. As a dynamic group of women donning different hats from wives to mothers, from professionals to home makers juggling in everyday life, we have also made time to pursue what has remained our passion for Bharatanatyam. Second Chance defies age and stereotypes - we have demands on our time, but they need not cost us our dreams. Because dreams deserve a Second Chance!

Kautuvum is an invocatory item in Bharatanatyam recitals. It is a hymn - a song of devotion in praise of a deity. The Chidamabara Natesa Kavutuvam by Gangai Muttu Nattuvanar is dedicated to the deity at the Chidamabaram Natarajar temple. It extols the magnificence of Lord Shiva known as Nataraja- the Cosmic Dancer. It describes His form- His matted locks, the tiger skin He wears, the trident He bears, His vehicle , Nandi, the Bull and His cosmic dance - the Tandava.

## **CHITRALEKA DANCE ACADEMY GRADE 2 STUDENTS - SWARAJATHI**

*Performers: Anya Maria Machado, Aadya Gella, Anushri Rao, Avni Kaur Samra, Bhavishiyha Jayaprakash, Bhavna Marri, Dharma Mukesh Patel, Karishma Dar, Kaveersha Ratheeswaran, Lasa Melimi Parcha, Manasa Naguleswaran, Mansi Jamadagni, Manya Dasari, Mira Amlani, Neha Kini, Prisha Oberoi, Riya Kapoor, Shaalu Manickam, Sharanya Kudlur, Shruti Suresh, Sonam Raj Tirugulla, Sriya Sreekantam, Yashna Maghizh. Choreography: Chitraleka Bolar*

Swarajathi is a composition of pure dance steps (Jatis) choreographed to musical patterns (Swaras). This Swarajathi is dedicated to Lord Krishna, inviting Him to come and bless His devotees.

## **INDIA ISLAND ACADEMY (I.I.A.) - SYMPHONY OF LIFE**

*Performers: Charu Gaur, Harsha Gupta, Anushree, Sahana Shrikaanth, Vinuthna Pemmaraju, Sunaina Ghosh, Garima P Sharma, Sandhya Aaytee. Choreography: Charu Gaur*

Symphony of life: An illustration of a story of all living beings. Joyous and melancholy moments of human life are perceived by change in the season.