



UTSĀHA

An exciting evening of live
Indian classical dance and music

Presenting Srishti students and outstanding guest artists

Curated by Nina Rajarani MBE

Watersmeet Theatre, Rickmansworth

ACCOMPANYING MUSICIANS

NINA RAJARANI MBE **GURU, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR,** **CHOREOGRAPHER, CONDUCTING ON** **NATTUVANGAM**

Nina carried out her Bharatanatyam training under Prakash Yadagudde at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's London branch as well as with Chitra Visweswaran of Chennai, India, during her visits to London. Since 1988, Nina has received training regularly in Chennai under Shanta and VP Dhananjayan. Nina has also received Karnatik music vocal training under Sivasakti Sivanesan of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, and under Karpagam Balasubramanian in Chennai.

As a performer, Nina has toured extensively within the UK, in most other European countries, in India, Singapore, Malaysia, Australia and the US. Nina's own professional dance company, SRISHTI Dance Creations, presents her choreography in which preservation of the authenticity of Indian classical dance traditions is of prime importance. The company has toured several productions nationally and internationally and has regularly been funded by Arts Council England, Regional Arts Boards and various prestigious organisations both in the UK and abroad. Nina won the Place Prize 2006, Europe's largest choreographic competition sponsored by Bloomberg, where her choreography won the award out of 204 choreographers. In 2009 Nina was awarded an MBE (Member of the British Empire) in the Queen's Birthday Honours. This was in recognition of her Services to South Asian Dance. In 2012 Nina was commissioned by Harrow Council to create a new dance work specially for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee visit to Harrow.

Nina has been closely involved with the work of the ISTD (Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing), where she has been an integral contributor to the devising of a syllabus for Bharatanatyam with graded examinations. The ISTD is a leading dance examinations board that has been conducting dance examinations worldwide for over a hundred years. Nina was the Secretary of the Classical Indian Dance Faculty of the ISTD from its formation in 1999 until 2014, is one of the Faculty's founder committee members, has served as the Vice Chair of the Faculty and is also a senior Bharatanatyam examiner for the ISTD. She regularly runs teacher training courses for the ISTD, mentors many teachers both in the UK and abroad, and trains ISTD examiners.

Kalaimamani Padmanaban Jayaraman – Mridangist
Sri Jalatharan Sithamparanathan – Violinist

Y YADAVAN **GURU, COMPOSER, VOCALIST**

Yadavan hails from a family of artists and trained from a very young age in Sri Lanka under Sangeeta Bhooshanam S Balasingam and furthered his musical aspirations in Chennai, India under the renowned Padma Bhushan B Rajam Iyer. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Indian music from Chennai University as well as a Diploma from the Music Academy of Chennai for which he was awarded the "Sangeetha Rathna" title. In 1998 Yadavan was amongst the very few who were awarded the "Tamil Nadu Iyal Isai Nataka Mandram" scholarship, enabling the performance of concerts all over Tamil Nadu. He also won the GNB Memorial Award for "The Best Male Vocalist" in the 1999 Music Academy annual competitions, and also made history by being awarded as many as nine prizes in the same year.

Yadavan has provided vocal accompaniment for many dance and mridangam arangetrams worldwide, working on a regular basis with teachers all over the UK and Europe, in Australia, New Zealand, Sri Lanka, India, Canada and the US, as well as with renowned professional dancers including Akram Khan.

Yadavan has been collaborating with his wife Nina Rajarani MBE since 2001 and has toured nationally and internationally with her professional touring company Srishti – Nina Rajarani Dance Creations, has composed music for both the touring company and the school, and has been involved in all of SRISHTI's education initiatives. In 2006 he composed the music for Nina's winning choreographic work "QUICK!" and in 2012 he composed music for the dance piece created by Nina Rajarani for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee visit to Harrow. He also teaches the music component of the Bharatanatyam syllabus of the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing (ISTD) and has sung for the ISTD's Bharatanatyam audio resources for teachers.

Together, this husband-wife duo of Yadavan and Nina provides a strong artistic team for both the school as well as the professional, international touring company of the Srishti organisation.

PROGRAMME

SHOW 1 2PM — 4PM

SANGĪT

Karnatik vocal music by the students of Y Yadavan:

Diya Badri Anand, Aaradhita Arya, Shreyasi Arya, Niveda Balakumar, Sivani Balakumar, Shalya Bhaskaran, Shivani Dasgupta, Adhyashree Harikrishnan, Vedarth Harikrishnan, Hashwini Jeyaseelan, Ovee Mangrulkar, Diksha Murli, Athisstan Niranjan, Shyla Pathmanathan, Mathura Ramanan, Ashwin Sakthivel, Kaviya Sakthivel, Maya Sanghvi, Karunya Sooryakumar, Arushi Taank, Esha Taank, Shradan Venkatesan, Tanvikaa Venkatesan, Avyukth Roshan Vijayakumar, Pranay Yadavan

KATHAK

Performed by: Prachi Haria, Hazel Pannu, Anya Patodia, Ayushi Shah, Saanvi Rikhav Shah

SLOKAM & SWARAKORVAI

Performed by: Neelormi Bhuiyan Chatterjee, Shivani Dasgupta, Ovee Mangrulkar, Prajna Nandakumar, Sarovi Patel, Maya Sanghvi, Aadya Sharma, Esha Taank, Tanvikaa Venkatesan

DEVI STUTI

Performed by: Aaradhita Arya, Aashi Chandarana, Koena Gupta, Bhiraveenaa Sateeskumar, Prathika Sharavana, Anaya Vora

PADAM

Performed by: Esha Ghosh, Sarika Meenakshi Krishnan, Gayathri Nambiar, Amber Jiya Patel, Disha Varsani, Nidarshanaa Venkatesan, Akshita Roshan Vijayakumar

TILLANA

Performed by: Esha Ghosh, Sarika Meenakshi Krishnan, Gayathri Nambiar, Amber Jiya Patel, Shyla Pathmanathan, Arushi Taank, Disha Varsani, Nidarshanaa Venkatesan, Akshita Roshan Vijayakumar

SHOW 2 5:30PM — 7:30PM

ALARIPPU

Performed by: Anjana Jeevan, Sankari Mridha, Jahnavi Sheth, Varsha Madapusi Vijay

VARNAM

Performed by: Anjana Jeevan, Sankari Mridha, Jahnavi Sheth, Varsha Madapusi Vijay

KIRTANAM

Performed by: Nutan Deshpande, Anjana Jeevan, Rohini Kambham, Jennifer Lambert, Jui Mangrulkar, Sankari Mridha, Shivani Patel, Sejal Sanghvi, Laksha Satchithananthan, Archana Subramanian, Jahnavi Sheth, Rakhee Taank, Karthika Theivendrarasa

GUEST ARTISTS

This will be followed by special performances by our guest artists:

Divya Ravi — Bharatanatyam

Piya Varma — Mohiniattam

Suhani Dhanki Mody — Bharatanatyam

Maryam Shakiba — Odissi

Anaya Vasudha Bolar — Bharatanatyam

Ashwini Ganguly — Bharatanatyam

Shyam Dattani and **Saloni Saraf** — Kathak

NO AUDIO OR VIDEO RECORDING AND NO PHOTOGRAPHY IS PERMITTED

SRISHTI NINA RAJARANI DANCE SCHOOL



Srishti's Dance School was started by Nina Rajarani MBE in 1991 and has an impeccable reputation for delivering excellent training in Harrow for 30 years. Bharatanatyam dance classes are conducted by a team of teachers led by Nina Rajarani MBE and Karnatik vocal classes are conducted by Y Yadavan. Since 2016 Kathak classes have been established at the school and these are now conducted by Shyam Dattani.

SRISHTI'S TEACHING FACULTY

Nina Rajarani MBE	– Bharatanatyam Guru
Y Yadavan	– Karnatik Vocal Guru
Jahnvi Sheth	– Bharatanatyam Teacher
Anjana Jeevan	– Bharatanatyam Teacher
Shyam Dattani	– Kathak Teacher

GET IN TOUCH

For further information on SRISHTI's school:

Call 020 8420 1076
Email danceschool@srishti.co.uk
Visit www.srishti.co.uk.

If you would like to be on Srishti's free mailing list and receive information on future events, please email your details to us.

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OUT OUR
AUDIENCE
QUESTIONNAIRE