

# Mantra

presents

# Rang

## Colours of Classical Dance

**SUNDAY  
7 SEP 2025**

**VENUE  
BMO Theatre YMCA**  
11300 Rocky Ridge Rd NW, Calgary

**TIME  
4:00 PM**



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Website: [mantraarts.ca](http://mantraarts.ca)

# *Rang Program Outline*

Mallari & Vigna Raja - Bharatnatyam

Brahma Sannidhi - Bharatnatyam

Anada Narthana - Kuchipudi

Jatiswaram - Bharatnatyam

Buddha Varnam - Bharatnatyam

Sree Ram Stuti - Odissi

Markata Manimaya - Kuchipudi

## *Intermission*

Avigna - Bharatnatyam

Devi Stuti - Bharatnatyam

Mohiniyattam

Kalia Mardana – Bharatnatyam

Ganesha Vandana - Kathak

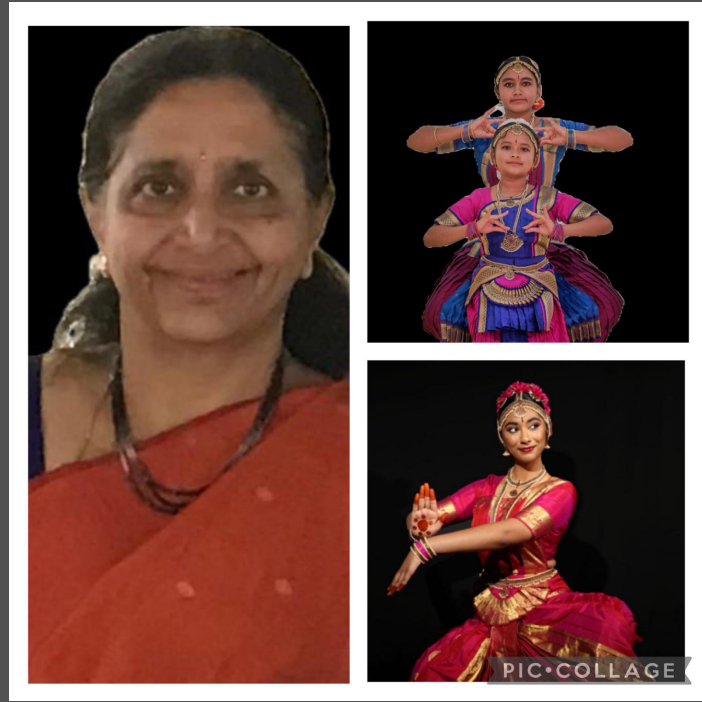
Krishna Stuti- Kathak

Aruni Kirani- Kathak

Thillana Jugalbandhi

## 1. Mallari & Vighna Rajam

*Artists: Maithili Daitha, Arnavee and Shreeya*  
A Mallari is an Invocation piece characterized by its rhythmic nature, reflecting temple festivals and the deity's ceremonial procession around the temples. The Mallari will be followed by an invocation prayer to Lord Ganesha. Guru Usha Pattabhiraman has been teaching Bharatnatyam in Calgary for more than 25 years. She has trained many young students, few of them have completed their Arangetram.



## 2. Brahma Sannidhi

*Artists: Swapnika Akkapeddi & Naumika Chinta* **Choreography: Shri. Adithya PV**  
Brahma Sannidhi describes lord Brahma the creator in the Hindu trinity – He is the creator of 4 vedas and takes care of all 8 directions of the world.

## 3. Ananda Narthana Ganapathi- Shivamanohari School of Performing Arts:

*Artists: Hemali Boorada, Jesitta Jilju, Alphona Kamble, Ambika Bhowmick and Neharika Nair*

The dancers praise the joyous Ganapati who lives in the muladhara chakra in the form of Om. They describe Ganesh as being praised by sages and he resides always in the heart of Shiva. Founded by Guru Gomathi Boorada in 2006, Shivamanohari is renowned to present both traditional margams as well as Nritya Naatakam. Shivamanohari Company continues to perform and tour across North America, India and Indonesia. They just completed their international tour of 'Dvaita-Duality' in July 2025.



#### 4. **Jati Swaram – Shakthi Shetralay**

*Artists: Akshita Rawat, Arshiya Shailendran, Advita Ashwin, Annada Awasthi, Annika Awasthi and Guru Shakthi Varma Ganesh Shankar*

Jatiswaram celebrates the beauty of rhythmic patterns and melodic grace, capturing the essence of spring, Vasanta. Shakthi Shetralay Guided by the legacy of Dr. Karthika Devi Ganesh Sankar and carried forward by Shakthi nurtured countless students. Shakthi earned herself a place in the World Guinness record book, Asia records and Indian book of records.

#### 5. **Budha Varnam - Mantra Academy**

*Artists: Menooha Koneru, Harshitha Sanker , Debangi Das, Meghana Kompalli and Ranudi Nagahawatta*

Budha varnam depicts the life story of Buddha, the “enlightened one” born as Siddhartha. The stories will touch on Budha teaching compassion for animals, his marriage to princess Yashodhara, how the young prince with little experience of the world steps outside of his opulent palace with his charioteer and gets exposed to the sufferings of life, death and old age. As he becomes the enlightened one imparting knowledge, he also tames a wild elephant that was let loose against him through his love and calmness. Guru Adithya PV is the artistic director at the Upadhye School of dance, Bengaluru. Currently he is teaching advanced Bharatanatyam students through Mantra Academy. He holds a gold medal for Postgraduate in Bharatanatyam.



#### 6. **Sree Ram Stuti – Sushree Academy**

*Artists: Guru Sushree Mishra, Abhidipta Adhikari, Aditi Rajhans, Nirja Golwala and Sherine Tomy*

This presentation has 3 evocative parts, the first part is a lyrical homage to Lord Rama, part 2 depicts the joyful return of Rama and Sita to Ayodhya, part 3 shows the devotees realization. Guru Sushree Mishra is an accomplished Odissi dancer, vocalist based in Calgary, she holds master's degrees in Odissi Dance, Hindustani Classical Music, and Sanskrit. She is the founder and artistic director of Sushree Academy.



## 7. **Markata Manimaya - Shivamanohari School of Performing Arts**

*Artists: Hemali Boorada, Jesitta Jilju, Alphona Kamble, Ambika Bhowmick and Neharika Nair*

The dance symbolizes mastery of rhythm, balance and spiritual discipline in praise of Lord Krishna. Tharangam is a significant and technically challenging sequence in Kuchipudi. This piece is choreographed by the legendary Dr. Vempati Chinna Satyam.

## 8. **Avigna – Natyam Dance Academy**

*Artists: Daksha Rao, Anna Cherian and Akshara Padhi*

Avigna begins with a prayer to Lord Nataraja the primordial essence of the universe followed by an ode to Lord Ganesha, whose body symbolizes the 'Aum'. Guru Malavika Venkatsubbaiah is the founder, artistic Director of Natyam Dance Academy with centres in Calgary, Edmonton and Fort McMurray. She's the recipient of 'Konark Nrithya Ratna' award and the 'Natyam Saradhi' title.



## 9. **Shaila sutha, A Devi krithi – Mantra Academy**

*Artists: Harshita Sanker, Menooha Koneru, Meghana Kompalli, Ranudi Nagahawatta and Debangi Das* **Choreography: Shri. Adithya PV**

This krithi is in praise of Goddess Parvathi, the daughter of the mountain king and the consort of Lord Shiva. She is full of compassion and protects her devotees. She is the mother of Ganesha and Shanmukha and is full of love and virtues.

## 10. **Mohiniattam – Ekta Team**

*Artists: Madhavi Unnithan, Priya Namboodri, Gowri Sreedevi and Madhuri Saraswathi Kumar*

Mohiniyattam, one of the classical dance forms of Kerala, is renowned for its graceful movements, gentle swaying, and subtle expressions that embody feminine charm and devotion. This performance opens with a Ganesha vandanam followed by a radiant Thillana composed by Maharaja Sri Swathi Thirunal



## 11. **Kalia Mardhana - Swarajathi fine arts academy**

*Artists: Naumika Chinta, Sree Lakshmi Santosh, Avisha Manchiraju, Yoshitha Pilla, Shwetha Pilla, Sahasra Kota, Vaishnavi Ratakonda, Tejaswini Pasala and Vani Ikkurthi*

This dance depicts the story of Kaliya Mardhana. Lord Krishna fights with Kaliya a serpent king who lives in the Yamuna River. He fights with Kaaliya and dances on his head to release the poison so that he can no longer pollute the river. Upon the request of Kaliya's wives, Lord Krishna pardons him and asks him to leave the river. Guru Nymisha Pabbaraju has been immersed in the Pandanallur style of Bharatanatyam for over 20 years. She completed her arangetram with Guru Sudha Panchangam and has been teaching with Swarajathi School of Fine Arts ever since.



**12. Ganesha Vandana – Lay Tal Dance School:**

*Artists: Suvojit and Rachael*

A divine presentation on Lord Ganesha in Kathak

**13. Krishna Stuti – Lay Tal Dance School** *Artists: Shreya and Avika*

This bhajan on Krishna depicts Lord Krishna playing flute and dancing in Vrindavan.

**14. Aruni Kirani Tarana – Lay Tal Dance School**

*Artist: Guru Sonali Joglekar*

Aruni Kirani from “Katyar Kalajat Ghusali” a Marathi classical movie sung by the prominent Mahesh Kale. Aruni Kirani is a prayer woven in melody, a soul’s whisper to the heavens. Guru Sonali, born in Pune pursued her passion for Kathak at a very young age under the guidance of Guru Late Pandita Sujata Natu. She has been teaching Kathak for 14 years in Calgary.



**15. Thillana Jugalbandhi – Artists: Guru Anita**

*Kodam, Guru Shakthi Varma Ganesh Shankar*

Kuchipudi dance form originated in Andhra Pradesh while Bharatnatyam originated in Tamil Nadu. Anitha will present the Thillana in Kuchipudi and Shakthi in Bharatnatyam style.

There are subtle variations between the two styles. Guru Anitha Kodam is a passionate and graceful Kuchupudi dance trained under multiple gurus, Srinivas Acahrya, Krishnaveni and Vempati Nageswari. She won many accolades for her abhinaya and lasya. She performed at numerous venues in India, Germany and Canada.



**Thank you all for attending and showing your support**

**Upcoming events from Mantra:** Our next program is a “**Mosaic Multicultural Fest**” on Saturday, 29 November 2025 at the BMO Theatre, Rocky Ridge. Program will feature multicultural groups showcasing music and dance from our community. Be ready for a lot of festivities, music and dance. An event you do not want to miss.

Details will be posted on:

<https://www.facebook.com/mantraartsca/>

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