



Sharanya Chandran

Bharatanatyam Dancer

(Disciple of Padmashri Guru Geeta Chandran)

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Daughter and disciple of (Padmashri) Smt. Geeta Chandran, Sharanya has been learning Bharatanatyam from the age of four. She began learning both from her mother and Guru K N Dakshinamurthi and presented her formal solo debut performance, the Arangetram, in New Delhi in November 2001, at the age of 13. It is her continued passion to learn, invent and conceptualize new additions to the classical dance repertoire.

Sharanya is the Vice President of the Natya Vriksha, an organization aimed at the preservation and promotion of Indian culture and dance. She is an integral part of Natya Vriksha Dance Company as a senior dancer and choreographer. She also assists with cultural management, curating festivals & events and media outreach.

Sharanya is empanelled with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) as a solo artist and is also nationally graded by Doordarshan.

Sharanya has performed to diverse audiences in India and overseas across multiple festivals and forums – both as a soloist and in group choreographies as part of the Natya Vriksha Dance Company. Some of the choreographies she has been a part of are: Sivam, Pratidhwani, Seasons (Bharatanatyam performed to the western classical musical score by Tchaikovsky), Mythologies Retold, Sankriti and Awakening.

Some of her recent solo performances were for Natya Vriksha's Young Dancers' Festival (as part of the World Dance Day celebration in 2014), the multifarious Monte Music (and dance) Festival, Goa in 2014, Vasuki Natyashala's Yuvanotsav young dancer's festival in 2013, HCL Concert Series in 2012, Kuchipudi Dance Academy's Vriddhi Dance Extraordinaire in 2012 and Guru Shovana Narayan's Lalit Arpan Dance Festival in 2011.

Across the years, Sharanya has performed in several major group productions across India's best festivals such as the Ananya Dance Festival, 16th National Festival of Creative Arts, Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, Taj Mahotsav, Sankatmochan Music and Dance festival, Ananda Mahotsav, India International Film Fest, Sharad Poornima Festival, Delhi International Arts Festival, National Choreography Festival and Pandit Birju Maharaj's Sadhana Festival.

Sharanya has taken part in performances across the world, including at the Lincoln Centre in New York (as part of Incredible India @ 60 festival); for the Thai Cultural Festival at the Thai Cultural Centre, Bangkok; at Queen Elizabeth Hall, London, to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Indian Republic under the auspices of the Indian High Commission; the 8th World Hindi Conference in New York; solo dance recital at the Nehru Centre (London) and was part of ICCR's dance tour to Australia (Nattuvangam) to name only a few. She also assisted in a Bharatanatyam workshop organized by the Bhartiya Vidya Bhawan, London.

Sharanya has also extensively used dance as a medium for social change through message

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oriented performances - on important social issues such as gender inequality, Female Foeticide, drug abuse, peace and harmony. She has also been involved in several “Lecture Demonstrations” for SPIC MACAY to spread awareness of the arts across school children across Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Punjab, Delhi, Haryana, Uttaranchal, Odisha and Rajasthan.

Sharanya enjoys teaching and engaging with young students at Natya Vriksha. Extensively trained in Nattuvangam, she supports Guru Geeta Chandran and Natya Vriksha through Nattuvangam (cymbals). She is also trained in Carnatic Vocal and is passionate about classical music.

In addition to the strong pursuit of her passion in the performing arts, Sharanya also has an exceptional education, career and international track record which exhibits her multi-dimensional personality. Having pursued her Bachelors in Economics from Delhi University’s prestigious Lady Shri Ram College, Sharanya completed her Masters in Development Studies from the London School of Economics and Political Science in 2010 as an INLAKS scholar.

Concurrently, Sharanya is a development and policy expert. She is the Policy Manager at the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (South Asia), where she helps promote policy initiative in the development sector. Sharanya was previously the Principal Consultant in National Skill Development Agency, Ministry of Finance, Government of India (formerly the Office of Advisor to the Prime Minister on National Council on Skill Development). She has been nominated to be a Global Shaper, a global youth initiative of the World Economic Forum, Geneva, Switzerland. She was the Curator of the New Delhi Hub of the Global Shapers Community in 2013-14.

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LISTING OF MAJOR PERFORMANCES –INDIA

2014

January	Rotary International, New Delhi – Group
February	Monte Music (and dance) Festival 2014, Goa – Solo
March	16 th National Festival of Creative Arts, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi – Group
March	Bihar Divas Celebrations, Patna – Group
April	World Dance Day Celebrations by Natya Vriksha, India International Centre, New Delhi - Solo
May	Aavartan Cultural Festival by the Government of Madhya Pradesh, Rabindra Bhawan, Bhopal – Group
June	Sewa at Shri Radharaman Temple, Vrindavan – Group
July	Bhakti Pravah series by Chinmaya Mission, Chinmaya Auditorium, New Delhi – Group
August	Lecture demonstration at National School of Drama, Delhi – accompanied Guru Geeta Chandran
August	Performance at Lady Shri Ram (LSR) College, Delhi University for the farewell of Principal, Dr. Meenakshi Gopinath – Group

2013

January	Pravasi Bharatiya Divas celebrations, Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India, Kochi, Kerala – Group
February	Taj Mahotsav, Agra – Group
May	Anantara, Hyatt, Kolkata – Group
November	Kartik Purnima performance, Annual Pushkar Mela, Old Rang Ji Temple, Pushkar, Rajasthan – Group
November	Yuvanotsav 2013, a young dancers' festival, Vaasuki Natyashala, Triveni Kala Sangam, New Delhi - Solo

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2012

June	Sewa at Shri Radharaman Temple, Vrindavan, Uttar Pradesh – Solo
October	Vridhhi Dance Extraordinaire by Kuchipudi Dance Academy, Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi – Solo
November	HCL Dance series, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi – Solo
November	Rajasthan Tourism Festival, Sun temple, Ranakpur, Rajasthan – Group

2011

January	Makar Sankranti Utsav, Sri Jagannath Mandir, New Delhi – Solo
January	64 th National Radiology Conference, Ashok Hotel, New Delhi – Group
February	Ananda Mahotsav, Govind Dev Mandir, Jaipur - Group
March	Natya Vriksha's performance titled "Pankh" at the Delhi Government's Ladli Awards ceremony, New Delhi – Group
April	Annual Sankatmochan Music and Dance festival, Sankatmochan Mandir, Varanasi – Duet With Smt. Geeta Chandran
September	Lalit Arpan Festival 2011 – a festival of torchbearers of classical performing arts, by Guru Shovana Narayan's Asavari, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi – Solo
November	SPIC MACAY, Allahabad – Group
November	National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, Haryana – Group

2010

October	Ananya Annual Dance Festival by Seher, Purana Qila, New Delhi – Group
October	"Raas" for Sharad Poornima Varanasi Ghats, Sreemuth, Varanasi – Group
October	Durga Puja Celebrations, Gulmohar Club Association, New Delhi – Group
November	SPIC-MACAY tour to Assam and Meghalaya with Smt. Geeta Chandran
November	"Sankriti", a collaborative performance of five classical dance styles, India International Film Fest at Kala Bhavan, Goa – Group

2009

February	Plast India Award Ceremony, Taj Palace, New Delhi - Group
February	'Nostalgia', Lady Shri Ram College for Women's Alumni festival, LSR Auditorium, New Delhi – Group

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March	‘Shivam’, sponsored by ICCR in conjunction with the International Congress for Women, Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi – Group
August	Chinmaya Mission, New Delhi – Solo
August	Jeevika Film Festival, Centre for Civil Society, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi – Solo
October	“CAN SUPPORT” fundraiser, residence of the Belgian Ambassador, New Delhi – Group
December	“Sur Sringar”, Ajmer – Group
December	Kumbalgarh Fort Tourism Festival by Rajasthan Tourism, Kumbalgarh Fort, Udaipur, Rajasthan – Group

2008

January	“Mythologies Retold”, a dance-theatre production, Le Meridian, New Delhi – Group
February	“Sankriti”, a collaborative performance of five classical dance styles, International Gynecologists’ Meet, Ashoka hotel, New Delhi – Group
August	“Sarvam Krishnamayam”, Chinmaya Bhakti Series Offering, Chinmaya Hamco Auditorium, New Delhi – Group
August	“Sarvam Krishnamayam”, on the occasion of Janmashtami at Jai Singh Ghera, Vrindavan – Group
September	“Sarvam Krishnamayam”, Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi – Group
October	International Urology Conference, Ashok Convention Hall, New Delhi – Group
November	“Sankriti”, a collaborative performance of five classical dance styles, International delegates at the Delhi Golf Club – Group
November	Lecture-Demonstration for international exchange students at Modern School, Barakhamba, New Delhi with Smt. Geeta Chandran
December	“Choreography Festival 2008”, Delhi International Arts Festival at the Epicentre, Gurgaon – Group

2007

March	“National Choreography Festival 2007”, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi – Group
August	“Expressions of the Mind”, HCL Annual Series, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi – Group

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September	International Conference, National Neonatology Forum, Ashok Convention Hall, New Delhi – Group
September	“Sankriti”, a collaborative performance of five classical dance styles, Sangeet Natak Akademi, Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi – Group
October	“Sankriti”, a collaborative performance of five classical dance styles, International Day of Non-Violence and Mahatma Gandhi’s birth anniversary, Central Park, New Delhi – Group
November	“Sankriti”, a collaborative performance of five classical dance styles, 10 th anniversary celebrations of India Habitat Centre, New Delhi – Group
December	“Mythologies Retold”, a dance-theatre production, Rasaja Foundation at Ravindra Manch, Jaipur – Group

2006

March	International Conference on Defence Medicine, Indian Army, Air Force Auditorium, New Delhi – Group
May	“Drugs Are Not Child’s Play”, a dance-drama for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, at Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi – Group
August	Sewa on the eve of Janmashtami, Chaitanya Prema Samsthan at Vrindavan, Uttar Pradesh – Group
November	34 th Annual Conference of Research Society for the Study of Diabetes in India, Ashok Hotel, New Delhi – Group
November	1 st Global Youth Meet on Health (GYM 2006), Siri Fort Auditorium, New Delhi – Group
November	SPIC MACAY Lecture-Demonstration at the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB), New Delhi with Smt. Geeta Chandran

2005

May	“Awakening” for the “Regional Conference on Development Effectiveness through Gender Mainstreaming: Lessons Learnt from South Asia”, jointly hosted by IFAD, UNIFEM and IDRC – Group
November	Pandit Birju Maharaj’s Sadhana Festival for Young Dancers, Kalashram, Triveni Chamber Theatre, New Delhi – Duet

2004

February	“World Without Walls” to celebrate annual gala event of Delhi School of Social Work, Delhi University, Shankar Lal Auditorium, Delhi University – Group
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April	World Dance Day 2004 presented by Sangeet Natak Akademi, Meghdoot Theatre, New Delhi – Group
May	Nikunj Sewa, Sri Chaitanya Prema Samstana at Radharaman Mandir, Vrindavan – Group
June	“Treatment Works” – a dance-drama on the importance of treatment for drug addiction, FICCI Auditorium, New Delhi – Group
October	Theme of “Gender Equality” for Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign, Hotel Park Royale, New Delhi – Group
October	“New Narratives”, Art exhibition by artist V V Ramani at the Academy of Fine Arts and Literature, New Delhi – Group

2003

May	SPIC MACAY lecture demonstration tour of Uttar Pradesh (Auriya, Faizabad, Lucknow, Babrala, Pant Nagar and Bareilly) with Smt. Geeta Chandran
May	“The Power of One”, Global insurance multinational AON, Mumbai – Group
June	Duet with Smt. Geeta Chandran based on Haveli Sangeet, Vinodilal Temple, Jaipur, Rajasthan
June	“Aval: Search for Identity”, Artistes for Empowerment women’s empowerment at Ashoka Open Air Theatre, New Delhi – Group
June	“Lets Talk Drugs” (a dance drama protesting against drugs & illicit trafficking), FICCI Auditorium, New Delhi – Group
July	“Fight Hunger in Rajasthan”, the Rotary Club of Delhi—Sai Auditorium, New Delhi – Group
August	“Aval: Search for Identity”, Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi – Group
August	SPIC-MACAY lecture demonstration (Viraasat Series) with Smt. Geeta Chandran at DPS Vasant Kunj, New Delhi

2002

May	Sewa at Radha Raman Temple, Vrindavan, Uttar Pradesh – Group
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2001

November	Arangetram (Solo debut Performance) at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi
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LISTING OF MAJOR PERFORMANCES – INTERNATIONAL

2011

May	Tour to Australia (Sydney and Melbourne) by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) (Nattuvangam)
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2010

February	“So Many Journeys” – celebrating the 60 th year of the Indian Republic, London
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2009

July-August	Assisted Smt. Geeta Chandran in teaching for a one-month Summer Workshop organized by the Bhartiya Vidya Bhawan, London
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August

Solo dance recital at the Nehru Centre, London

2008

October	‘Sankriti’ a collaborative performance of five classical dance styles, Thai Dance Festival, at the Thai Cultural Centre, Bangkok, Thailand.
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2007

July	8 th World Hindi Conference organized, Ministry of External Affairs and ICCR, Institute of Fashion Technology, New York, USA.
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September

‘Sankriti’ a collaborative performance of five classical dance styles, Incredible India@60 festival organized by CII and the Govt. of India, Avery Fischer Hall, Lincoln Centre, New York, USA.
