

Apart from her passion for Bharatanatyam, Sharanya is equally passionate about her work in the development sector. With a Masters in Development Studies from the London School of Economics and Political Science, UK (as a fully funded INLAKS scholar), she is strongly committed to the cause of socio-economic development through her work as Policy Manager, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab, South Asia (J-PAL SA), and as a Member of the Global Shapers Community, World Economic Forum

PERFORMANCES AT INTERNATIONAL FESTIVALS:

- **Lincoln Centre, New York - Incredible India @ 60** festival
- **Thai Cultural Centre, Bangkok – Thai Cultural Festival**
- **Queen Elizabeth Hall, London – to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Indian Republic** under the auspices of the Indian High Commission
- **New York – 8th World Hindi Conference**
- **Nehru Centre, London**
- **Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan, London – Assisted Guru Geeta Chandran** in conducting a 1-month workshop on Bharatanatyam
- **Consulate General of India in New York – Music and Dance Festival**
- **Harvard University, Boston – India Festival**
- **Sydney & Melbourne, Australia – tour for Indian Council for Cultural Relations 2011 (Nattuvangam)**

PERFORMANCES AT INDIAN FESTIVALS:

- **Rashtrapati Bhawan (Presidential House, India) for US President Obama and President and Prime Minister of India**
- HCL Concert series
- Ananya Annual Dance Festival
- Parampara Series, Brahma Gana Sabha, Chennai
- Pravasi Bharatiya Divas
- Nalanda Nrityotsava, Mumbai
- Natya Vriksha's Young Dancers' Festival
- Neemrana (Fort-palace) Dance & Music Festival,
- Lalit Arpan Dance Festival
- Sadhana Festival by Pandit Birju Maharaj

- National Choreography Festival
- Delhi International Arts Festival
- Shanmukhananda Sangeet Sabha
- Vriddhi Dance Festival
- Taj Mahotsav
- Yuvanotsav
- India International Film Fest, Goa
- Annual Sankatmochan Music and Dance festival, Varanasi
- Jeevika Film Festival
- Kumbalgarh Fort Tourism Festival, Udaipur
- Sharad Poornima Festival, Varanasi
- Ananda Mahotsav, Jaipur
- Ladli Awards Ceremony

Disciple of Padmashri Geeta Chandran

Sharanya Chandran



Photos: Rakesh Sahai for Natyavriksha & Inni Singh for Sarvam Foundation Design: Picture Street

For performances, lectures and workshops, contact:

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www.youtube.com/c/SharanyaChandran 📺

Daughter and disciple of (*Padmashri*) Geeta Chandran, **Sharanya Chandran** 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 November 2001.

Sharanya is Vice President of 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 and curating festivals & events at Natya Vriksha.

Sharanya is empanelled with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) as a solo artist and is also nationally graded by Doordarshan. She 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 her recent solo performances were for Natya Vriksha's Young Dancers' Festival (as part of the World Dance Day celebration in 2014), the Nalanda Nrityotsava in Mumbai 2015, 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.

Over the years, Sharanya has performed in several group productions at India's foremost festivals such as the Ananya Dance Festival, Parampara festival of the Brahma Gana Sabha, Chennai, 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 most recently, for President Obama, in the presence of the President & Prime Minister of India at the Rastrapati Bhawan for Republic Day celebrations, 2015.

Sharanya has also taken part in performances across the world, including at the Lincoln Centre in New York (as part of Incredible India @ 60 festival); at the Thai Cultural Centre, Bangkok for the Thai Cultural Festival; 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).

Under the mentorship of her guru, Sharanya is now exploring creative choreography using the grammar of Bharatanatyam and in this endeavour; she conceptualized



Samyukta, in 2015 – a duet dance production. Sharanya is also proficient in the intricate art of *nattuvangam* (i.e. managing rhythm on cymbals and saying complex rhythmic patterns or *jatis*).

As part of the Society for the Promotion of Indian Classical Music And Culture Amongst Youth (SPIC-MACAY), Sharanya has assisted her Guru in multiple lecture demonstrations to spread awareness of classical performing arts amongst school children in rural Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Punjab, Delhi, Haryana, Uttaranchal, Odisha and Rajasthan.

"She used her long arms striking diagonal lines creating geometrical patterns and the dynamic images displayed her command over nritya"

– **Sunil Kothari**, eminent Critic/Scholar

"Her stately presence is an asset...she is magical"

– **Dr. Nita Vidyarthi**, Critic/Commentator