Krishna Gana Sabha presents
The 39th Natya Kala Conference

nirikshana

BHARATANATYAM: UNDER THE MAGNIFYING GLASS

26 December 2019 - 30 December 2019
Sri Krishna Gana Sabha
Natya Kala Conference: Genesis and Journey

The Natya Kala Conference, NKC for short, is a dance conference that was conceived by the Krishna Gana Sabha way back in 1981 with an intent to allow dancers of a certain class and caliber (those who were conferred the title of Nrithya Choodamani), to share their knowledge, insights and understanding of dance and its world at large with a group of like-minded people under the umbrella of a five-day conference.
NKC is one of the sabha’s Marquee properties & has remained unprecedented and unparalleled as a single forum showcasing the varied classical dance forms of India through annual lecture demonstrations, research paper presentations and live performances of artists from all over India. The NKC is the brain child of (Late) Sri R Yagnaraman, who was General Secretary of KGS for 54yrs.

The NKC is a primarily educative & interactive platform in which there is ample opportunity for seekers of art to understand and share each others artistic journeys and processes.
NKC unfolds across five days (December 26 to December 30) every year and has attained a landmark status of sorts, bringing into its fold, dancers and dance enthusiasts, scholars, rasikas, writers, commentators, and scholars to converge and deliberate upon dance and the many aspects that pertain to it and are of crucial concern to it

Expected turnout-3000 people
Over five days, a convenor who is chosen, uses her/his intelligence and imagination to identify and present a host of artistes and scholars who share their know-how of a particular idea or thought, allowing the possibility of deliberate discussion and debate.
Natya Kala Conference: Convenors in the Past

Dr Padma Subrahmanyan Lakshmi Viswanathan
Prof C V Chandrasekar Dr Kanak Rele
Prof C V Chandrasekar Sudharani Raghupathy
Sonal Mansingh VP Dhananjayan
Chitra Visweswaran Kalanidhi Narayanan
Anita Ratnam Leela Samson MV Narsimhachari
Vasanthalakshmi Narasimhachari Bharathi Shivaji
Ananda Shankar Jayanth Shantha Dhanjayan
Priyadarsini Govind Swapna Sundari
Dr Srinidhi Chidambaram
Natya Kala Conference: Intent

As a marquee property of Krishna Gana Sabha, the Conference has stood the test of time, growing from strength-to-strength, becoming an annual affair that is considered prestigious and is extremely educative & participative in nature.

It brings under its roof, dancers and enthusiasts of the arts from across the world becoming a hub of sorts, allowing the Sabha to celebrate its legacy and keep intact its heritage in encouraging the tradition of dance and the many innovations within it.
PAST CONVENORS OF NKC

Anita Ratnam
Barathi Sivaji
Prof. C V Chandrasekar
Chitra Visweswaran
Kalanidhi Narayanan
Vasanthalakshmi & Narasimhachari
Dr. Kanak Rele
Dr. Padma Subrahmanyam
Leela Samson
Priyadarshini Govind
Dhananjayan & Shatha Dhananjayan
Srinidhi Chidambaram
Prof. Sudharani Ragupathy
NKC 2018
Curated and Convened by Dr Srindhi Chidambaram in collaboration with Aalaap

The Convenor
Dr Srindhi Chidambaram, a renowned exponent of Bharatanatyam, has carved a niche for herself in the field of Bharatanatyam over 40 years. Starting at the tender age of four, she had her initial training from Padma Bhushan Smt Kamala. She then trained extensively under Swamimalai Sri SR Rajaratnam, one of the foremost gurus of the Vazhvoor style. She is also an immensely talented choreographer with several thematic productions to her credit. She has performed on prestigious platforms across the globe and has received several awards and accolades.

Dr Srindhi Chidambaram has convened and conceptualised Aneka, the 38th Natya Kala Conference for the third time in a row after two editions of the Natya Kala Conference in 2016 and 2017.

Also a medical doctor, Dr Srindhi Chidambaram graduated from the Madras Medical College with an MD in Public Health, and currently works at Apollo Hospitals.
Rama Vaidyanathan is one of the foremost Bharatanatyam dancers of her generation. She trained intensively under the legendary dancer, Yamini Krishnamurthy and the celebrated Guru Saroja Vaidyanathan. In a performance career spanning more than 30 years, Rama has developed her own individual style without forsaking the core principles of her dance form. Having performed at every major dance venues of the world, she has been bestowed with several titles that include the Kalaimamani by the Government of Tamil Nadu, Kalashree by the Government of Kerala and the Kumar Gandharv Puraskar from the Madhya Pradesh Government as well as the Sangeet Natak Akademi Puraskar, just to name a few. As Director of the Ganesa Natyalaya, New Delhi, Rama has been actively engaged in teaching for more than twenty five years. She balances a hectic performance schedule while conducting workshops and master classes all over the world, inspiring a whole generation of dancers.
Natya Kala Conference 2019: Focus

This year’s Natya Kala Conference titled NirIkshaNa (Bharatanatyam: Under the Magnifying Glass), seeks to examine, probe and assess Bharatanatyam as it is today. The Conference is a detailed exploration and investigation of this classical dance form and the many transitions it gone through over the years along with a deliberate attempt to consider contributions and inclusions that can be made to its already existing, dynamic and magnificent process of continuity. How can we - artistes, curators, scholars, cultural commentators, critics, and rasikas - collectively and collaboratively attempt to reach higher levels of excellence by celebrating this tradition and embracing its natural progression. Through a series of dialogues and discussions, the Conference aims to address some pressing issues that concern and pregnant the world of Bharatanatyam today.
Why the Natya Kala Conference Matters to the World of the Arts?

a) A Conference with an intent to push the boundaries and encourage discussion, innovation and sharing of knowledge in the world of the arts

b) A superb congregation of dancers, young and old, expert and novice

c) With each Convenor, the Conference changes its colour and character while retaining its core intact

d) Over the years, the NKC is marketed aggressively over print and digital platforms; using social media and hashtags, it reaches an audience that consumed digital content
Audience of NKC

• The who’s who of artistes from India and the world

• Well heeled and well travelled women & well learned men

• Aspiring students, scholars, writers, critics, commentators

• Expected turnout-3000 people
WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE PART OF AN EDUCATIVE MULTI-DIMENSIONAL CONFERENCE OF THIS MAGNITUDE?
Let’s Start a Conversation

THANK YOU