

## **INDRADHANUSH 2012 - A Report**

On 19<sup>th</sup> May 2012 the little wonders, budding classical dancers and singers and special children of Association for Learning Performing Arts and Normative Action (A.L.P.A.N.A.) presented INDRADHANUSH 2012, a kaleidoscope of different dance and music items at Poorva Sanskritik Kendra, New Delhi. As the rainbow with its vibrant colours fills the heart of the beholder with joy and enjoyment, the artists of A.L.P.A.N.A. mesmerized the audience with different varieties of dance and music.

INDRADHANUSH started with a performance by special children who presented rajasthani folk dance **Holiya mein udere gulal.....**

The talented singers of A.L.P.A.N.A. presented a Tarana based on Raag Ramkeli and Taal Teental. The next item was Chhota Khayal based on Raag Vrindabani Sarang and Taal Teental. The next presentation was based on a song ‘**ik pyar ka nagma hai.....**’ played on Keyboard by our talented musicians. The last music item was a folk song ‘**Jaa re more natkhat.....**’ presented by all music students.

The talented Odissi dancers began their repertoire with ‘**Mangalacharana**’, a prayer to Goddess Saraswati based on an Odia song ‘**Jaya jaya Saraswati Mata Vakya Devi.....**’

The next item, Odissi steppings and *Arasas* which are the foundation stone for learning Odissi dance was presented by budding Odissi dancers. The uniqueness of this item was that special students and others performed together on the stage.

In next item the young dancers presented “**Vakra tunda maha kaya**” – a prayer to Lord Ganesha, the destroyer of all obstacles, the God of Wisdom and the God of Dance.

Then the dancers presented **Rageshree Pallavi** which was extremely graceful, rhythmic and perfectly coordinated.

Next item of the evening presented by Ayushi Nayak, the senior most disciple of A.L.P.A.N.A. was an **Oriya Abhinaya: Patha Chhadi de mu jibi phoola toli.....**– written by 18<sup>th</sup> century Odia poet Shri Gopala Krushna Patnaik, in which the divine consort, Radha pleads before Krishna to let her go to pluck flowers for *puja*. In this song the poet describes Lord Krishna as a naughty brat who always flirts with other women, troubles them by stealing curd and milk from their houses and also stealing their clothes when they take bath in the river Yamuna.

The next item was an Abhinaya based on the Sanskrit Song **Chandana Charchita Nila Kalevara...** an excerpt from *Geeta Govindam* by the legendary poet *Jayadeva*. In this *Abhinaya*, *Sakhi*, a friend of Radha describes the beauty of *Lord Krishna* who is enjoying “*Raasa*” with other gopis. *Sakhi* says that the blue coloured body of Lord Krishna, who is also known as *Banamali*, is decorated with sandalwood paste and the gopis are ecstatic in their dance in tune with the flute played by the Lord.

The Last item for the evening was Moksha in which the dancers pray for salvation. Moksha means “spiritual liberation”. This dance represents a spiritual culmination for the dancers

who soar into the realm of pure aesthetic delight. The dance moves onto a crescendo that is thrilling to both, the eye and the ear. With the cosmic sound of the “Om”, the dance dissolves into nothingness — just like Moksha or the deliverance of the soul in real life.

**Shri Arun Kumar Mishra, IAS**, Hon’ble Secretary to the Government of India was the **Chief Guest of the event and** Kendriya Sangeet Natak Academy Awardee **Odissi Danseuse Smt. Geeta Mahalik, Snr. Prof. Jayasena Kottagoda**, Vice Chancellor of the University of Visual & Performing Arts, Colombo, Sri Lanka and **Prof. Ariyaratne Kaluarachchi**, Dean, Faculty of Dance & Drama, University of Visual & Performing Arts, Colombo, Sri Lanka were the Distinguished Guests. Shri Mishra and Prof. Kottagoda blessed the children with lots of good wishes to do good in future and appreciated the hard work of A.L.P.A.N.A. in spreading awareness among today’s youth about rich cultural heritage of India.

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