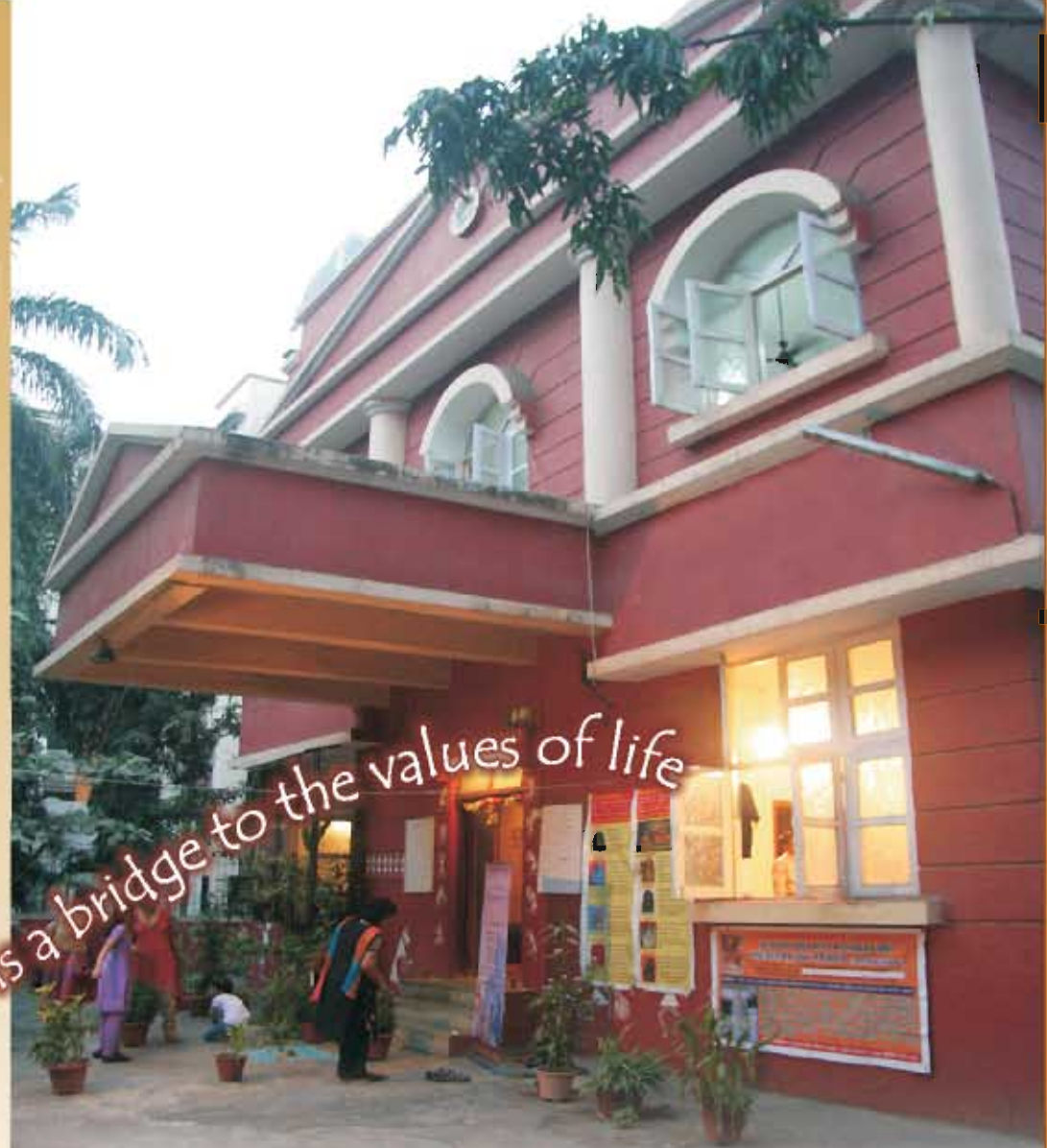




Art is a bridge to the values of life



Nupur Zankar

Academy of Performing Arts and Research Centre



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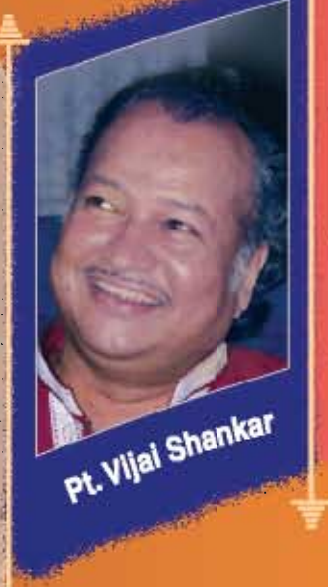
With the Blessings of GURUS



Pt. Prahlad Das



Pt. Chitresh Das



Pt. Vijal Shankar

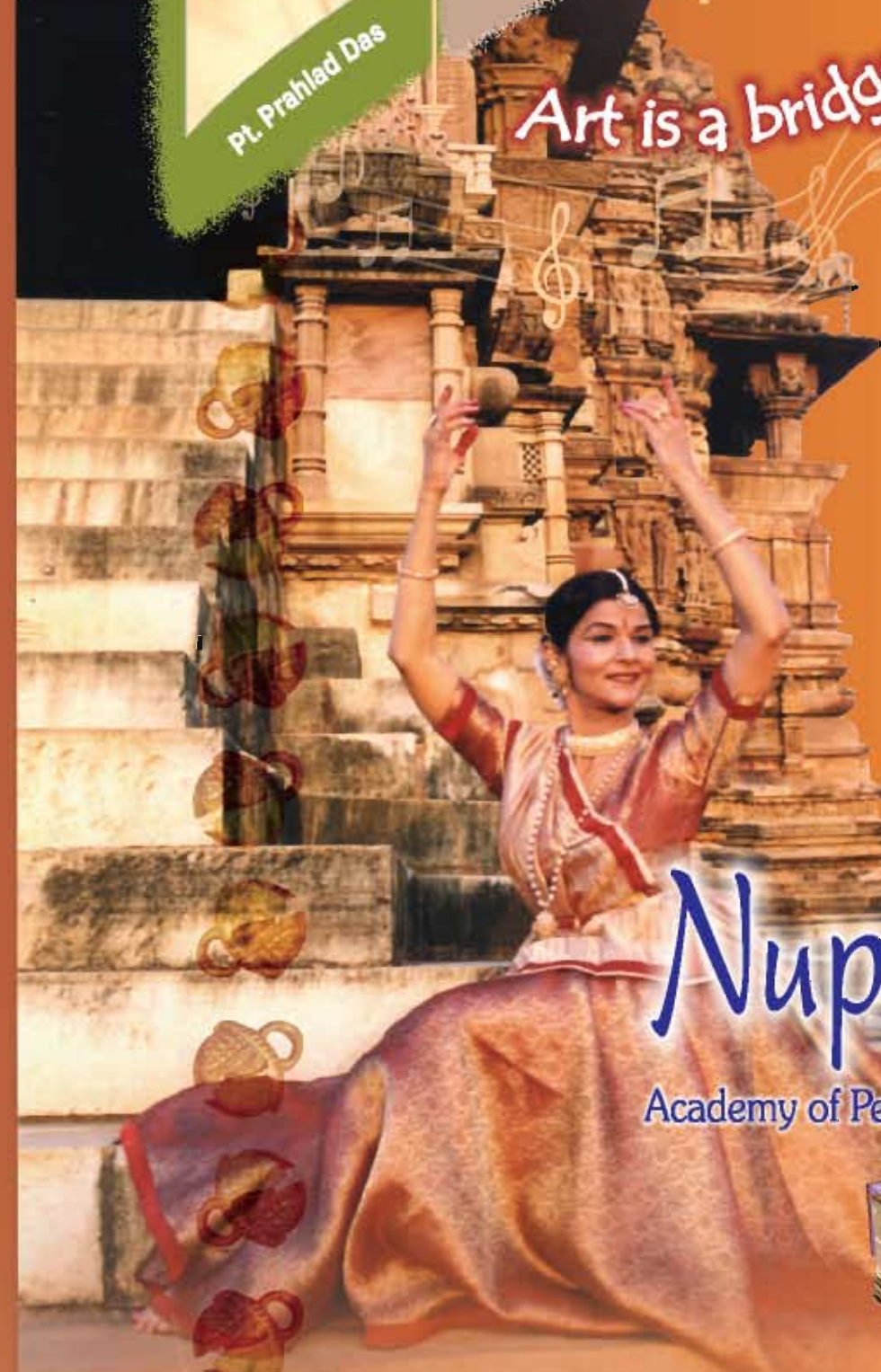


Pt. Birju Maharaj



Pt. Suresh Talvalkar

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Artistic Director

Smt. Shila Mehta

Nupur Zankar

Academy of Performing Arts and Research Centre





Our Artistic Director.....

Smt. Shila Mehta,

Smt. Shila Mehta, A rare combination of Performer, Choreographer, Director, Mass Choreographer, teacher, administrator and an artist, Shila Mehta has worked tirelessly to promote Indian Classical Dance & Music, both in India & abroad. An internationally renowned Kathak dancer par excellence she exudes positive vibrations and energy. Shila is recognised for artistry, eloquence and spirituality in her presentations. She has the blessing of Gurus like Late Pt. Prahalad Das, Pt. Vijai Shankar, Pt. Birju Maharaj, Pt. Suresh Talwalkar, Pt. Chitresh Das, Smt. Kumudini Lakhia, and Smt. Kalanidhi Narayana in grooming her as a dancer and an artist. She has learned Bharatnatyam, Manipuri and Folk Dances and has been trained as a Vocalist.

She is adept at directing Dance Ballets, in presenting Folk dances in both traditional & innovative styles & has mastered the art of Mass Choreography by working with 1500 participants on stage at a time. More than 1000 dance students have been trained under her. She has conceived, choreographed and presented over 200 compositions and has performed throughout India, USA, Germany, UK, Europe, Ireland, and Middle East. Her Solo performances and group choreographies presented all over the world have won her many prestigious awards. She was invited by ISPA New York USA, as one of the fellows out of 7 Fellows from all over the world to attend conference which was attended by the delegates from 35 countries. She is an empanelled Artist with Indian Council of Cultural relations [ICCR]. In 2002, at the invitation of govt. of India, she had the honor of performing successfully at 17 cities of Germany under the series of "CULTURE ON WHEELS". Her Solo performances and group choreographies presented all over the world has won her many prestigious awards.

Some of the honours received:

Nritya Praveen Award Allahbad, Outstanding group of young persons award - Kolkatta, The Overseas Natya Award Texas - USA, Nritya Sadhna Award - Kolkatta, Senior Fellowship Award Dept. of Culture-New Delhi, Gayatri Gaurav Sanmanpatra- Junagadh - Gujrat, Kala Gurjari Award-Mumbai, Gujrat Samaj Award-Central Texas-USA,

Shila has extended her studies with research in Charan Parampara of Gujarat and Kathak. "CHARANI KATHAK" and "CHAITANYA YOGA" are innovative concepts that were conceived and developed by her and speak volume of her creative abilities. Under cross-cultural section, she has done collaborative work with Flamenco, Modern dance, Jazz and ballet dancers. Her strong belief that Art along with all its values is essential to lead a quality life offers her fulfillment as founder and an Artistic Director of Nupur Zankar Academy of Performing Arts & Research Centre, Mumbai, India.

Rave Reviews

"Shila Mehta from Mumbai brought innovations with Charan Bards' compositions, which added a new dimension to Traditional Kathak Art. Dohas, chhands had wonderful quality and regional gujarati touch" --- **DR. SUNIL KOTHARI**

"The emotional underpinnings hidden in compositions based on pure numbers and ginti arrangements, the tonal variations in a Na Dhin Dhin Na rhythmic presentation, the tandav siva kavita composition of prahlad das and Pt. Vijay Shankar's Paran were all examples of precision and grace. Clarity in concept and dance designing marked the choreography." --- **THE HINDU - NEW DELHI.**

"Shila Mehta, a reputed Kathak Dancer has choreographed many a dance ballet. Innovation has enabled her to blend folk and classical movements in a rich tapestry. A fusion of traditional Kathak and folk dance created a visual extravaganza where Krishna and the gopis dally with colours on the occasion of holi." --- **THE STATESMAN-KOLKATA**

"She'd rather be known as a dancer rather than be pigeon-holed into the Kathak genre. SHILA MEHTA performed the VIRAH UKANTHITA nayika a classical Indian dance, at the FESTIVAL of India on Saturday." --- **TRIBUNE - HERALD-TEXAS**

"Shila Mehta, an internationally acclaimed artist, teacher, Choreographer, Performer and a trainer, has truly dedicated her life to the study of Classical form of Dances." --- **THE OBSERVER LONDON .**

"Shila Mehta's performances were overwhelmingly accepted in all 17 cities. She was unanimously recognized as a superb Dancer. Her flawless postures, precise footwork and superb expressions are perhaps the best a dancer has demonstrated in Germany since ages." --- **Deutsch- Indische GESCLLSCHAFT e.V GERMANY.**



AIMS, OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES OF THE INSTITUTE

NUPUR ZANKAR ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS & RESEARCH CENTRE, which has its roots in Kolkata since 1983 is now a Registered Charitable Trust under The Bombay Trust Act, 1950. With the untiring efforts and creative ideas of its founder member and Artistic Director Smt. Shila Mehta, with the blessings of Gurus- Pt. Vijai Shankar Pt. Prahlad Das, Pt. Birju Maharaj, Pt. Chitresh Das, Pt. Suresh Talwalkar, Guru Darshana Jhaveri & Guru Asha Joglekar and with support from all well-wishers and friends, it has established itself as a respected institute in the world of art & artists.

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

- To work at grass root level and lay a holistic foundation for young dancers in preparation for Vocational training in Kathak Dance and Music.
- To inculcate moral values of life through the Guru-Shishya Parampara.
- To produce or arrange for productions and choreographies for presentation in various festivals and communication media.
- To arrange seminars and symposia related to the art of dance, music and allied arts.
- To arrange for the publications related to dance, Music etc.

ACTIVITIES

- Regular activities of the institute include imparting practical skills in Kathak Dance, Folk Dance, Vocal Music, Instrumental Music & Yoga along with necessary knowledge of theory.
- Nupur Zankar is affiliated with Akhil Bharatiya Gandharva Mahavidyalaya and has its own Center for appearing in the exam.
- After gaining proficiency students are encouraged to be the faculty member of the institute touring all over India and abroad as teachers, solo performers, participating in-group choreography.
- Audio Visual collection is available for cross-reference.

CHAITANYA YOGA

Nupur Zankar gives options to its students and others to learn allied forms like folk dances of India, choreography in dance, body awareness through the concept of "CHAITANYA"

Chaitanya is the only fitness & relaxation program based on North Indian classical Music using Dance movements & stretches presented at National Seminar on Yoga held at Mumbai University. It combines flowing postures with rhythmic breathing for an intense body-mind workout, conceived & developed by Smt. Shila Mehta.

EVALUATION

Nupur Zankar takes pride in introducing a unique system of EVALUATION, which is its own creation and the only one in Mumbai, where students are being evaluated regularly by the exponent of the discipline and parents are also passed on the knowledge of the subject.

SANSKRITI MAHOTSAV

It comprises

- An intensive workshop by renowned Gurus
- Performances by eminent and renowned artists
- Performances by the students of the Academy

ANNUAL MEMBERS CONTRIBUTION FOR PROMOTION OF CULTURE

To inculcate a sense of appreciation of Dance & Music among the students and layman, it is mandatory for all the students of the Institute to be the member of the scheme where high quality concerts of Dance & music are presented especially for them.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Talented students are encouraged to appear in CCRT and HRD of Govt. of India. Special coaching is available only for merit students. Nupur Zankar Scholarships Very limited scholarships are available for deserving students.

FOREIGN STUDENTS

Intensive courses for 1 month, 3 months to 2 yrs. are offered. Nupur Zankar can also help in staying arrangement for such students.

NUPUR ZANKAR ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS & RESEARCH CENTRE

Nupur Zankar Centre
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