आ नो भद्राः क्रतवो यन्तु विश्वतः ।

Aa No Bhadrah Kratavo Yantu Viswataha

Let noble thoughts come to us from every side

Rigveda 1-89-i

Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan

COIMBATORE KENDRA

Cordially invites you with family to the

Bhavan's 20th Dance Festival

19th and 20th October 2019

Bhavan's Premises

582, D.B. Road, R.S. Puram, Coimbatore - 641 002

Smt. Meenakshi Chitharanjan

Meenakshi Chitharanjan is a rare combination of a successful performer and an inspiring teacher. Meenakshi learnt Bharatanatyam under Guru Pandanallur Chokkalingam Pillai and his son Guru Subbaraya Pillai. The Pandanallur tradition is characterised by its purity of line and form laying emphasis on firm Nritta and subtlety in Abhinaya. Meenakshi has mastered this style and performs with confidence, skill and sensitivity unfolding every nuance of this rich heritage. Her expressions of the Pandanallur style is very much her own, bold, yet feminine, sharp yet fluid.

She is one who while upholding the sanctity of the Pandanallur style brings a novel freshness in her presentations which merges with the intrinsic traditional content.

She has performed extensively in India, and all over the world and has been conferred many awards, a few prestigious ones being Kalaimamani (1975), Nritya Choodamani (1999), Best Dancer Award (2003) by Madras Music Academy and the Padma Shri (2008). She has been awarded a grant by the Ministry of Human Resources for research, choreographing and recording rare and new compositions to increase the repertoire for Bharatanatyam and she is a Member of the Experts Committee - Tamil Nadu Music and Fine Arts University.

KALADIKSHA is her Dance Academy instituted in 1991 where she trains numerous students in the legendry Pandanallur tradition who have been making a mark in solo and group productions in the cultural scene in Chennai.

In 2016, Kaladiksha celebrated its silver jubilee with a grand production titled EKAM - 'The many Splendored One' in which 60 students participated.

Capturing the essence of this ancient style, preserving its unique beauty and expanding the repertoire through innovation and experimentations has become her mission - passion - a way of life.

19-10-2019 - Saturday

6.00 pm **'Thanjavur Kshetram'**
By Chithra Kalalaya Bharathanatiya School
Guru : Smt. **Jayachithra Santhoshkumar**

Conferment of the Award '**Nritya Ratna**'
on Smt. **Meenakshi Chitharanjan**

'Thiruvarur Kshetram'
By Sri Saraswati Kalalaya
Guru : Shri **S. Murali**

20-10-2019 - Sunday

5.30 pm **'Chidambaram Kshetram'**
By Narthanam School of Dance
Guru : Smt. **Thara Ramesh**

'Thedi Kandukonden'
By Kaladiksha
Guru : Smt. **Meenakshi Chitharanjan**

'Oothukadu Kshetram'
By Sri Abirami Natyalaya
Guru : Smt. **Parimalam Venkatraman**

BHAVAN'S COIMBATORE KENDRA

Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan was founded in 1938 by Kulapati K. M. Munshi, as a symbol of the intellectual, literary, educational, spiritual and cultural content of India, flowing through the ages. The Coimbatore Kendra was founded in 1964 by Shri G. K. Sundaram.

All-round the year, the Kendra organises various programmes for the promotion of art and culture. Spiritual discourses, endowment lectures and classes on spiritual texts are regular features and are well-attended. The five-day Pongal Music Festival during which the Bhavan confers the title, "SANGEETH SAMARAT" on a deserving musician, is a major cultural attraction of this industrial city. A three-day Annual Dance Festival is also being held from the year 1999, and the title "NRITYA RATNA" is conferred on an artiste who has contributed significantly to this performing art. This festival provides a stage to up- and-coming artists and helps them showcase their talents.

From the year 2005, the Kendra has been organising monthly lectures under the aegis of 'Thinkers' Forum'. Eminent personalities from different walks of life are invited to deliver lectures on diverse topics. The Bhavan conducts three-year diploma courses in Carnatic Music (Vocal), Veena, Mridangam and Bharatanatyam and a one year Certificate Course in Vocal Music under the auspices of its Faculty of Fine Arts.

The two Matriculation Higher Secondary Schools of the Bhavan at R.S.Puram and Ajjanur train their students to become successful individuals as well as dutiful citizens of the Nation. They have set up an exclusive department for 'Human Excellence' and resource persons from various fields are invited to speak to the students on relevant topics.

Bhavan's Coimbatore Kendra is striving to fulfil the dream of its founder by integrating the wisdom of the past with the technology of the modern world.