



News - 2020

2020 began joyously in Chennai, India - amongst family, friends, dance & music!! A 3 day abhinaya intensive at the **Univ. of Malaya** and 3 days re exploring Singapore after more than a decade enroute to California followed.



(with Prof. Prema Thiagarajan, Head of Dept, Kumudhini Sivanathan, President, Malaysia Barathanaty Dance Assn. and the participants in the workshop)

Mid March, I got home one Saturday after classes at the Ektaa Center, BOOM, we were in complete lockdown! Baffled at first, we quickly bounced back online. It was critical for the mental and physical health of everyone – students and us. But what was to be 3 weeks continues.....

The silver lining, if there is indeed one - the students have adapted really well especially the younger amongst them!! They are the tech generation, after all 😊. Though challenged AND resistant to anything online for years, I have learnt not just to cope but become 'adequately' proficient with 'a little help from many' 😊.



Thanks to the newly found "tech acumen", I embarked on a series of online activities starting with a 2 day 'Art of Abhinaya' workshop attended by dance aficionados across 3 continents. Three advanced abhinaya sessions with 'serious' students of dance from Australia, Canada and across the US, including some of my own from as far back as the 90s continue. There have been master classes for **U of California, Irvine (Spring Festival)**, **St Teresa's College, Ernakulam (Natya Pravah Webinar)**, Natesha

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DANCE REFLECTIONS
CONVERSATIONS ABOUT CRITIQUIING ONESELF

Presented by
SHREYA NAGARAJAN SINGH
ARTS DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANCY

CHRISTOPHER GURUSAMY

THE ABHINAYA EDITION

PARESHWANATH UPADHYE **UMA SATHYANARAYANAN** **RAMYA HARISHANKAR**

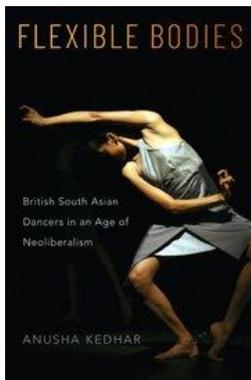
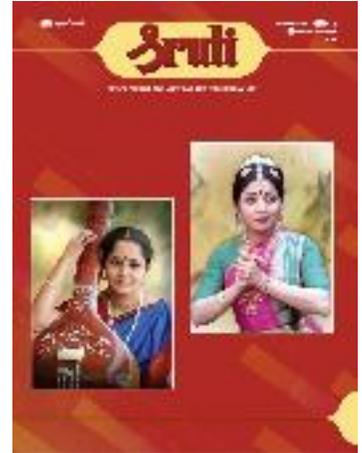
Registrations at www.shreyanagarajansingh.com
For more information +91 73587 77797
consultancy@shreyanagarajansingh.com

Ticket Fee: ₹ 250
23rd August 2020
9 AM IST

School of Bharata Natyam, San Diego (*Workshops for a cause*) and a workshop/performance by the Arpana Dance Company (ADC) and me for **Chicago based Natya Dance Theatre's Parampara Festival**. I had several opportunities to converse/share thoughts - SNS Arts Development Consultants, Chennai's *Dance Reflections*; San Jose's Abhinaya Dance Co's [Reminiscing about Kalanidhi Mami](#) and an [extensive conversation](#) on my dance journey in the series by Viswa Nruthya Gana Bhushana, Mysuru. Enjoyed experimenting with singing and 'netra abhinaya' for Soundarya Lahiri verses for [Narthaki's Devi Diaries](#) for Navaratri.



A sporadic Fb 'poster', I had a few special uploads this year – in Oct, the **50th anniversary of my Arangetram**, acknowledging my gurus (*pic with Vadyar, Swamimalai K. Rajaratnam in 1970*) and others who have enriched that journey. I was honored to be a 'cover girl' on **Sruti magazine**, well timed to coincide with a special juncture in my life!



One of my first students, **Anusha Kedhar**, is an Assistant Professor of Critical Dance Studies at the University of California, Riverside. Her book published this year examines Indian dance and dancers at the intersection of transnationalism, globalization, race, labor, migration, gender, and sexuality.

Though members of ADC have presented live, recorded and specially recorded performances online at various festivals/events, the school students had no opportunities at all. We created many projects to keep the students motivated and moving forward – **summer camp** conducted by senior ADC members – **Ahila**

Gulasekaram, Shubha Chandramouli & Vini Sundaram. Samarpan 2.0, an online version of our annual

recital, showcasing a student every week in their best performance. **Fall Forward Challenge**, had the students memorize and perform a warm up routine set to music. So proud of **Vini Sundaram** and **Raashi Subramanya**, our staff members who have continued to inspire and teach the students with commitment and kindness.



2020 FALL FORWARD CHALLENGE WINNERS!





Grateful to all my colleagues, friends and well wishers...thanks to 'social distancing', one has re-connected with many? The opportunity to enjoy the work of artists world over has been a boon as well

2021- Look forward to sharing **Dance Conversations: a retrospective of Indian dance in S. California**, a digitally documented series with collaborators, peers and mentors. Watch for its premiere soon!!