

୩୬ତମ
କୋଣାର୍କ ଉତ୍ସବ

36TH

KONARK FESTIVAL

Open Air Auditorium, Konark, Odisha

1st to 5th December 2025

6.00 PM to 8.30 PM



KONARK FESTIVAL

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS 2025

1 December

ODISSI

Sonali Mohapatra & Group
Nrutya Upasana Pitha,
Bhubaneswar

BHARATNATYAM

Ananda Shankar Jayant
& Group, *Shankarananda
Kalakshetra Ensemble*,
Hyderabad

4 December

MANIPURI

Bimbavati Devi & Group
Manipuri Nartanalaya,
Kolkata

ODISSI

Bharat Charan Giri &
Group, *Bharati Nrutya
Mandir*, Bhubaneswar

2 December

KUCHIPUDI

Vyjayanthi Kashi & Group
Shambhavi School of Dance,
Bengaluru

ODISSI

Sharmila Biswas & Group
*Odissi Vision & Movement
Centre*, Kolkata

5 December

ODISSI

Arati Kar & Group
Utkal Dance & Research Academy,
Bhubaneswar

KATHAK

Sanjukta Sinha & Group
Sanjukta Sinha Dance Company,
Ahmedabad

3 December

ODISSI

Ratikant Mohapatra &
Group *Srjan*, Bhubaneswar

KATHAKALI

Kerala Kalamandalam
Group, Kerala

The five-day-long Annual Konark Festival of classical dance, performed by celebrated dancers of the country in an Open -Air-Auditorium with the famous Sun Temple at the backdrop enthalls the connoisseurs of dance every year from 1st to 5th December. The winter breeze from the sea and the magic of various dance forms create an atmosphere filled with rhythmic beats and melodious tunes.

1 DECEMBER

6.30 pm - 7.30 pm



Nrutya Upasana pitha Bhubaneswar

Smt. Sonali Mohapatra is an accomplished Odissi dancer known for her mastery in Abhinaya (expression) and Nritya (pure dance). She lost major portion of her hearing at the age of five, yet with strong willpower and passion, she embraced Odissi dance from childhood. She began her training at age four under Guru Smt. Truptimayee Mohanty and later refined her skills under Guru Shri Durga Charan Ranbir. With deep dedication and her family's support, she emerged as a leading dancer of the Guru Deba Prasad Das gharana. Her institution, *Nrutya Upasana Pitha*, is her proud creation, where she teaches Odissi and also takes the noble initiative of training differently-abled children.

Sonali Mohapatra
and Group

Odissi



Hanuman Chalisa is a sacred hymn composed by Saint Tulsidas, celebrating the devotion, strength, and purity of Lord Hanuman. This dance presentation pays tribute to the mighty Vanara who embodies Bhakti (devotion), Shakti (strength), and Seva (service). *Music: Guru Sri Abhiram Nanda, Dance Composition: Guru Smt. Sonali Mohapatra.*

Saranga Pallavi is a pure dance piece where movement and music unfold gracefully like a blossoming flower. It elaborates the beauty of the chosen raga, weaving rhythm, melody, and choreography into a harmonious tapestry. *Dance Choreography: Guru Smt. Sonali Mohapatra, Music & Rhythm: Sri Nirmal Kumar Mohapatra.*

Chari Yuga Devi narrates the story of Goddess Durga across four yugas, portraying her as the powerful destroyer of evil. The piece highlights her strength and divine energy through expressive movement and rhythmic precision. *Dance Choreography: Guru Smt. Sonali Mohapatra, Music & Rhythm: Sri Nirmal Kumar Mohapatra.*

1 DECEMBER

7.30 pm - 8.30 pm



**Shankarananda
Kalakshetra Ensemble**
Hyderabad

Dr. Ananda Shankar Jayant is one of India's most distinguished classical dancers, choreographers, and dance scholars. Honoured with the Padma Shri (2007) and the Sangeet Natak Akademi Puraskar (2009), she has made remarkable contributions to Bharatanatyam. Her digital creation Kutty Kahani—a video-embedded e-book for children—was acknowledged by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in his Mann Ki Baat (18 June 2023). A senior officer of the Indian Railway Traffic Service, she also leads *Shankarananda Kalakshetra*, founded in 1979, which has grown into a premier national institution dedicated to classical arts and creative excellence for over four decades.

Ananda Shankar Jayant
and Group

Bharatanatyam



DASHAVATARAM: Takkuvemi Manaku- A beautiful song in simple Telugu by Bhakta Ramadas of the 17 th century that goes on to describe the Dashavatara of Mahavishnu. Just as Krishna or Keshava is the central Bhagawan in Jayadeva's Dashavatara Ashtapadi, in this song by Bhakta Ramadas Sri Rama is the central God.

DEVI UPASAKAM: The worship and adoration of the Mother Goddess, reveals the secret of rising from darkness, untruth and mortality unto the grand realm of light, truth and life. She is the eternal Shakti, She is fearless, the Warrior, She is the defender , protector and saviour.

SHIVOHAM: Through the idiom of poetry, verse, melody and rhythm of timeless music, the architectonic beauty and grammar of Bharatanatyam, this is an offering to bring the Omniscient, Omnipresent Lord Shiva.
Choreography: Dr. Ananda Shankar Jayant

2 DECEMBER

6.30 pm - 7.30 pm



Shambhavi School of Dance Bengaluru

Shambhavi School of Dance (SSD), founded in 1993 by *Vyjayanthi Kashi* in Bengaluru, is a leading Kuchipudi Gurukul dedicated to the promotion and training of classical arts. Over three decades, SSD has expanded its artistic vision and now hosts four unique annual festivals conceptualized by its founder. Vyjayanthi Kashi, a dynamic force in Kuchipudi, has excelled as a performer, choreographer, teacher, researcher, and organizer. She has served as Chairperson of the Karnataka Sangeeta Nritya Academy, been a member of the Central Sangeet Natak Akademi, and is the creator of Dancejathre, India's first international dance fair. She is also a recipient of the Central Sangeet Natak Akademi Award.

Vyjayanthi Kashi
and Group

Kuchipudi



Dharmāyana explores the many avatars of Lord Vishnu, each symbolizing the eternal principles of Dharma and cosmic balance. Central to this presentation is the legend of Amrita Manthana—the churning of the ocean—seen as a metaphor for the human mind and its constant struggle between good and evil. The production celebrates Vishnu as the timeless protector and upholder of righteousness. *Script: Dr. Shatavadhani R. Ganesh, Music: Sri D. V. S. Sastry, Concept, Choreography & Direction: Smt. Vyjayanthi Kashi*

2 DECEMBER

7.30 pm - 8.30 pm

**Odissi Vision
& Movement Centre**
Kolkata

Sharmila Biswas, a distinguished disciple of Padma Vibhushan Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra, is an acclaimed Odissi artist known for her powerful solo and group dance-theatre works presented worldwide for over three decades. As the Artistic Director of the *Odissi Vision & Movement Centre*, she has contributed greatly to training, research, and performance in the classical arts. Her passion for sharing knowledge extends to her writings as well. Honoured as an 'Outstanding' artiste by ICCR and a 'Top' grade artist by Doordarshan, she is also a recipient of the prestigious Sangeet Natak Akademi Award.



Sharmila Biswas
and Group

Odissi

Mahalakshmi Stotram brings to life the powerful imagery of the goddess holding the Shanka, Chakra, Gada, and Padma. Inspired by Patachitra art, sculptures, and traditional shadow puppetry, the choreography creates a visually rich presentation. *Choreography: Sharmila Biswas, Music: Srijan Chatterjee, Rhythm: Bijaya Kumar Barik*

Abartan-Bibartan explores the natural human rhythm present in everyday actions. Simple activities and playful movements evolve into dance, celebrating the innate rhythm that shapes music and expression. *Music: Ramahari Das, Rhythm: Dhaneswar Swain, Choreography: Sharmila Biswas*

Shrishti-Tatva interprets the evolution of life through ancient wisdom and modern thought. Drawing from the Puranas and Jayadeva's depiction of the Dashavatar, the work reflects the essence of creation. *Music: Srijan Chatterjee, Rhythm & Choreography: Sharmila Biswas*

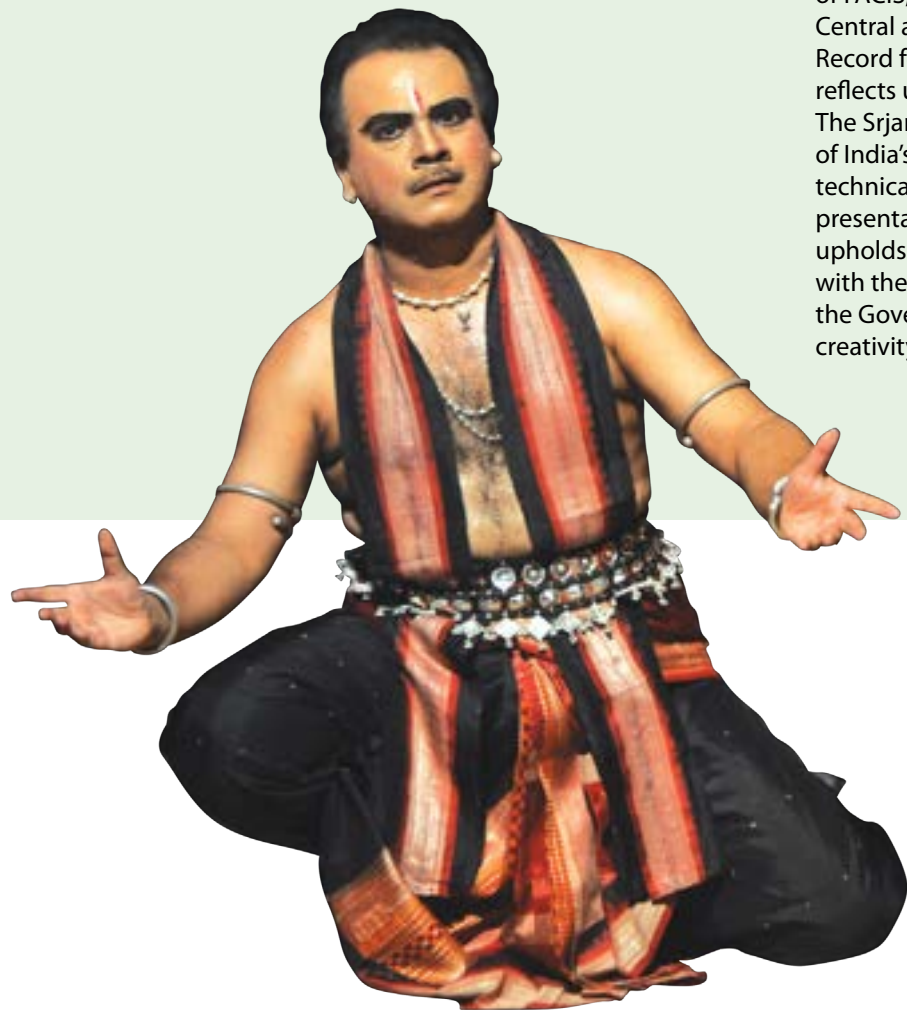
3 DECEMBER

6.30 pm - 7.30 pm

Srjan Ensemble

Bhubaneswar

Guru Ratikant Mohapatra, one of India's foremost Odissi exponents and choreographers, has redefined the form by blending classical purity with contemporary innovation. For over four decades, his performances, pedagogy, and institution-building have elevated Odissi globally. As Director of *Srjan* and Dean of FACIS, SSU, he mentors generations. Recipient of Central and Odisha SNA Awards and a Guinness World Record for choreographing 555 dancers, his legacy reflects unwavering dedication to Odissi's evolution. The Srjan Ensemble, under his artistic direction, is one of India's leading Odissi repertory groups, acclaimed for technical virtuosity, aesthetic precision, and dynamic presentations. Performing across India and abroad, it upholds Odissi's traditional framework. Recognized with the Rashtriya Raja Mansingh Tomar Samman by the Government of Madhya Pradesh, Srjan embodies creativity, discipline, and devotion.



Guru Ratikant Mohapatra
and Group

Odissi



Adviteeyam: Adviteeyam emerges in a world shaped by swift technological change, seeking the modern within the ancient by reviving timeless wisdom rooted in tradition. Inspired by Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra's immortal legacy, it preserves his visionary essence while exploring new creative frontiers in Odissi. Without compromising classical vocabulary, it embraces evolution, harmonizing tradition with innovation. These neo-classical explorations uphold the dialogue between heritage and progress, ensuring Odissi remains relevant, revered, and aesthetically forward, shaped by devotion, intellect, and artistry. **Choreography:** *Guru Ratikant Mohapatra* / **Music:** *Pt. Bhubaneswar Mishra, Pt. Raghunath Panigrahi & Shri Agnimitra Behera* / **Light Design & Operation:** *Shri Debi Prasad Mishra*

3 DECEMBER

7.30 pm - 8.30 pm

Kerala Kalamandalam

Kerala

The Living Heritage of Kerala's Performing Arts founded in 1930 as the premier institution for classical Indian performing arts. **Kerala Kalamandalam** has long been recognized as the foremost center for rigorous training in classical art forms such as Kathakali, Mohiniyattam, Kutiyattam, Thullal, and Nangiar Koothu. In addition to these traditional disciplines, the institution also offers programs in Kuchipudi, Bharatanatyam, Modern Theatre, and the traditional percussion ensemble Panchavadyam. Here art is not merely studied but lived. Each performance tradition preserved here serves as a living link to Kerala's rich cultural and mythological past. The institution makes classical forms meet contemporary expression without compromising authenticity. By fostering pride in Kerala's cultural identity, Kalamandalam strengthens social cohesion and collective heritage.



Kathakali



Duryodhana Vadha by Vayaskara Aryan Narayanan Moosad (1841-1902) is a Kathakali play that dramatizes pivotal moments from the Mahabharata, tracing the rise of Duryodhana's arrogance and his ultimate downfall. The play unfolds through the episodes of deceit, humiliation, exile, and vengeance that shape the moral and emotional landscape of the epic. Centering on the dice game, Draupadi's dishonour, Krishna's divine intervention, and the fierce fulfillment of Bhima's vow, the drama embodies the eternal conflict between adharma and dharma. Through expressive abhinaya, symbolic gesture, and stylized battle sequences, the play culminates in the annihilation of evil and the restoration of cosmic order. The Game of Dice and Draupadi's Humiliation. Draupadi and Krishna The Slaying of Dussassana. *The Game of Dice and Draupadi's Humiliation, Draupadi and Krishna, The Slaying of Dussassana.*

4 DECEMBER

6.30 pm - 7.30 pm



Manipuri Nartanalaya Kolkata

Bimbavati Devi being the daughter of legendary maestros of Manipuri dance, Guru Bipin Singh and Guru Smt. Kalavati Devi was initiated into the world of dance and music at a very tender age. She has also learnt Pung (Manipuri mridang) playing and the basics of Thang Ta, the martial art of Manipur. She is now engaged in various experimental choreographies based on the various aspects of Manipuri dance. She has performed in prestigious festivals and events all over India and abroad and she is a recipient of Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar.

Bimbavati Devi
and Group

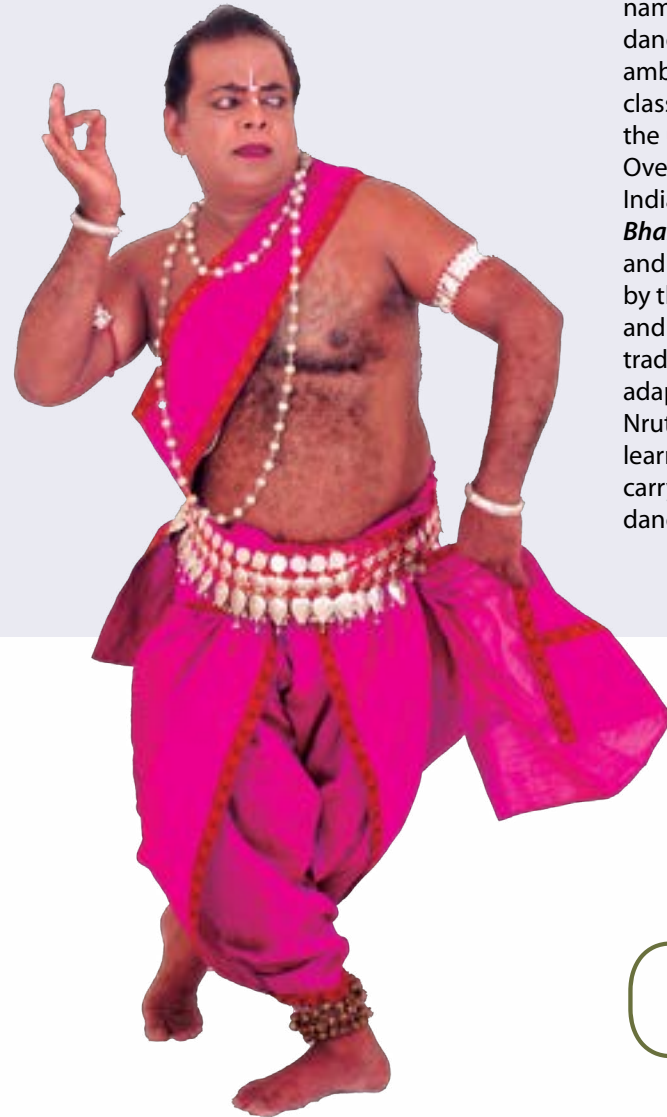
Manipuri



Leelakamal : This production is inspired by the traditional dances of Goshtaleela composed originally by the legendary maestro Guru Bipin Singh. Later it has been rechoreographed by Bimbavati Devi. Goshtaleela is traditionally performed in the temple premises on Gopasthami in the month of Kartik, in which Krishna and the sakhas go to the meadows to tame the cattle. Different valorous leelas of Krishna follow and eventually good triumphs over evil. Leelakamal has been blended with the ritualistic dance and music that are an essential part of the various Vaishnava performing traditions of Manipur. *Choreography & Direction: Bimbavati Devi.*

4 DECEMBER

7.30 pm - 8.30 pm



Bharat Charan Giri
and Group

Odissi

Bharati Nrutya Mandir Bhubaneswar

Guru Sri Bharat Charan Giri is a revered name in the world of Odissi dance. As a dancer, choreographer, teacher, and cultural ambassador, he has left an indelible mark on the classical arts. He has mastered and preserved the unique Guru Deba Prasad Das Gharana. Over four decades, his performances across India and abroad have earned critical acclaim. **Bharati Nrutya Mandir** is a premier Odissi dance and music institution founded in 1996. Guided by the philosophy of “Discipline, Devotion, and Excellence”, the institution upholds the traditional Guru-Shishya Parampara while adapting to evolving global platforms. Bharati Nrutya Mandir stands as a vibrant temple of learning—committed to nurturing artists who carry forward Odisha’s rich legacy of classical dance and music to a global stage.



Charukeshi Pallavi beautifully blends footwork (Pada), rhythm (Laya), and graceful arrangement (Vinyasa), unfolding the elegance of the raga through coordinated movement and music. *Choreography: Guru Shri Bharat Charan Giri. Music: Guru Shri Bijaya Kumar Jena Rhythm: Guru Dhaneswar Swain & Guru Ajaya Kumar Choudhury , Gajanana (Short Version).*

Gajanana narrates the divine origin of Lord Ganesha—from Indra’s arrogance and Durvasa’s curse on Airavata to young Ganesha’s encounter with Shiva, his beheading, and his revival with the head of a newborn elephant. The story celebrates Ganesha as the remover of obstacles and symbol of wisdom. *Concept, Script & Choreography: Guru Shri Bharat Charan Giri. Music: Guru Shri Bijaya Kumar Jena. Rhythm: Guru Dhaneswar Swain & Guru Ajaya Kumar Choudhury.*

5 DECEMBER

6.30 pm - 7.30 pm

Utkal Dance and Research Akademy Bhubaneswar

UDRA was started with the singular efforts of Late Guru Shri Sahadev Padhi in 1994. It aimed to provide quality training to students and popularise the dance form. The students of the institution have performed in innumerable national festivals and abroad. The main aim of UDRA is to keep alive the different styles of all eminent Odissi gurus Kelu Charan Mahapatra, Deba Prasad Das, Pankaj Charan Das and Dr. Minati Mishra. However, the items performed by the students of the school have the unique flavour of the 'devadasi' style pioneered by Guru Shri Pankaj Charan Das.

As a senior disciple, Guru Arati Kar work relentlessly for UDRA to reach its goal.

Arati Kar
& Group

Odissi



TRI PATHAGA : 'TriPathaga' refers the sacred river Ganga which flows in three worlds. The sacred bath also facilitates liberation from the cycles of Life and Death and it has many names. River Ganga is the religious lifeline to all Indians. *Choreography: Guru Sri Ramesh Chandra Jena & Guru smt. Arati Kar. Music composition: Guru Sri Umesh Chandra Das, Rhythm : Guru Sri Dhaneswar Swain*

NIYATI : Destiny plays a crucial role in everyone's life . It reassures that whatever is truly meant , shall inevitably come up regardless of all obstacles. Even the holy incarnation in different ages have undergone trials and tribulations as per the Destiny. *Choreography: Guru Smt. Arati Kar & Guru Sri YudhistriNayak. Music composition: Guru Sri Umesh Chandra Das, Rhythm : Guru Sri Dhaneswar Swain.*

5 DECEMBER

7.30 pm - 8.30 pm

**Sanjukta Sinha
Dance Company**
Ahmedabad

she has mastered the traditional Kathak style while adding her own contemporary flair to it. *Sanjukta's* performances are captivating, blending traditional Kathak elements with modern sensibilities. With her dynamic stage presence and expressive storytelling, she holds audiences spellbound. She has received the prestigious award Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar. *Sanjukta Sinha Dance Company* was founded in 2019. Rooted in traditions yet recreating them in newer forms, the company's motto is to celebrate diversity in unison. This is a platform to foster interdisciplinary streams of arts and create aspace for performing artists to excel in multiple tangents possible.

**Sanjukta Sinha
and Group**

Kathak



Adi Anant : The production seeks to explore and embody the divine energies of Shiva and Krishna - two cosmic forces that together complete the eternal cycle of creation, preservation, and dissolution. Through rhythm, movement, and emotion, the performance journeys from stillness to bliss, from asceticism to ecstasy. Adi Anant, is an ode to Shiva - the infinite and the eternal. This also honours the diversity and harmony of Kathak, as both the Jaipur and Lucknow gharanas unite to create a holistic experience that embodies the spirit of this ancient form. Adi Anant becomes a dialogue between rhythm and grace, power and poise, tradition and innovation.

Leela : The Dance of Celestial Ecstasy, celebrates the divine play of Krishna -where devotion meets abandon, and joy transcends all form. Together, Adi Anant and Leela weave a spiritual journey - from the infinite silence of Shiva to the ecstatic play of Krishna - reflecting the boundless possibilities of Kathak and the timeless essence of dance as devotion.

Organised by
Odisha Tourism
Paryatan Bhawan, Lewis Road
Bhubaneswar - 751014
Tel: +91 674 2430764 / 2432177

In association with



OTDC
Odisha Tourism Development
Corporation Ltd.



**Odisha Sangeet
Natak Akademi**

www.odishatourism.gov.in
info@odishatourism.gov.in



odishatourismofficial



odishatourismofficial



odisha_tourism