



NCPA presents 'Folk Dances of India' - workshop for children

**Workshop on folk dances from Gujarat and Rajasthan to be conducted
by Kalyanni Vrajesh from June 1st -6th, 2010 at the NCPA**

Media Release

For Immediate Release

Mumbai, May 27th, 2010: The National Centre for the Performing Arts, India's premier arts and culture institution, presents "**Folk Dances of India**", a six-day workshop for children that will give kids a sneak peek into the treasure box of folk dance forms. Children between the age group of **8 to 14 years** will be introduced to the basics of folk dances from Gujarat and Rajasthan. This unique workshop by **Kalyanni Vrajesh** will be held **from June 1st to June 6th, 2010, at West Room 1 at Jamshed Bhabha Theatre, NCPA.**

At a time when western and Bollywood dance is becoming more popular with children, and classes offering these styles are mushrooming across the city, the NCPA gives children a chance to explore their country's heritage and culture. Through this fun summer workshop, Kalyanni offers a basic introduction to the folk dances of India, with forms like **Dandiya** and **Ghoomar**. Folk dances are mainly of rural origin and reflect the customs and traditions of a particular region.

Arundhati Subramaniam, Head – Programming (Indian Dance), NCPA, says "We have had a very successful children's workshops in the recent past, the NCPA Summer Fiesta being the latest example. We were encouraged by the response to our Dance workshops as well. The last two dance workshops that we had focused on are classical dance and contemporary dance respectively. Hence to complete the series, we

decided to have a third workshop on Folk Dance. Kalyanni Vrajesh is trained Indian folk dances by one of the most noted dancers in the city, Indumati Lele, and we are really looking forward to her workshop.”

Kalyanni Vrajesh is a young performer, choreographer, researcher and teacher of Bharata Natyam and Indian folk styles. She holds an M.F.A degree in Bharata Natyam from Nalanda Nritya Kala Mahavidyalaya, affiliated to the Mumbai University. She has had advanced training in the folk dances of India from renowned folk dance expert Indumati Lele. She has performed at many prestigious festivals and events and judged various university and school zonal level competitions.

The workshop will culminate with an informal dance presentation for parents and interested viewers at the NCPA. Vrajesh is really looking forward to the workshop. “The very fact that the workshop serves the purpose of bringing children together, and gives them the opportunity to learn new dance forms, is exciting enough,” she said. “To add to it, they get to perform on the last day of the workshop – that is very exciting and challenging for me and the children.”

The on-going NCPA Summer-fiesta for kids has proved to be a great way for kids to engage with the performing arts for personal development. This workshop will further highlight NCPA’s dedication to introduce younger generations to traditional dance forms. The informal presentation at the end of the workshop will be held on Sunday, 6 June, at 11.30 AM.

About the NCPA:

Inaugurated in 1969, the National Centre for the Performing Arts, Mumbai, exists to provide leadership on a national level as India’s premier performing arts, research and training centre through the presentation of Indian and international art forms, the promotion of excellence and the preservation of Indian & International cultural heritage. For more info, visit www.ncpamumbai.com

Registration: Rs.1000/-

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To use the online booking facility simply log on to the NCPA official website
<http://www.ncpamumbai.com> / buy-tickets or visit www.bookmyshow.com.

For further information please log on to www.ncpamumbai.com

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