



Pragati Sood Anand has emerged as a Kathak dancer who has been successful in discovering & shaping her dance with a distinct style. Pragati was formally trained in Kathak at the Kathak Kendra, New Delhi for twelve years under eminent Gurus. Pragati has not only wooed her audience through stage performances in India but includes a number of stints abroad in countries like France, Spain, Germany, Switzerland, Ireland, Iceland, Italy, Belgium, Austria, Australia, South Africa, Myanmar, Thailand, Slovak Republic, Romania, Russia, USA & Latin America.

A significant contribution to her field also includes the formation of Sampoorana, a group of young & talented dancers & musicians, who are working ceaselessly towards promoting Indian Classical dance through performances & workshops abroad and in Indian schools. She has been honoured with the Young FICCI Ladies Organisation YFLO Young Women Achievers Award for 2012-13. Pragati has been the first Indian to perform in the prestigious Harpa Cultural Centre in Reykjavik, Iceland.



On the occasion of
70th Independence Day of India

The Indian Cultural Centre
Colombo

Presents

SAHANARTANA

A Kathak Recital

by

renowned Kathak danseuse
Pragati Sood Anand
and her ensemble

at 7.00 p.m on Saturday, 13 August 2016
at the Bishops College Auditorium
No. 11, Perahera Mawatha, Colombo 3

Admission by Invitation
Limited Pass available at Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo
on First come first serve basis from 8th August onwards

Cultural Calendar - August 2016

4
Thursday
9.30am - 1.30pm

To commemorate 75th death anniversary of Gurudev
Rabindranath Tagore
International Seminar
"Revising Rabindranath Tagore's Legacy"
Organized by Centre for Contemporary Indian Studies,
University of Colombo in collaboration with Indian Cultural
Centre, Colombo
Venue: Senate Hall, University of Colombo
(Admission by invitation)

Arts of Glory
An all Island Poetry & Art Competition
Organized by CLEON, Academy of Speech,
Drama & Leadership
Ages between 5 -19
Participation by registration. Contact: 077 286 7928
Venue: ICC auditorium

8 & 23
Monday & Tuesday
2.00pm - 5.00pm

13
Saturday
7.00pm

70th Independence Day Celebrations
Sahanartana - Kathak Recital
by Pragati Sood Anand, renowned danseuse and her
ensemble from India
Venue: Bishops College Auditorium, No.11, Perahera Mw.,
Colombo 03
(Admission by invitation)

Friday matinee - The Legend of Bhagat Singh
Director: Rajkumar Santoshi (Duration : 3hrs)
Cast : Ajay Devgan, Sushant Singh and Amrita Rao
The Legend of Bhagat Singh is a 2002 Indian historical
biographical film about Bhagat Singh, a freedom fighter, a
revolutionary socialist who was influential in the Indian
independence movement.
Venue: ICC auditorium

26
Friday
3.00pm

Programmes subject to change
Admission to all programmes are on first come first serve basis. Except 4th, 8th, 13th & 23rd
All are cordially invited



Sanskarika

Newsletter of the Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo

August 2016



Cultural Tapestry

FROM MADHUBANI TO KALAMKARI

INDIAN FOLK ART FORMS THAT HAVE SURVIVED GENERATIONS

Passed down from one generation to another, Indian folk art is still alive in many parts of the country. Being culturally diverse and distinct, a variety of art forms have evolved over the years; some untouched by modernisation, some adapting to new paint colours and materials. Each depict religious epics or Gods and Goddesses mostly, but they're all unique, admirable and inimitable in their own right. In the days of yore, they were made with natural dyes and colours made of soil, mud, leaves and charcoal, on canvas or cloth – giving it a sense of antiquity, vintage nostalgia. Here's a look at 10 folk painting forms that are still practiced in select parts of the country:

MADHUBANI



Source: Wikimedia Commons

Also called Mithila art, it originated in the kingdom of Janak (Sita's father in Ramayana) in Nepal and in present-day Bihar. It is one of the most popular Indian folk arts, practiced mostly by women who wanted to be one with God. Characterised by geometric patterns, this art form wasn't known to the outside world until the British discovered it after an earthquake in 1930's revealed broken houses with Madhubani paintings. It mirrored the work of Picasso and Miro, according to William G. Archer. Most of these paintings or wall murals depict gods, flora and fauna.

MINIATURE PAINTINGS



Source: Flickr: @since1968

These paintings are characterised by its miniature size but intricate details and acute expressions. Originating in the Mughal era, around 16th century, Miniature paintings are influenced by Persian styles, and flourished under Shah Jahan and Akbar's rule. Later, it was adopted by Rajputs, and is now popularly practiced in Rajasthan. As with other art forms, the paintings depict religious symbols and epics. These paintings stand out as humans are portrayed with large eyes, a pointed nose and a slim waist, and men are always seen with a turban.

PHAD



Phad depicting a tale about Pabuj

Source: Wikimedia Commons

Originating in Rajasthan, Phad is mainly a religious form of scroll painting depicting folk deities Pabuji or Devnarayan. The 30- or 15 feet-long canvas or cloth that it is painted on is called phad. Vegetable colours and a running narrative of the lives and heroic deeds of deities characterise these paintings.

WARLI



Source: Wikimedia Commons

Originated by the Warli tribes from the Western Ghat of India, in 2500 BCE, this is easily one of the oldest art forms of India. It is mainly the use of circles, triangles and squares to form numerous shapes and depict daily life activities like fishing, hunting, festivals, dance and more. What sets it apart is the human shape: a circle and two triangles. All the paintings are done on a red ochre or dark background, while the shapes are white in colour.

GOND



Source: Flickr, Facebook

Characterised by a sense of belonging with nature, the Gondi tribe in Madhya Pradesh created these bold, vibrantly coloured paintings, depicting mainly flora and fauna. The colours come from charcoal, cow dung, leaves and coloured soil. If you look closely, it is made up of dots and lines. Today, these styles are imitated, but with acrylic paints. It can be called an evolution in the Gond art form, spearheaded by Jangarh Singh Shyam, the most popular Gond artist who revived the art for the world in the 1960's.

To be continued...

Source: <http://www.thebetterindia.com/53993/10-indian-folk-art-forms-survived-paintings/>