



# Aarthi Vasudevan

## KUCHIPUDI

Yuva kala Bharathi Ms. Aarthi Vasudevan has been trained in both Bharatanatyam and Kuchipudi for the past 22 years under the direct tutelage of Guru Sailaja. After performing her Bharatanatyam Arangetram in the year 2008, she was inspired to learn the kuchipudi art form and completed her Rangapravesam in 2016. Her determination and love for dance can be seen and felt in the rhythm of her steps and portrayal of emotions glorifying her achievements undoubtedly.

### Credits

Aarthi has been awarded the YUVA KALA BHARATHI from the prestigious Bharat Kalachar for Kuchipudi style on their 35th marghazhi mahautsav.

She is an empanelled artist of ICCR, New Delhi. She is a certified B-grade artist in Doordarshan. A CCRT scholarship holder She had recently conducted a 7-day Kuchipudi workshop under the SPICMACAY banner in the government schools of Kota, Rajasthan, and was highly appreciated for the interactive and informative sessions by her.

### Performances

She is one among the senior dancers of the Saila Sudha Dance Academy and has performed in several national festivals. She is a senior faculty in the academy for the past 10 years nurturing the art in the budding dancers. She also takes care of the administration work and assists her guru in events and programs. She has played major roles in many dance ballets of saila sudha like Chandalika, Sathiyam Shivam Sundaram, Vaikundam, Pibare Rama Rasam, Divya Prabhavam. She has been a part of many prestigious dance festivals all over India notably Khajuraho dance festival, Indian dance festival at Mamallapuram, Surya dance festival, Thrissur Vadakkunnathan temple in Kerala, Konark dance festival, Odisha.

She had the honor to perform in the Maham Amc festival, VDS art academy in 2013 and was awarded with much appreciation.



# Shruti Bode

## HINDUSTANI VOCAL

Shruti Bhode has been learning music for 18 years under the guidance of Well-known musicians like Smt. Vidushi Vani Ramesh Hegde (Hardikar), Yellapur and Dr Smt. Bharathi Vaishampayan, Kolhapur

### Achievements and Awards

- Won state-level 'Aralu Mallige' award at the age of 10
- Won the first prize in the district-level "Prathibha Kaaranji" competitions.
- Won 1st prize in State level Bhaava Geethe competition for the academic year 2008-09, held at Gadag.
- 'B' high grade in Hindustani Music.
- Won 1st place in a state-level Hindusthani vocal competition held at Bagalkot.
- Won 1st place in state-level Bhaava Geethe competition for the academic year 2010-2011 held at Haveri.
- Won Gold medals in Hindusthani singing in Postal Cultural Meets held at Dehradun.

(in the year 2006), Assam (2007), Kerala (2008), Mysore (2009), Bihar (2010), and Kolkata (2011).

- Won 1st place in State level Yuvajanotsava, held at Mandya in 2010-11.
- Awarded with "Baala Kalaashree" award by Kalaa Vikaas Parishad, Gadag.
- Awarded with "Pt. Puttaraj Gawoy Yuva Puraskaar" by Kalaa Vikaas Parishad, Gadag.



## Retnasree Iyer

# TABLA

Retnasree specialises in Hindustani style, and she is also an expert at all of its six gharanas. Along with her solo performances, she has accompanied some great artists like Pandit Ronju Majumdar, Ustad Faiyaz Khan (Dharwad), Pandit Shailesh Bhagawath (Mumbai), Pandit Arun Kashalkar (Mumbai), Smt. Paromita Muharjee, T V Gopalakrishnan, Sri Kudamaloor Janardhanan, and Haridas Santoor, among many others. She has performed across the globe and participated in prestigious festivals like Festival Vienne, Austria. She did a diploma in tabla from Hyderabad University. She is also the first postgraduate holder in tabla from Kerala. She did her tabla visharad in Akhil Bharathiya Gandharva Maha Mandal, Mumbai. She passed with distinction under the guidance of professor Manohar Keskar. Retnasree also went on to complete another Masters in tabla from Shivaji University, Kohlapur, securing a rank under the guidance of Keskar and Ustad Faiyaz Khan. She also took advanced classes from Pandit Arvind Mulgaonkar and Ustad Faiyaz Khan, of Dilli Gharana. Retnasree's days are jam-packed now with her performing in both Hindustani and Carnatic concerts, jugalbandis and fusion shows, teaching her students and accompanying many esteemed musicians across the country.

Achievements and Awards:

She is the first female professional classical Tabla artist from South India who is also AIR graded. She has received the following awards:

- Aban Mistry Award from Miraj, Maharashtra, 2014
- Princess of Tabla Award From Rotary Club, 2015
- Prathibha Award from Navarasa Sangeetha Sabha, Trivandrum 2015
- Kerala Sangeetha Natak Academy Award, 2018
- Yuva chetana award from Chetana Music Society, Trichur, 2019
- Sangeeth Sadhana Sidhi award from Orissa, 2019
- Tamil Pennisai title from Thiruvaiyar, 2019
- Nadalaya Jyoti Puraskaram from Mathangi School of Music, Kottayam 2022



# Rajeev Vallabhata

## KALARIPAYATTU

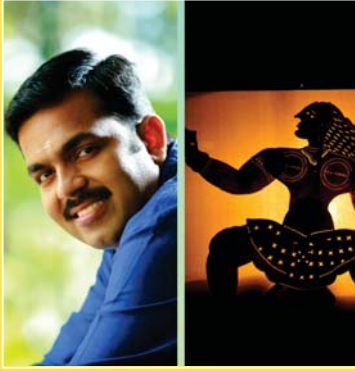
**Represented by Sri. Krishnadas and Brothers of Vallabhatakari**

*A Lifestyle more than a Martial Art*

Male members of the Mudavungattil family were the commanders-in-chief of the Vettath Raja. Then the members of this family were great deponents of Kalaripayatt and held the Gurustanam of the Royal family.

The records of 1915 and 1925 state that Vallabhata traditional Kalari existed since the Vettath Raja's reign began. This Kalari exists even now at Niramarruthoor, Tirur Taluk, Malappuram District, but it is mainly kept as a Kalari Temple. Vallabhata Kalari has a fantastic reputation. Classes were conducted in the states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka under the late Gurukkal Sankunni Panicker.

He was the last member of the Mudavangattil Family on whom the title of 'PANICKER' was conferred by the Vattath Royal Highness. Late Gurukkal Sankunni Panicker had his training under his uncle, the late eminent Gurukkal Krishna Panickerachan, the disciple of Eravi alias Karunakara Panicker. The late Gurukkal Sankunni Panicker gave equal importance to simultaneously promoting Marma Chikilsa and Kalari Payatt. Their Institution runs a traditional training Centre at Chavakkad and has been performing Kalaripayat all over India and abroad.



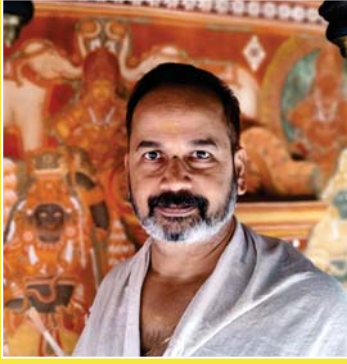
## Rajeev Pulavar

# THOLPAVAKOOTHU

Rajeev Pulavar is from the younger generation and holds the light of "tholpavakoothu" in hand. He is the son of Padmashri Ramachandra Pulavar. He was born into a traditional family with a rich historical background. From age eight, he was taught Tholpavakoothu by his great guru/father.

He still follows the conventional puppet performance style, which was introduced to him by his father. He has already achieved many milestones in this field; he won the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskara National Award from the Sangeet Natak Academy in New Delhi and many other awards, including the "Young talented artiste award" from the Kerala Sangeet Natak Academy.

Rajeev pulavar resigned government job and was fully engaged in tholpavakoothu. He had participated in many international shadow puppet festivals. Rajeev is one of the initiators who introduced contemporary and secular themes to appeal to the Youth. Performances are no longer confined only to temples. Still, they are also held in secular venues such as colleges and other demanding occasions. He has performed in more than five thousand global venues, including Israel, Thailand, China, Europe, and France. He is Keeping the traditional shadow puppetry in modern ways also.



**K.S. Krishnan**

## **MURAL PAINTING**

Sri Krishnan K.S has a National Diploma in Mural Painting and an M.F.A. (Painting) from Karnataka University.

He was commissioned to work in Sree Padmanabhaswami Temple, Trivandrum., Hotel Imperial, Janpath, New Delhi, LMW Corporate Office, Coimbatore., Elgi Equipments farmhouse, Coimbatore, Isha Yoga Centre, Coimbatore., India Cements M. D. House, Chennai., Kannukottukavu Bhagavathi Temple, Palakkad etc.

He has attended various Camps like the State Mural Camp conducted by MKNAF-Kerala, 2006-2009. - State Mural Artist Camp, Kumaranasan Smarakam, Trivandrum, 2006. State Mural Artist Camp, SAARC Festival Trivandrum, 1992., Mammiyoor Krishnankutty Nair Memorial National Camp, 1996. NFPC Traditional Artist Camp, 2001 etc.

He has conducted various Exhibitions across the country. Some of them are SAARC Festival Trivandrum, 1992. National Exhibition New Delhi, 1995. Nandalala Seya Samithi Exhibition, 1996. - MKNAF State Exhibitions, 2006-2009. Indian Artist's Exhibition, Valladolid, Spain, 2009. Sita Bhumi Putri, conducted by Gallery 360, Trivandrum, and Cochin, Bangalore, Spain 2007-2008. State Exhibition at Thousand Colours Art Gallery, Trivandrum, 1994. - Kerala Lalitakala Academy Annual Exhibitions, 1990-1992. - Ravi Varma Chitrotsavam, Trivandrum.



**Dr.Santosh G.Nair**

**BHARATANATYAM**

Dr. Santosh G Nair is a Research Scholar(PhD) in the field of Bharatanatyam from the Liverpool Hope University. She is also an IT Engineer and Management Consultant and currently working with Milapfest, Liverpool. She is also the Artistic Director of Samarpan, Wales where a wing of the organisation also has 50 plus students who share and train in Bharatanatyam in various levels.

Having initially trained under the guidance of Late Guru V S Ramamoorthy-disciple of Late Padmasri K.N.Dandayudha Pani Pillai and Guru Smt Manjula Ramaswamy from the age of 5, Santosh is currently training under the guidance of Guru Smt.Priyadarshini Govind.

Alongside her performance career, Santosh extends her passion for dance by teaching. With her experience in teaching dance in the UK, she has been working equally with children, young adults and adults focusing on teaching through the lens of yoga and creating a spiritual and a philosophical approach to learning which is her research interest. She gauges success in teaching through witnessing the continuity of learning and is filled with notable transformation in students studying dance. Since 2018 she has been collaborating with doctors who have used dance as a medicine in their day-to-day life transformation and continue to learn with her. She also initiated the project Re-Searching with Aalaap, a series of conversations with researchers in the field of music and dance. Santosh has been the recipient of the youngest child civilian award at the age of 14 the National Balshree Honour by The President of India HE Late Shri A P J Abdul Kalam for creative performance, at the Rastrapathi Bhavan, New Delhi. She received the National award of the UK YuvaNrityaRatna Award supported by Milapfest, UK and Arts Council England. Santosh is a CCRT, HRD and PanditJasraj scholarship holder from India and an empanelled member of SPICMACAY. Authored two books in the field of dance for children; Santosh has also received the international scholarship for intense training from Milapfest, 2017. She has been awarded several titles such as Natya Kala Ratna, Bal Ratna, NatyaMayuri, Kala JeevaPuraskar, NrityaShobita, Doordarshan Outstanding artist certificate and many more. Santosh is a Graded Doordarshan artist. She has also been a TEDx speaker/performer.

Santosh has performed on many prestigious platforms like the Rastrapathi Bhavan , Kartik fine arts, Natyanjali ,National Bal Bhavan, NewDelhi , Chidambaram Natyanjali Festival .She was also a part of Vivartana led under the guidance of Smt.Rama Vaidyanathan in Chennai.She is also one of the performing artist in the project led by Payal Ramachandani titled The Forest Dream. She also has to her credit performances in Zanzibar, UK, Singapore and USA.



## Deepti Gupta

# KATHAK

Deepti Gupta is a practitioner in Indian classical dance Kathak. She is from a small village of Etmadpur (Agra), who is practicing her art in Delhi. After undergoing a hard-core process from the last 20-25 years and continuing, she is trying to join new aspects in the traditional classical dance. Her motive is to make the Indian Classical Dance and Music a priority service on National and International levels, so there could be more permanent opportunities for the artists. Deepti Gupta is a vibrant and energetic Kathak practitioner, who believes in her authentic Indian Classical Dance form kathak, with training under the Guru-Shishya tradition, she trained under the leading Gurus of Kathak Shri Dheerendra Tiwari and the legendary Guru Pt. Rajendra Gangani. Deepti is founder and managing director of DeepTrayam Dance and Cultural Foundation. Deepti Gupta's significance is that she works with research, farsightedness and thoughtfulness in her dance. She is also dedicated to see and read all types of Indian Classical Dance and Music; she believes that EVERY ART APPRECIATES OTHER ART FORM as well. Deepti has also been associated with many panels as an artist, like ICCR, Doordarshan, Ministry of Culture, Sangeet Natak Akademi, Sahitya Kala Parishad, SPIC MACAY. She also has experience working with Guru Pt. Rajendra Gangani, Guru Gitanjali Lal, Padma Vibhushan Kumudini Lakhia, Guru Jaikishan Maharaj, Smt. Sharmistha Mukherjee, Padma Vibhushan Guru Saroja Vaidyanathan. She has performed in Major festivals in India as well as abroad including South Africa, Mongolia, London, China, Bahrain, Malaysia etc.





# Chaitra Sairam

## CARNATIC VOCAL

Chaitra Sairam has inherited a priceless legacy of Carnatic music and was initiated into it at the tender age of 4 by her mother. She grew up with sound training in Carnatic music, at the same time imbibing the culture of Karnataka through exposure to regional genres like folk and Bhavageethe. It was only after training under the expert eyes of the illustrious Guru Smt Bombay Jayashri Ramnath, Chaitra found her calling and explored the many facets of Carnatic music one could delve into.

### Academic qualification and Credentials

Art Educator at Hitham.

An 'A' grade Artist at All India Radio, Chennai.

Post Diplomat from NADA centre for Music Therapy

Yuva Kala Bharathi award recipient from Bharat Kalachar, Chennai

Visiting Lecturer at Kalaikovil Academy of Fine Arts, Toronto.

Masters in Psychotherapy and Counselling

Reiki Healing Master

### Performances

Chaitra has performed all over India and abroad and also performed along with her

Guru on various occasions. She has received great critical acclaim all over



**C.S. Jayaraman**

## **CLAY MODELING**

Prof. C. S. Jayaraman is a multi-talented genius. He has been in this profession for The past 40 years. He is also a prolific writer, painter, musician and sculptor. He recently proved his talent in film acting also. A former member of the Kerala Lalithakala Academy, he is also a senior Professor serving the dual departments of English and Visual Media at the Amrita School of Arts and Sciences, Kochi campus.

In Clay modelling, he teaches techniques and creativity by continuously engaging the students from the clay composition stage to the final model-making based on nature, including the ancient temple horse.

He trains the students in making models of the utensils used in our daily life and mask making of tribal masks used by tribes in ancient times. He coaches the students to make pottery, one of the finest creations in clay modelling. He trains them to use the potter's wheel.