

NCPA presents 6th edition of the Mudra Dance Festival

~ Four day festival woven around the theme **Colour**

~ Will showcase performances amalgamating dance with color in five classical dance forms

~ 23 to 26 April, 2015 | Tata Theatre & Experimental Theatre | 7.00pm ~

- Each performance, themed around a particular colour, will explore different ways an artiste would use its symbolic meaning through dance
 - 23 April:
 - **Yellow** : Pita Mahatmya: Bharatanatyam and Mohiniattam by **Lata Surendra** and **Sujatha Nair**
 - **Orange** : Kausumbhah: Kanti: Kathak by **Abhimanyu** and **Vidha Lal**
 - 24 April:
 - **Amber and Peacock blue**: Shyam Chhabi: **Pt Birju Maharaj** and **Saswati Sen.**
 - 25 April:
 - **Mid-night Blue**: Songs of Love and Longing : Odissi by Nrityagram's **Surupa Sen** and **Bijayini Satpathy**
 - 26 April:
 - **Red** : Chitra Lohita: Kuchipudi by the mother daughter duo **Vyjayanthi Kashi** and **Prateeksha Kashi**
- Pt. Birju Maharaj will conduct a Kathak workshop
- Lecture demonstration by Vyjayanthi Kashi on the unique tradition of painting while executing dance movements prevalent in Kuchipudi

Mumbai, 8 April 2015: National Centre of performing Arts (NCPA), Mumbai presents the 6th edition of its annual dance festival, **MUDRA 2015** from **23 April to 26 April, 2015**. The festival will showcase renowned dancers interpreting specific colour and highlighting their importance in Indian Culture. This season, the festival would witness performance from: *Pt. Birju Maharaj and Saswati Sen (amber and peacock blue), Vyjayanthi Kashi and Prateeksha Kashi (red), Abhimanyu and Vidha Lal (orange), Lata Surendra and Sujatha Nair (yellow) and Bijayini Satpathy and Surupa Sen of Nrityagram (midnight blue).*

Swapnokalpa Dasgupta, Head – Programming - Dance, NCPA said, *“In each edition, Mudra challenges the audiences’ imagination and strives to expand it. In India, colour is an integral part of all facets of life, be it festivals or celebrations. It represents different emotions for different individuals. Mudra celebrates the diverse appeal of colours through the language of dance while challenging the artist’s imagination to weave a presentation around this theme. This season, Mudra will stage five pairs of notable artists who will gracefully integrate colours with their unique form of dance.”*

23 April: Mudra 2015 will kick start with the colour **Yellow**, an enthralling *Bharatanatyam and Mohiniattam* performance by **Lata Surendra and Sujatha Nair – Pita Mahatmya**. The performance will showcase among others how Goddess Parvati created Ganesha with the yellow turmeric paste from her own body and the **beautiful poem Suryakanthi** by **G Sankara Kurup** which talks about the shaming distance between the sunflower and the Sun.

Followed to their performance will be presentation on the colour **Orange - Kausumbhah:Kanti** by the *Kathak duo, Abhimanyu Lal and Vidha Lal* . The duo will showcase the vibrancy of colour Orange through invoking performance for Sun God and Basant, interwoven with epic characters of Radha and Krishna. With their quick footwork and breathless spins, “Kausumbhah” will aim to spread an aura of energy by elevating the flamboyance of the colour.

24 April: The second day of Mudra 2015, will showcase world renowned dance maestro **Pt. Birju Maharaj & Saswati Sen** will bring out the iconic symbolisations of Krishna and Radha while illustrating ‘Amber & Peacock Blue’ in their Kathak performance, “Shyam Chhabi”. The colours of peacock blue and amber are reflective of Lords Ram and Krishna, both avatars of Vishnu.

25 April: **Surupa Sen** and **Bijayini Satpathy** will enthrall audiences with their Odissi performance depicting ‘Midnight Blue’ to bring to life “Songs of love and longing” a perfect interpretation of Jayadeva’s love poem, Gita Govinda with a recurring night theme related to the blue-bodied Krishna.

26 April: The four day festival will conclude with the presentation by Mother- daughter duo **Vyjayanthi Kashi** and **Prateeksha Kashi** - ‘**Chitra Lohita**’, a Kuchipudi performance, with their take on the colour ‘Red’ symbolising Shakti. The association of Shakti with the colour red is an important one as it stands for not just destruction but creation as well.

In addition to the colourful performances, this edition will also include workshops on the nuances of Abhinaya, conducted by Pt. Birju Maharaj & Saswati Sen and figure painting tradition in Kuchipudi dance through a lecture demonstration by the Mother - daughter duo Vyjayanthi Kashi & Prateeksha Kashi.

Schedule:

DATE	EVENT	VENUE	TIME
23 April 2015	Pita Mahatmya by Lata Surendra & Sujatha Nair	Experimental Theatre	7:00pm
23 April 2015	Kausumbhah kanti by Abhimanyu Lal & Vidha Lal	Experimental Theatre	7:00pm
24 April 2015	Shyam Chhabi by Pt. Birju Maharaj & Saswati Sen	Tata Theatre	7:00pm
25 April 2015	Kathak Workshop	West Room 1	12:00pm
25 April 2015	Mayura Kautvam: Lecture-Demonstration	Tata Foyer	5:00pm
25 April 2015	Songs of Love & Longing by Surupa Sen & Bijayini Satpathy	Tata Theatre	7:00pm
26 April 2015	Chitra Lohita by Vyjayanthi Kashi & Prateeksha Kashi	Experimental Theatre	7:00pm

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About the NCPA:

Opening its doors to the world in 1969, the NCPA became the first multi-venue and multi-purpose cultural centre to be built in South Asia. Vibrant and diverse, the NCPA today is recognized by artistes, patrons and media alike as India's premier performing arts institution. The Centre provides a fine showcase for India's rich performing arts traditions, all thanks to the institution's training and research initiatives.

The NCPA presents over 600 events each year across all major art forms, most notably Indian Music, International Music, Theatre and Film, Dance, and Literature, Visual Arts and Photography. There are Heads of Programming for each of these art forms who curate innovative events and festivals; representative of everything from classical to contemporary throughout the year. The NCPA produces its own programmes as well as collaborates with leading cultural promoters from around the world. NCPA is the only member organisation of the International Music Council (IMC) from India.

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For media queries ONLY please contact:

Chaitra Shetty +91 9860085019 | Chaitra.shetty@linopiniongh.com