
MADURAI.R.MURALIDHARAN

Madurai.R.Muralidharan started his career under Guru Kalaimamani Smt.Chamundeshwari at the age of 7. Later he mastered the nuances in Mrindangam and Laya with Kalaimamani Sri.Madurai.Srinivasan (Chenna Kutti) and learnt vocal with his brother Kalaimamani.Sri.Madurai.Sethuraman. As a composer he penned his first composition a varnam (Simhavahini) in 1993. Apart from being a dancer, dance teacher, and nattuvanar, Madurai.R.Muralidharan is also a composer, lyricist and has so far released more than 125 audio audio CD's, the songs of which are widely used by the dance gurus all over the world. His mammoth effort in composing full bharathanatya margams in all 35 Talas adds to his credit. He released a book "Nrithya Lahari" with his compositions of Jathishwarams in 72 melakartha Ragams. As Artistic director of Nrithyakshethra Dance Academy he has mentored and trained aspiring students across India and many foreign countries spanning over a period of 40 years.His institute celebrated its silver Jubilee & Pearl Jubilee.

Nrithyakshethra reaching 450 arangetrams stands testimony to its stupendous feat. Madurai.R.Muralidharan have staged several dance musicals and his penchant for creativity and perfection has mesmerised audiences all over India,USA, Canada,UK,Australia,New Zealand, South Africa, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Sweden,Kuwait,Singapore and Dubai. Both his

wife and himself set their trademark in their field. They have won the all India dance competition consecutively for 3 years. Madurai.R.Muralidaran is renowned for his skills as a composer, lyricist and a Nattuvanar. He has produced, directed and staged many dance musicals related to historical and mythological events across the world. Of many such dance musicals, "Sivagamaiyin Sabhdham" enthralled the audience for the 25th time in the august presence of Kaviperarasu Vairamuthu. He is the first person to depict Amarar Kalki's historic thriller Sivakamiyin Sabadam on stage in his large-scale production lauded by The Hindu as a "zero-error show". Another Classical dance Drama "Karna" had its premiere recently with more than 75 budding artists. Apart from this he has produced many dance productions and Dance Ballets that includes Silapadigaram, Sense Beyond, Yadhava Madhava, Kambar Ramayanam, Anarkali, Thulaka Nachiyar, Nayaka Nayaki etc. He has the privilege of staging his productions repeatedly in world Tamil federation - FETNA. He is a Guinness record holder for teaching Alarippu in the longest Tala (Sankeerna Jathi Druvam) for 320 students within short span of 2 hours. He has the credit of giving lecture demonstration in the prestigious Natya Kala conference of Krishna Gana Sabha consecutively for 2 years. Dhimahi and ChaturVidham, Festival of Rhythm which was crafted and curated by Madurai.R.Muralidharan that staged 9 full margams in 9 challenging Talas, this was performed by his daughter and his disciples

which had a beautiful review from THE HINDU newspaper. He worked with legendary artists and has collaborated with star musicians like Kalaimani, Sri. Rajesh Vaidhya, Sri. D.A. Srinivas, Sri. Embar Kannan, Sri. S.P. Balasubramaniam, Smt. Anuradha Sriram, Smt. Kalpana Ragavendra etc. He has given many lecture demonstrations in many prestigious universities in India and abroad. He has composed for the longest Talam Simha Nandini which has 108 aksharas. To add on he was honoured by the president of Canada for Bharathamile, 1000 dancers in honour of 150th Canada Day. He is the recipient of many prestigious awards and titles like Bharatha Kala Thapasvi, Natya Perarasu, Natya Siromani, Pothya Paramapara Award, Kala Seva Bharathi from the prestigious Bharath Kalachar, Muthirai Pathitha Vithagar, Bharatha Kala Vithagar, Natya Thendral from Doordarshan Kendra etc. He is also an Indian book of records and Asia book of records holder. He has been identified as the present generation composer after the Tanjore Quartet by scholars and stalwarts in the field of Bharathanatyam. His compositions are noted for his beautiful Tamil lyrics as he takes Subramania Bharathiyar as his Manasiga Guru. His unique compositions include a dance depicting daily life to the soundtrack of a heartbeat, a varnam on the Sun God (Surya), a shabdam on Jesus, a depiction of Krishna's dance upon the five-headed snake Kalinga, kauthuvams on Mother and Father, a keerthanam on the Indian Independence movement

and pieces on women's empowerment. His compositions are used frequently by Bharatha Natyam dancers of different styles and from diverse regions. Sri Muralidharan's thematic repertoires include *Sri Anjeneyam*, which centers on the stories of Lord Hanuman and *Nayaka*, which explores the different roles in life for males from boyhood through adult. He has composed several entire margams (traditional repertoires) in rare thalams, including *Ashta Dasa Margam*, composed in misra jati ata thalam, *Akhanda Margam*, composed in kanda jati ata thalam, and *Nava Dhruvam*, composed in sakeerna jati dhruva thalam, the longest thalam cycle with 29 aksharas and many more.