





## India Dance Festival

P.O. Box 261450 • Plano, Texas 75026-1450

This concert is in-part sponsored by the University of Texas at Dallas (UTD)

## Saturday September 6

7.30 PM, University Theater University of Texas at Dallas (UTD) 800 W. Campbell Road, Richardson, Texas 75080 Kaustavi Sarkar (*Odissi*)
Prerana Deshpande (*Kathak*)

India Dance Festival will present several fine dance performances by some of the leading artists featuring *Odissi* and *Kathak* styles. Kathak, the dance style from north India has the charm and subtlety associated with miniature paintings. Nurtured in the holy precincts of the Hindu temples Kathak was further enhanced with Persian influence during the Mogul reign in India. Over the centuries, it has attained refinement and enriched itself by the establishment of distinct styles and gharanas. Odissi, a recognized form of Indian classical dance, is from the eastern state of Orissa. Odissi dates back to 2nd century B.C. and is well known for its grace, fluid movements and strong footwork. Odissi postures can be seen in the sculptures of ancient Hindu, Jain, and Buddhist temples and caves of Orissa.



Kaustavi Sarkar; winner of prominent awards including Singar-Mani, Nalanda-NrityaNipuna, Odissi-Jyoti and researcher at Ohio State University; is an Indian classical dancer, choreographer, dance-scholar and educator, performing and teaching well over the past decade. Recognized as one of leading Odissi dance exponents, she is nominated as an Indian national fellow working on meaning-making processes in dance studies as pertaining to South Asian dance. She is the Artistic Director of an organization called Multicultural Center for Embodied Aesthetics, International Outreach and Social Activism (MCCA) and founded the initiative called Odissi at Ohio State. Currently, Kaustavi teaches Odissi at the Ohio State University. Prerana Deshpande is among the leading complete solo Kathak dancers of her generation. Prerana is regarded for her exquisite command over the fundamentals of Kathak - Rhythm, Grace, & Expression and for her creativity rooted in the tradition of this dance form. Greatly appreciated by all audiences for her expertise in Kathak, she is regularly invited to perform as a solo artist at all major venues and festivals in India and abroad. Prerana is a first student of Dr. Rohini Bhate. Before learning from Rohiniji for past 22 years, she learnt for about 8 years from Smt. Sharadini Gole. Recipient of numerous awards, Prerana has been felicitated by legendary Pt. Birju Maharaj with 'Gaurav Puruskar'. Prerana has also been honored with the title of 'Nrityashri' and was conferred the title of 'Singar Mani' by the Sur Singar Samsad of Mumbai.

Tickets: ICMC Members/UTD Students & Staff: Free; General: \$30; Students: \$20

