

# SAMPRA DAYA

## DANCE CREATIONS

PRESENTS

# SANIKHYA

A DANCE SYMPHONY OF NUMBERS

Oct 14, 2022 | 7:30 PM  
MEADOWVALE THEATRE  
MISSISSAUGA

Oct 15, 2022 | 7:30 PM  
FLATO MARKHAM  
THEATRE MARKHAM



Canada Council  
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MISSISSAUGA



# SANKHYA

A DANCE SYMPHONY OF NUMBERS



Welcome to the world premiere of Sankhya – a new work by Sampradaya Dance Creations that offers an intriguing look into the fascinating world of numbers, through the tenets of wisdom and knowledge that it embodies.

We ascend from 0 to 10 – from Shunya to Dasha; each Sankhya or numeral signifying its' essence and its' capacity to be a vital part of our lives. Drawing from Indian philosophy and mythology, our dancers take you on a journey that embodies the physical and the spiritual through concepts that are both rich and potent.

## **0 - SHUNYA**

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The concept of Zero, or Shunya signifies the philosophy of not being 'void' but being 'devoid'—that which is imaginary, indestructible, and without boundaries. A state of being that neither captures nor destroys. A realm where one empties the mind to allow an expanse for new beginnings.

## **1 - ADI**

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The formless divinity - encapsulated in magnificent form; the first god that is prayed to and the god of new beginnings - Ekadanta, Adi Ganesha.

## **2 - ARDHANAREESHWARA**

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Split down the centre of the human form, half male and half female, Ardhanaareeshwara is the composite androgynous concept of Shiva and his consort Shakti. This union of two powerful energies is exalted as the root and womb of all creation in Dwitiya, through Ardhanaareeshwara.

## **3 - TRIMURTI**

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The cosmic processes of creation, preservation, and destruction are served by the trinity of the supreme deity, symbolised by Brahma as the creator, Vishnu as the preserver, and Shiva as the destroyer.

Together, representing these aspects of human existence, forms the Trimurti.

## **4 - CHATHURASHRAMA**

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The phases of life are said to be represented through four stages, with distinct differences based on natural human needs and drives. The four stages of life are Brahmacharya, Grihastha, Vanaprastha, and Sannyasa.

## **5 - PANCHA BHUTA**

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The five physical elements that form the basis of all cosmic creation are collectively called the Pancha Bhuta. These elements have different characteristics, and they account for different faculties of human experience. The Pancha Bhuta is also linked with the 'Panchaindriyas', or the five sensory experiences.

## 6 - SHADARITU

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According to the lunisolar Hindu calendar, there are six seasons or ritus in a year. These are Vasanth, Grishma, Varsha, Sharad, Hemant and Shishir.

## 7 - SAPTHASWARA

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A swara is a tone or a musical note on an octave. In the Indian classical music system, there are seven notes, or the Saptha Swaras, which are also called sounds of nature.

## 8 - ASHTANAYIKA

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The unique subject of Ashtanayika highlights the various moods, the inner conflicts, the tempers, and tantrums of eight different nayikas, or heroines. These nayikas are Vasakasajja, Virahotkanthita, Swadhinabhartruka, Kalahantarita, Khandita, Vipralabdha, Proshitabhartruka, and Abhisarika.

## 9 - NAVARASA RAMAYANA

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Bringing to life the personalities and predicaments of the great epic, the Ramayana, through nine significant episodes, we move through the nine moods, the Navarasas, which are the emotions intrinsic to human existence. The nine emotions are Shringara (love/beauty), Hasya (laughter), Karuna(sorrow), Raudra (anger), Veera (heroism/courage), Bhayanaka (terror/fear), Bibhatsa (disgust), Adbutha (surprise/wonder), Shantha (peace or tranquility).

## 10 - DASHAVATAR

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Whenever the world is threatened by evil, chaos, and destructive forces, Vishnu descends in the form of an avatar (incarnation) to restore the cosmic order and protect dharma.

# DANCERS



Atri Nundy



Harikishan S  
Nair



Nithya Garg



Purawai Vyas



Donya  
Sandhu



Rachana  
Joshi



Hemantika  
Mahesh



Nancy  
Ruban



Mithunan  
Raveendran



Aparna  
Karthikeyan



Anika  
Kisana



Srushti  
Rajgopal



Arun  
Sreekumar



Harvi Karatha

# CREDITS

*Concept & Direction*

Lata Pada

*Choreography*

Lata Pada & Suma Nair in  
collaboration with the dancers

*Music*

Praveen D. Rao

*Costumes*

Sandhya Raman

*Lighting Design*

Gabriel Cropley

*Rehearsal Director*

Atri Nundy

## **SAMPRADAYA DANCE CREATIONS**

Artistic Director Emerita : Lata Pada

Artistic Director : Suma Nair

Executive Director : Jasmine Sawant

Administrative Manager : Uma Ambike

Social Media & Marketing : [Artspire](#)



# SAMPRADAYA DANCE CREATIONS

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Described by the New York Times as 'a dance company of rare vitality', Sampradaya Dance Creations is an award winning Canadian professional dance company specializing in the creation and production of classical and contemporary dance works rooted in the Indian Classical dance form of Bharatanatyam.

Sampradaya's strength lies in its pursuit of excellence in the creation of a stunning range of solo and ensemble works that are infused with the creativity of Indian dance vocabularies, while inspiring audiences with its innovative approaches to traditional movement.

Founded in 1990 by Lata Pada, Sampradaya Dance Creations has created an impactful presence as the frontrunner in promoting South Asian dance forms for the Canadian audience. Our work in classical and contemporary Bharatanatyam induced with innovative cross-cultural elements makes the Sampradaya style stand out. Our wide range of creative productions is a testament to our repertoire and the skill of our dancers.



[www.sdc.sampradaya.ca/](http://www.sdc.sampradaya.ca/)



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