

Nayantara Parpia

Kathak Dancer

Nayantara Parpia is a professional Kathak dancer with a graceful and vibrant stage presence that leaves a striking impression on her audiences. She has trained in the **Lucknow gharana of Kathak** since the age of 7, under the tutelage of **Guru Smt. Yogini Gandhi**, at her institute 'Kalanidhi' in Pune. Since 2015 she has been training under the legendary maestro, **Padma Vibhushan Pandit Birju Maharaj**, at 'Kalashram' in New Delhi.

Since 2004, Nayantara has performed as one of the lead dancers in the Kalanidhi troupe, and has travelled and performed extensively with her Guru, Yoginiji, at various festivals, concerts, corporate shows and lecture demonstrations across India. She then went on to pursue her career as a soloist and has had many solo Kathak performances to her credit in India, Singapore and the UK. Some of her recent performances include:

- **Raindrops Festival**, Mumbai
- **AURA-Aurangabad Festival**, MAHAGAMI Gurukul, Aurangabad
- **Nritya Sabha Festival**, Pune
- **Vedvyas Sangeet Nrutyotsav**, Rourkela
- **3rd Korean-Indian Cultural Festival**, Pune
- **Sandhana Festival** at Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi
- **Pancha Tatva Festival**, Mumbai
- **Prayatna Festival**, Pune
- **Subah-e-Benares**, Varanasi
- **State Bank of India**, Indore
- **Kathak Mehfil** at **Kalaa Utsavam** Indian dance and music festival at the Esplanade Theatre, Singapore
- **Nrityanjali** at the Singapore Indian Fine Arts Society (SIFAS)
- **Michael Faraday School**, London, UK

Nayantara has also performed Kathak in renowned Bollywood film director, Sanjay Leela Bhansali's recent film '**Bajirao Mastani**', under the choreographic direction of her Guru, Pandit Birju Maharaji.

Nayantara has been awarded the **title of "Nritya Shree"** in 2010 by Utkal Yuva Sanskrutik Sangh at the Cuttack Mahotsav, recognized by UNESCO. She has won top prizes at a number of **All-India classical dance competitions** organized by Swar Sadhana Samiti, Brahmanaad and Akhil Bharatiya Sanskrutik Sangh.

Besides being a performer, Nayantara is a very passionate teacher, and has been **imparting training in Kathak to young children and adults for over 12 years** in India and Singapore. **Nayantara has formalized and established her own Kathak school, "Tridhaara Institute of Kathak" in Pune**, where she trains students not only in Kathak but also in traditional yoga and classical music. She has also conducted many successful **Kathak workshops and lecture demonstrations in India and abroad**. To name a few:

- Symbiosis Centre for Media and Communication, Pune
- Future School of Performing Arts, Mumbai
- Sumeet Nagdev Dance Arts, Mumbai
- Taraana Academy of Kathak Dance, Chennai
- Michael Faraday School, London
- Singapore Indian Fine Arts Society, Singapore
- Tarana Indian Dance School, Toronto
- East West School of Dance, New York

Nayantara has received a **Diploma with Distinction in 'Nritya Shastra'** (Dance theory) from the Nalanda Dance Research Centre, Mumbai. Besides dance, Nayantara is an avid yoga practitioner and a student of **Hindustani vocal training**. She holds a **Bachelors Degree in Economics** and a **Diploma in Liberal Arts**, both from Symbiosis College, Pune.