

# SPIC MACAY

## Darshana Jhaveri



**DARSHANA JHAVERI** • Classical Manipuri dancer, research scholar, teacher • One of the four internationally renowned Jhaveri Sisters, whose name has become synonymous with Manipuri Dance • Learnt under the able guidance of Guru Bipin Singh; learnt traditional Raslila dances from Sutradhari Kshetritombi Devi; Nata Pung from Guru Meitei Tomba Singh & traditional Maibi Jagoi from Kumar Maibi • Specialised in both Tandav Lasya elements of Manipuri dancing and drum playing • Actively associated with Manipuri Nartanalaya at Bombay, Calcutta and Manipur - in teaching, creative productions, performances, publishing 17 books & four major projects under Ford Foundation • Awarded the Padma Shri in 2002 and the Central Sangeet Natak Akademi award in 1996 • Prestigious Vishwa Gurjari Award, Ahmedabad; Nritya Vilas, Mumbai; Hon. Doctorate from City University of Los Angeles; Natya Praveena, Chennai & Nritya Mallika, Assam

**MANIPURI DANCE** • The distinguishing trait of Manipuri dance is expression entirely through gentle flowing body movements • A delicate balance is achieved between movements of the different parts of the body, rejecting emphasis on any one part • The nature of Manipuri Dancing is classical, traditional and scientific • The analysis and classification of various dance movements and form faithfully adhere to the basic laws of anatomy, psychology and aesthetics • The cult of Radha and Krishna, particularly the raslila, is central to its themes but the dances incorporate the characteristic cymbals (kartal or manjira) and double-headed drum (pung or Manipuri mrdanga) of sankirtan into the visual performance • Manipuri Dance style has its own typical set of colourful costumes

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