

# SPIC MACAY

## Ileana Citaristi



**ILEANA CITARISTI** • Italian by birth, has been living in Orissa, India, since 1979 • Learnt Chhau (Mayurbhanj) under the guidance of Guru Shri Hari Nayak & Odissi from Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra (Padma Vibhushan) • Has many years of experience in traditional as well as experimental theatre in Europe • Founded Art Vision (1995) to teach Odissi & Chhau to visiting students. Organises annual Festival of Films on performing & visual arts and the Kalinga Festival – Festival of Martial Dances & does innovative choreography in Mayurbhanji Chhau like the one on the Greek myth 'Echo & Narcissus' • Ph. D on 'Psychoanalysis and eastern mythology' • Authored a book on Kelucharan Mohapatra's life titled 'The Making of a Guru' (2001) • Received Padma Shri (2006), 'Leonide Massine for the art of dance' in Italy (1992), 'National Award for best choreography' for dance direction in Bengali film 'Yugant' directed by Aparna Sen

**ODISSI DANCE** • Odissi, also known as Orissi, is one of the 8 classical dance forms of India • It originates from the state of Odisha, in eastern India • The classic treatise of Indian dance, Natya Shastra, refers to it as Odra-Magadhi • It is particularly distinguished from other classical Indian dance forms by the importance it places upon the Tribhangi, the independent movement of head, chest and pelvis and upon the basic square stance known as Chauka that symbolises Lord Jagannath • This dance is characterised by various Bhangas (Stance), which involves stamping of the foot and striking various postures as seen in Indian sculptures • The common Bhangas are Bhanga, Abanga, Atibhanga and Tribhanga