

# SPIC MACAY

## Margi Madhu



**MARGI MADHU** • Trained under his father, Moozhikkulam Kochukuttan Chakiar & his paternal uncle, Ammannoor Madhava Chakyar • Working as Assistant Professor, Department of Theatre, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady, Kerala • Author of Attathinte Vazhiyadayalanganal - A study of Chakiar families & their performances in various styles & disciplines; and Aranginte Madhavam - A collection of essays about the great Koodiyattam master, Padma Bhushan Ammannoor Madhava Chakyar • Received the 'Sanskriti National Award' for young artists, 'Yuva Kala Ratna' award, Theatre Pasta International Award & the Kerala Kalamandalam Award

**KOODIYATTAM** • Koodiyattam (also transliterated as Kutiyattam), is a form of Sanskrit theatre traditionally performed in the state of Kerala, India • Performed in the Sanskrit language in Hindu temples, it is believed to be 2,000 years old • Officially recognized by UNESCO as a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity • Traditionally, the main musical instruments used in Koodiyattam are mizhavu, kuzhitalam, etakka, kurumkuzhal & sankhu • A complete Koodiyattam performance consists of 3 parts. The first of these is the purappadu where an actor performs a verse along with the nritta aspect of dance. Following this is the nirvahanam where the actor, using abhinaya, brings to the audience the mood of the main character of the play. The nirvahanam, a retrospective, takes the audience up to the point where the actual play begins. The final part of the performance is koodiyattam which is the play itself • Deals with the plays of eminent Sanskrit dramatists such as Bhasa, Harsha, Kalidasa, Maendravikrama & Saktibhadra. Originally, these performances took upto 40 days at a stretch!