

## P. Praveen Kumar



PRAVEEN KUMAR • Hails from a family of artistes • Honed his skills under Guru Smt. Narmada & continues to learn from Prof. CV Chandrasekhar at Kalakshetra, Chennai • Is an A grade artist of Doordarshan & is empanelled with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) • Is an accomplished Nattuvanar & choreographer • Founded 'Chithkala School of Dance' in Bengaluru • Adheres to the traditional classical style of Bharatanatyam & has enthralled audiences across the globe with his stirring performances • Received the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Purskar 2010 from Central Sangeet Natak Academy; the Mohan Khokar Award 2010; Obbul Reddy Senior Dancer Award from Narada Gana Sabha, Chennai & Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra Pratibha Sanman in Bhubaneshwar for 2016

**BHARATANATYAM** • One of the 8 classical dances of India • Is one of the most popular & widely performed dance styles & is practiced by male & female dancers all over the world, although it is more commonly danced by women • Is known for its grace, purity, tenderness, expression & sculpturesque poses • Originated in the temples of Tamil Nadu • Lord Shiva is considered the God of this dance form, often seen as Nataraja • The name Bharatanatyam is of relatively recent origin when performers like Rukmini Devi Arundale revived the dance form in the 20th century and set up the Kalakshetra, a renowned dance school in Chennai. The original names of Bharatanatyam were Sadir, Chinnamelan and most commonly Dasi Attam. A possible origin of the name is from Bharata Muni, who described it in his dance treatise, Natya Shastra. The word Bharatanatyam combines 'bhavam' meaning expression, 'ragam' meaning music, 'thalam' meaning rhythm & 'natyam' meaning dance