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Sujata Banerjee Dance Company (SBDC) is delighted to invite Advanced level Kathak students (**minimum 8-10 years of Kathak experience**) to apply for the opportunity to participate in a set of Masterclasses in London taught by **Padmavibhusan Pandit Birju Maharaj**, known worldwide as the ‘living legend of Kathak’. The Masterclasses are a part of SBDC’s annual Hemantika Festival, a weeklong celebration of Kathak (11 to 18 November) featuring a variety of performances and workshops.

The masterclasses will focus on very detailed work on *‘ang’* and predominantly the *‘vilambit’* aspect of Lucknow style of Kathak. Participants will enjoy live music accompaniment across all the workshops.

To have the best of Maharajji’s time in developing professionals and skilled dancers, we are keeping a limit to the number of participants in the masterclasses. Hence there is a selection process for which you need to complete the application form below. Students who participated in Hemantika masterclasses 2017 **DO NOT** need to complete the application form but should email us instead to enroll.

**DATES & TIMES:**Monday 12 November - 7.30pm to 9.30pm
Tuesday 13 November - 7.30pm to 9.30pm
Thursday 15 November - 7.45pm to 9.45pm
Saturday 17 November - 11am to 3pm (please bring a packed lunch)

\*\*To maximise the experience, participants will be expected to attend all sessions so please do not apply if you cannot commit to attending all sessions\*\*

**LOCATION**: **Shishukunj Bhavan, 25-27 High Street, Edgware HA8 7EE**

*(Nearest tube station: Edgware)*

**FEES:** Total fees for Masterclasses is £250. This will cover tuition fee, venue hire and musicians.Full payment must be made by **Tuesday 30 October 2018** via bank transfer only.

**NEXT STEPS:**

1. Please submit your fully completed application via email to hemantikafest@gmail.com by **Friday 19 Octoberber 2018**.
2. We will contact you by **Wednesday 24 October** to let you know if your application has been successful.
3. You will need to make the payment by **Tuesday** **30 October** to reserve your place.

**CONTACT DETAILS:** For any queries, please email **hemantikafest@gmail.com**.

**APPLICATION FORM**

**To apply** **please tell us below in 150 words why you would like to join this workshop and how this fits with your wider Kathak aspirations?**

Please provide the following information:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Full name:** |  |
| **Age (optional):** |  |
| **Email Address:** |  |
| **Mobile Number:** |  |
| **Name and contact details of guardian (if <18 yrs) / next of kin details in the event of an emergency** |  |
| **Please list details of any known medical condition and any medication being taken** |  |
| **Are you happy for us to email you about future SBDC events?** | **YES / NO** |

**SIGNATURE:**

*By signing this form, I confirm my commitment to both the Masterclass’ attendance and fee requirements as detailed on this application form. I will not hold SBDC or related parties responsible for any injury or loss arising from this workshop..*

Signed: …………………………………….. Date: ……………………………….

**OTHER HEMANTIKA FESTIVAL 2018 EVENTS:**

**Workshops with Pandit Birju Maharaj:** A rare opportunity for Kathak students of various age groups and levels to experience a class with the maestro.

*Level 1 - Monday 12 November & Tuesday 13 November – 6pm to 7.15pm*

*Level 2 – Wednesday 14 and Thursday 15 November – 6pmto 7.30pm*

*For more information and to book, visit* [*www.sbdc-kathak.com/hemantika*](http://www.sbdc-kathak.com/hemantika)

**Performance 1: Hemantika launch event - Kathak performance by Pandit Birju Maharaj**

A not-to-be-missed Kathak performance by the legend Pandit Birju Maharaj marking his 80th birthday.

*Sunday 11 November, 5pm*

*Lilian Baylis Studio, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1R 4TN*

*To book: www.sadlerswells.com*

**Performace 2: Baithak- A musical evening with Pandit Birju Maharaj**

A rare evening of original *thumris, bhajans, ghazals* & poetry by the multi-faceted Pandit Birju Maharaj, Presented in partnership with Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan.

*Friday 16 November, 7pm*

*Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, 4a Castletown Road, West Kensington, London W14 9HE*

*To book: www.bhavan.net*

**Perforance 3: SBDC annual showcase**

The annual showcase of Sujata Banerjee Dance Company students along with performances by guest artists and groups

*Sunday 18 November, 2pm-3.15pm*

*The Beck Theatre, Grange Road, Hayes, Middlesex UB3 2UE*

*To book: www.becktheatre.org.uk*

**Performance 4: Hemantika finale - Swan Lake & Saswati Sen**

An evening of icons featuring Saswati Sen and a special appearance by Pandit Birju Maharaj. Followed by a retelling of the legendary love story of Swan Lake through the vocabulary of Kathak. Featuring Tchaikovsky’s original music score and additional pieces by Shammi Pithia. Directed and choreographed by Sujata Banerjee.

*Sunday 18 November, 5.30pm-7.30pm*

*The Beck Theatre, Grange Road, Hayes, Middlesex UB3 2UE*

*To book: www.becktheatre.org.uk*