



12. Workshop on Gaudiya Nritye Narir Bhoomika

Name of the Program	Workshop on Gaudiya Nritye Narir Bhoomika
Resource Person	PROF.(Dr) Mahua Mukherjee, Department of Dance, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata
Organising Department	Basanti Devi College
Venue	College Auditorium
Date	08.03.2022
Beneficiaries	100

Report of the Program

On the occasion of International Women's Day, Basanti Devi College organized a workshop on 'Gaudiya Nritye Narir Bhoomika' on 8th March 2022. An eminent scholar and practitioner of Dance, Prof. Dr. Mahua Mukherjee, associated with the Department of Dance, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, West Bengal.

The speaker started the workshop by introducing Gaudiya Nritya as a Bengali classical dance form. The name Gaudiya Nritya originated from Gaur, the capital city of Bengal in the past. Now it is identified as a ruined city situated on the Indo-Bangladesh border. This dance form is an amalgam of drama, poetry, colours, and stories — all based on sculptures, literature, scriptures, guru-shishya Parampara (guide-scholar tradition) dance traditions and historical evidence.

Prof. Mukherjee emphasized different connotations of this dance style. She highlighted the term 'Shora', which means 'Prithibi' (Earth). The dance form Gaudiya Nritya sometimes performs their dance on the Shora, which portrays the dancers dancing on the earth. The temples of Bankura district have several sculptures depicting this notion of this dance form. Along with that, she narrates another idea on *dancing withholding the 'chamor'* is a way of paying respect to the air, fire, earth, water and space – the five elements of the universe.

Indrila Guha



According to her, it originated from the Natyashastra. She also mentioned that there is strong evidence of the existence of the system Devadasi in Bengal.

Prof. Mukherjee enlightened us with some historical facts on the Gaudiya dance form of Bengal. In the 19th century, Hariprasad Shastri amalgamated the Charyapada into one book after rediscovering palm-leaf manuscripts of the text at the Nepal Royal Court Library. This tradition continued throughout Hindu revival, both in the worship of Vishnu in the form of Krishna, such as by Shri Chaitanya Maha Prabhu in the 16th Century (whose followers form the modern-day Hare-Krishna movement), and in Shiva-Shakti. The worship of Shakti (female power) is widespread in Bengal and this provides a lively source of the mythological stories around which dances are based upon.

This workshop consists of a lecture, discussion, and a live dance demonstration of Prof. Mukherjee's scholars under the guidance of the speaker about the linkage between the theory and practice of this dance form. The workshop ends with a very good interactive session with the students of Basanti Devi College. The active participation of our students made the workshop a great success with a lot of understanding and knowledge-building procedures.

Highlights of the Program



Steps of Gauriya Nritya


Indrila Guha

Dr. Indrila Guha
Principal
Basanti Devi College



Poster/Brochure

BASANTI DEVI COLLEGE
ORGANIZES
A SEMINAR ON INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
"GAUDIYA NRITYE NARIR BHOOMIKA"
MARCH 8, 2022
FROM 12:30 PM
COLLEGE AUDITORIUM



GUEST SPEAKER:
PROF. DR. MAHUA MUKHERJEE
DEPT. OF DANCE, RABINDRA BHARATI UNIVERSITY

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Principal
Basanti Devi College



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