

« It's tempting, [...] , to call  
Ms. Shivalingappa divinely gifted. »

New York Times

# SHANTALA

SHIVALINGAPPA





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**VISIT SHANTALA'S WEBSITE**

[www.shantalashivalingappa.com](http://www.shantalashivalingappa.com)



## COLLABORATIONS

- 2018** «*aSH*», a new solo directed by Aurélien Bory. Premiered at the Montpellier Danse festival.
- 2017** «*Bach*», with cellist Sonia Wieder-Atherton and stage director Stéphane Ricordel.
- 2014-** «*Impro-Sharana*» in Barcelona, a danced-concert with her long-time friend the Catalan singer Ferran Savall and four musicians.
- 2015** «*We Women*» with Sol Pico, Julie Dossavi, and Minako Seki.
- 2014** «*Blooming*» with Charles 'Lil Buck' Riley, a wizard in jookin', an exhilarating street-dance style from Memphis, Tennessee.
- 2014** «*AM I*», a piece by Sydney-based Shaun Parker & Company at the Sydney Opera House, with a cast of 13 Australian dancers and musicians.
- 2012** «*Peer Gynt*», a piece directed by Irina Brook for the Salzburg Festival
- 2012** «*Nineteen Mantras*», a modern opera inspired by hindu myths, directed by Giorgio Barberi Corsetti and choreographed by Shantala.
- 2010** «*Play*», a duet with dancer-choreographer Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui.

# SHANTALA SHIVALINGAPPA

Born in Madras, India, brought up in Paris, Shantala is the child of east and west. She grew up in a world filled with dance and music, initiated at a tender age by her mother, dancer Savitry Nair.

Deeply moved and inspired by Master Vempati Chinna Satyam's pure and graceful style, Shantala dedicated herself to Kuchipudi, and received an intense and rigorous training from her master.

Driven by a deep desire to bring Kuchipudi to the western audience, she has performed in important festivals and theatres (such as: Théâtre de la Ville-Paris, Sadler's Wells-London, Mercat de les Flors-Barcelona, Jacob's Pillow Festival-USA, New York City Center, Herbst Theatre-San Francisco), earning praise and admiration from all.

Acclaimed as a rare dancer by artists and connoisseurs in India and Europe, Shantala combines a perfect technique with flowing grace and a very fine sensitivity. Since the age of 13, she also had the privilege of working with some of the greatest artists of our times: Maurice Béjart (*1789...et nous*), Peter Brook (for whom she played Miranda in *The Tempest* and Ophelia in *Hamlet*), Bartabas (*Chimère*), Pina Bausch (*O Dido*, *Néfès*, and *Bamboo Blues*), Amagatsu (*Ibuki*). Such experiences make her artistic journey a truly unique one.

Today, Shantala shares her time between touring with her solos and expanding her own choreographic work in the Kuchipudi style. Passionate about human encounters and the artistic journey they trigger, she also revels in collaborating with various artists in the exploration of dance, music and theatre. In 2013 Shantala was awarded the prestigious «**Bessie**» dance award in New York City for her Kuchipudi solo *Shiva Ganga*.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### aSH - Contemporary Dance

A piece by Aurélien Bory (Cie.111) for Shantala Shivalingappa

#### EUROPE 2019-2020

November, December, January, February, March and May

### SWAYAMBHU EXCERPT - Kuchipudi/Classical Indian Dance

#### CANADA 2019

TORONTO - Fall for Dance North Festival, October 4th and 5th

#### EUROPE 2020

ITALY - Teatro Biondo, May 2d, 3d and 4th

FRANCE - Opéra d'Angers, May 13th, Opéra de Rennes - May 17th, Opéra de Nantes - May 20th

### AKASHA - Kuchipudi/Classical Indian Dance

#### USA 2019

NEW YORK - Joyce Theater, October 8th to 12th



# AKASHA

KUCHIPUDI / CLASSICAL INDIAN DANCE  
2013

## CHOREOGRAPHER, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & PERFORMER

Shantala Shivalingappa

ADDITIONAL CHOREOGRAPHY Vempati Ravi Shankar

ARTISTIC ADVISOR Savitry Nair

RYTHM CREATION B.P.Haribabu & N.Ramakrishnan

LIGHTING DESIGNER & TECHNICAL DIRECTOR Nicolas Boudier

SET DESIGN Shantala Shivalingappa & Nicolas Boudier

## COPRODUCTION

Per Diem & Co – Pierre Barnier

Centre National de Création et Diffusion Culturelles Châteauvallon

Centre Chorégraphique National de Roubaix – Carolyn Carlson

Sunny Artist Management Inc., Montréal, Canada

Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Becket Massachusetts, USA

International Festival of Arts and Ideas, New Haven, Connecticut USA

## *In Sanskrit, AKASHA means Sky or Space.*

It is said that Akasha originates in sound, which is a vibration, or said another way, a form of energy and movement. This Space is manifested in various ways at different levels of perception.

Starting from the space we perceive around us, the space which surrounds us, the space of the universe which contains everything we know (in Indian thought, this Space is the fifth element and completes the four-fold Air, Water, Fire, Earth), and ending in its subtlest form : that of Space beyond space-time.

The Infinite, Undefinable, Space of Being.

Inconceivable by mind, imperceptible to senses, it pervades, as well as holds and contains all that exists.

## *Akasha is self-luminous and the Source of Everything.*

Through the vibrations of sound and movement, through the pure, timeless energy that emanates from them, that Infinite Space rises, boundless within our own self, one can almost feel it expanding.

AKASHA was presented among others, in those prestigious venues : **The Institute Of Contemporary Art** (Boston, Massachusetts), **International Festival of Arts and Ideas** (New Haven, Connecticut), **Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival** (Beckett, Massachusetts), **Carolina Performing Arts** (Chapel Hill, North Carolina).

## CLICK TO VIEW TEASER

DURATION : About 1h25

SET-UP : Day prior to the show

CREW :

1 dancer, 4 musicians, 2 technicians, 1 tour manager

## STAGE DIMENSIONS :

Width 40' / Depth 33'

Proscenium arch minimum opening height 18'

Lighting grid ideal minimum height 23'

Wall to wall stage width 46'



# SWAYAMBHU

KUCHIPUDI / CLASSICAL INDIAN DANCE  
2010

**CHOREOGRAPHER, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & PERFORMER**

Shantala Shivalingappa

**ARTISTIC ADVISOR** Savitry Nair

**RYTHM CREATION** B.P.Haribabu & N.Ramakrishnan

**LIGHTING DESIGNER & TECHNICAL DIRECTOR**

Nicolas Boudier

**SET DESIGN** Shantala Shivalingappa & Nicolas Boudier

**COPRODUCTION** Per Diem & Co – Pierre Barnier,

Théâtre de la Ville - Paris

SWAYAMBHU [swaj-āmbu]

«that which manifests by itself» or,  
«which appears spontaneously».

In sanskrit, this term refers to a stone or rock whose shape naturally resembles the features of a certain deity, such as Ganesha, the elephant-headed God, or Shiva the Lord of Dance.

*On a more subtle note, Swayambhu is the spontaneous and sudden experience of an altered sense of reality.*

A moment of absolute lucidity, where Reality reveals its true nature : an infinite field of Unity, Fluidity, Energy.

The dancer becomes an artisan-chemist. She opens up her tool-kit: movement, gesture, rhythm, dynamic, facial expressions, music, words, use of space, light, aesthetic, intention, spirit, each element finely polished, sharpened, weighed, admired, and then handled with infinite care, gentleness, love.

She seeks the right combination of materials which will give rise to a pure expression.

A pure vision whose light has been calling, but whose form has never clearly shown itself, and which may now appear spontaneously, thanks to the magic of alchemy :

*for a fleeting moment, watch the veil of Illusion fall, and reveal the Infinite...*

SWAYAMBHU was presented among others, in those prestigious venues : **Skirball Center** (New York), **San Francisco Performances** (San Francisco), **Kennedy Center - Maximum INDIA festival** (Washington DC), **Fall For Dance Festival - The City Center** (New York).

 **CLICK TO VIEW TEASER**

**DURATION** : About 1h20

**SET-UP** : Day prior to the show

**CREW** :

1 dancer, 4 musicians, 2 technicians, 1 tour manager

**STAGE DIMENSIONS** :

Width 33' / Depth 30'

Proscenium arch minimum opening height 18'

Lighting grid ideal minimum height 25'-30'

Wall to wall stage width 46'

*«Luminosity  
and clarity  
defined her,  
as if she were  
made of light  
and glass.»*



- Financial Times

*«Gorgeous  
cannot even begin  
to describe  
Shivalingappa  
moving through  
space.»*

- The Globe and Mail







# 2 FILMS

AVAILABLE FOR YOUR AUDIENCE

## **SHANTALA** 52 minutes

A film directed by Ezra Belotte-Cousineau  
Produced by Sunny Artist Management



CLICK TO  
VIEW TEASER

## **BHAIRAVA** 13 minutes

A dance film directed and produced by  
Marlene Millar & Philip Szporer,  
Mouvement Perpétuel



CLICK TO  
VIEW TEASER



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