

BIOGRAPHY



MAITRYEE MAHATMA

KATHAK – Indian Dance

Born in Calcutta, India, Maitreyee Mahatma started Kathak dance with Sri Shikha Khare and then she was trained by Kathak's greatest dance master, Pandit Birju Maharaj. In Paris for four years to do a doctorate in literature at the University of Paris 13, she continued dancing with Sri Sharmila Sharma. Today she continues to deepen her art with Pandit Ashimbandhu Bhattacharya.

On stage from the age of 10, his dance is marked by his grace, the subtlety of his expressions and the rhythmic work of the feet. While respecting the rigorous grammar of his art, Maitreyee was able to translate complex rhythms into poetic images. "The bowls, rhythmic sequence, are not just sounds, it's a whole language! They talk to me and I translate everything they tell me into a gesture."

In France since 2002, she has performed in Europe with well-known Indian singers and musicians (Pandit Sukhdev Prasad Mishra, Pandit Saugata Roy Chowdhury, Pandit Chiranjib Chakrabarti and Nabankur Bhattacharya). More recently she performs with the Jhankar Company which is an Indo-French collaboration composed of four artists: Nabankur Bhattacharya, Fromentin, Philippe Gauby and Maitreyee Mahatma.

Maitreyee brings Kathak dance to life as much in its tradition as in its contemporaneity through its cross-projects. Meeting of Kathak with Flamenco "When silence screams", a daring representation on women; "l'Eveil" a creation with Filibert Tologo, Afro-contemporary dance; and "Chrysalide" a collaboration with Belgian singer Reynald Halloy. She currently lives in Marseille where she teaches Kathak dance and participates fully in regional cultural life.