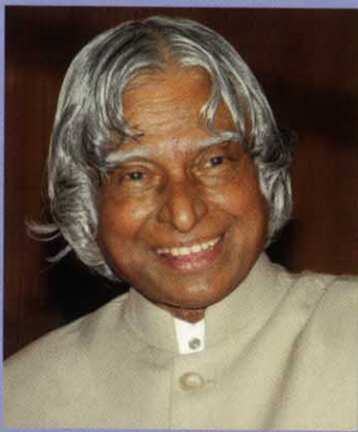




Indra Dhanush
Celebrating Art



Foreword

Music Creates Beautiful Minds

Music elevates the mind. It has universal appeal, it blossoms happiness, it touches the heart and soul, it evolves good human beings and society. I believe in the above so strongly that wherever I have been, I have ensured that the performing arts are always a part of my life. When I moved into Rashtrapati Bhavan, I was keen to celebrate Art and to share the charisma of performing arts with as many people as I could. With this in mind, 'Indradhanush', a series of cultural events, was started in Rashtrapati Bhavan in December 2002 with the performance of Pandit Jasraj. Since then Indradhanush has transcended beyond the 7 colours of the rainbow and is yet on an onward journey.

The programmes are generally held in the Art Theatre every alternate month. Sometimes, we have been adventurous and organized a few programmes in the Mughal Garden on full moon nights and the impact was enchanting. The release of this book is to acknowledge the artistes both young and accomplished who have dedicated themselves in promoting and popularizing various classical art forms and who, through Indradhanush, have become partners in our pursuit of the celebration of art.

Artistes in combination with thousands of Music lovers, have made Rashtrapati Bhavan a home - a home of beautiful minds, that are creative.

Thank you all artistes' friends. May God bless you all.

Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam

Contents

Pandit Jasraj	6
Pandit Shiv Kumar Sharma	12
E. Gayathri	18
Ustad Amjad Ali Khan	24
U. Shrinivas & U. Rajesh	30
Sonal Mansingh	36
Saroja Vaidyanathan	42
Pandit Hari Prasad Chaurasia	50
Swapnasundari	56
Ustad Zakir Hussain	62
Pandit Birju Maharaj	68
Pandit Debu Chaudhuri	74
Manjari Chaturvedi, Lata and Gita	80
L. Subramaniam and Kavita Krishnamurthy	84

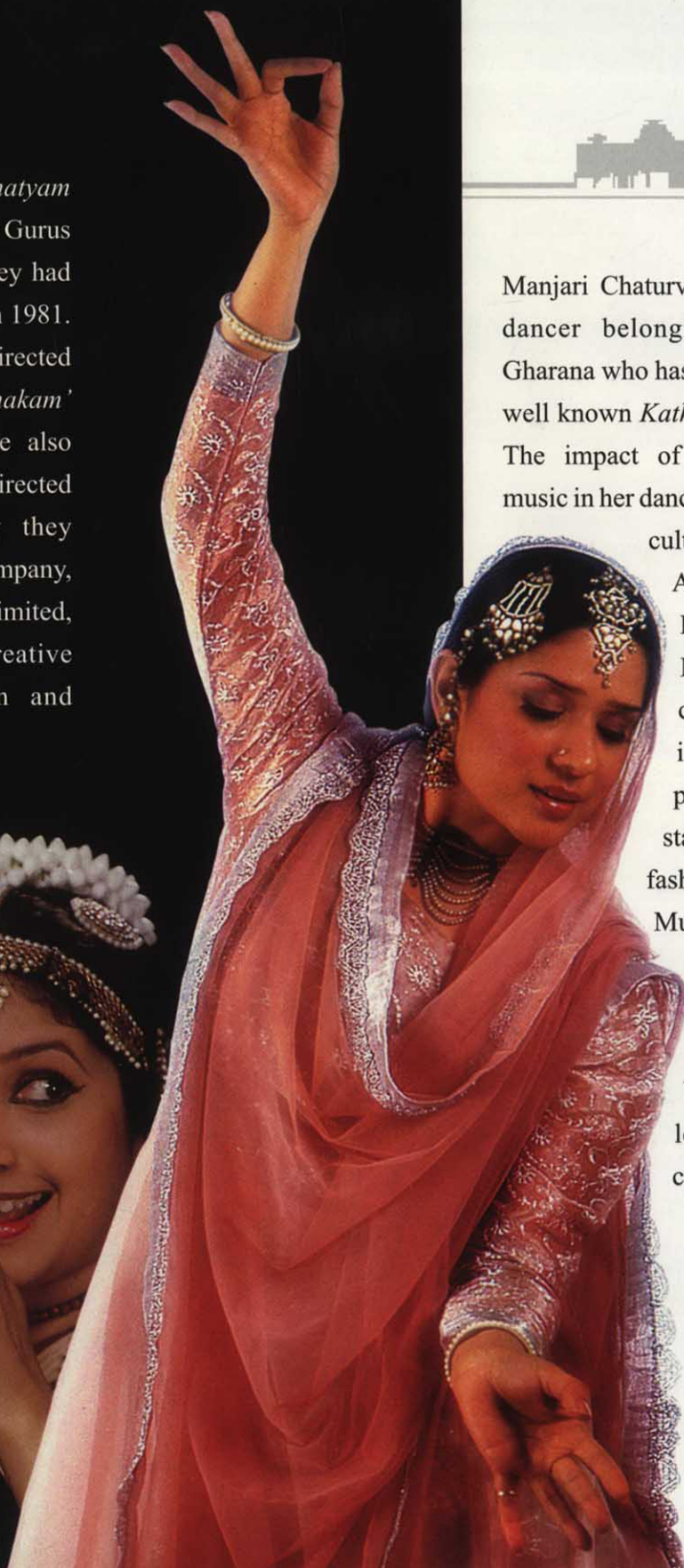
“ We were overwhelmed by the generous accolades from our *Rashtrapati ji*, Dr. Abdul Kalam.

Our lives have been touched by the sheer magic of our President’s personality. If reading “Wings of Fire” had inspired us, rekindled our sense of responsibility and renewed our commitment to the Nation, being in the presence of the President revived our hopes in humanity. Can mere words ever express the emotional euphoria of those beautiful moments? ”

Lata & Gita



Lata and Gita are renowned *Bharatnatyam* dancers from the South. Tutored by their Gurus Narasimhachari & Vasanthalakshmi, they had their *Arangetram* at the age of 11 & 9 in 1981. They have individually and jointly directed several TV serials of which '*Buddha Jathakam*' has become very popular. They have also performed lead roles in TV serials directed by Dr. S.Krishnaswamy. Presently they are Directors of their family owned company, Krishnaswamy Associates Private Limited, which has been committed to creative communication through Television and Film since 1964.



Manjari Chaturvedi, is a young *Kathak* dancer belonging to the Lucknow Gharana who has learnt Kathak under the well known *Kathak Guru*, Arjun Mishra. The impact of the sufi thought and music in her dance is a consequence of the cultural impact of Lucknow.

A post-graduate in Environmental Sciences, Manjari has choreographed several innovative *Kathak* presentations for the stage, television and for fashion shows organized by Muzaffir Ali of Kotwara Collections. Manjari has so far given around 100 performances at both State and National levels including many cultural festivals.

