

ODISSI MAESTRO, EDUCATOR & PRODUCER

REELA HOTA

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A- GRADE ARTIST
OF DOORDARSHAN &
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FOUNDER SECRETARY
OF RAYS OF WISDOM SOCIETY

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
INTERNATIONAL ANCIENT ARTS FESTIVAL
SYMPOSIUM

ODISSI

ONE OF THE EIGHT CLASSICAL DANCE FORMS OF INDIA

Odissi traces its origin to the Kaliṅga – Magadha region. The classic treatise of Indian dance, Natya Shastra, refers to it as Odra-Magadhi. It was primarily developed in the state of Odisha), in eastern India.

It is the oldest surviving dance form of India on the basis of archaeological evidences. The 1st century BCE bas-reliefs in the hills of Udaygiri near Bhubaneswar testify to its antiquity.

Like all traditional knowledge which was passed down under the guru-shishya parampara odissi too was almost destroyed during the rule of the East-India Company which extended into the British Raj. Fortunately, it survived and has been reconstructed since India gained independence in 1947.

This dance is characterized by various Bhanga (Stance), which involves stamping of the foot and striking various postures as seen in Indian sculptures. The common Bhanga are Bhanga, Abhanga, Atibhanga and Tribhanga.

The history of Odissi dance has been traced to an early sculptures found in the Ranigumpha caves at Udayagiri (Odisha), dating to the 2nd century BCE. Odissi appears to be the oldest classical dance rooted in rituals and tradition. In fact, the Natya Shastra refers to Odra-Magadhi as one of the Vrittis and Odra refers to Odisha.

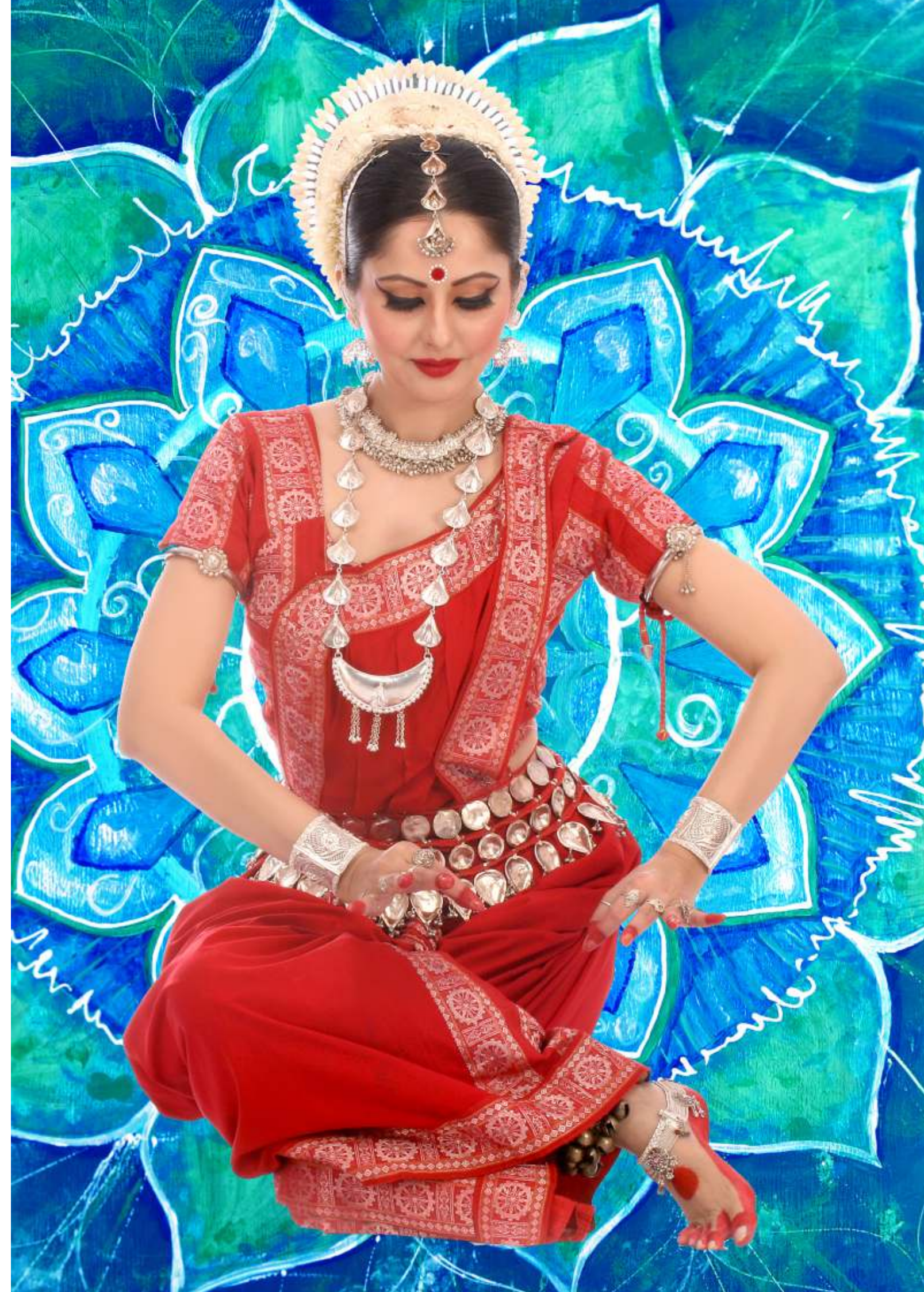


REELA HOTA

EMINENT ODISSI PERFORMER

Reela Hota is an eminent Odissi performer, educator and producer. Daughter of Yoga Guru, Bijoylaxmi Hota, Reela was exposed to dance, yoga & ashram life since childhood. Having trained under the three doyens of Odissi dance, and , Reela inculcated perfect rhythm, sophistication, grace and presentation skills. Under the tutelage of Guru Gangadhar Pradhan, Srimati Madhavi Mudgal Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra, Reela inculcated perfect rhythm, sophistication, grace and presentation skills.

"A trend setter, Reela Hota pioneered in making Indian spiritual philosophy the theme of her performances."





*An
A grade
artist,
she has been
awarded the
Sanatan Wriya
Puraskar
for her outstanding
contribution to
Indian Arts.*

Reela Hota added a new dimension to her work when she founded Rays Of Wisdom, an organization dedicated to highlighting how music, dance and vital therapeutic practices in traditional systems of healing can combine to meet lifestyle challenges of today.

Presently, Reela is a highly celebrated artist in India being invited by various organizations to curate and perform in various events and festivals. She is the youngest performer to lead a troupe of artists for the prestigious BRICKS conference, CVC Global Meet and CAPAM conferences by the Government of India and is considered one of the best representatives of Indian performing arts. Reela is based out of New Delhi, India.

AWARDS

She is the youngest celebrity to be featured in by Doordarshan Bharati on the Program: 'What Celebrities Say' with stalwarts such as Padma Bhushan Dr. Raja Reddy, Pandit Birju Maharaj and Padma Bhsushan Pandit Debu Chaudhari

She is the youngest performer and Artistic director for International BRICS, CAPAM and CVC Conference by Government of India

She is an auditioned A- Grade Artist of Doordarshan, Broadcasting Media, Delhi

She is an 'A-Grade' artist in Sangeet Natak Academy

Founder Secretary of Rays of Wisdom Society

Artistic Director, International Ancient Arts Festival Symposium

She was sponsored by Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) to visit five countries for the promotion of Indian dance and culture

1. Mauritius
2. Botswana

3. Zimbabwe
4. Zambia

5. South Africa



REELA HOTA THE DIRECTOR

Reela has created and directed many master pieces of Spiritual Philosophy through dance, by imagining and creating a gateway to the life we want.

Every year Reela picks a theme from mythology, philosophy or spirituality to create breath taking dance drama performances with national and international artists.

Reela is a follower of spirituality and believes that through dance, music, art and yoga one can attain the higher level.

*Originality is the essence of true scholarship.
Creativity is the soul of the true scholar.*

- Nnamdi Azikiwe



A woman is depicted in a meditative pose, seated in a lotus position. She is wearing a dark blue sari with a gold border and a gold jewelry set, including a crown, earrings, and a necklace. Her eyes are closed, and she has a serene expression. A bright, glowing aura surrounds her, composed of concentric circles of purple and blue light. The background is a deep blue with swirling patterns of purple and blue, creating a sense of movement and energy.

YOGA & KUNDALINI

YOGA

Yoga and Dance? The twain meet in Reela Hota's Odissi recital whose theme is self-liberation. The age-old exercises are presented in the dance form.

Choreographed by the legendary Kelucharan Mahapatra, with original musical score by Pandit Rajan Mishra, the dance comprises of solo and duet performances

KUNDALINI

Since the dawn of creation, the tantrics and yogis have realized that in this physical body there is a potential force. It is not psychological, philosophical or transcendental; it is a dynamic potential force in the material body, and it is called kundalini.

Swami Satyananda Saraswati has said that this Kundalini is the greatest discovery of Tantra and Yoga. This Kundalini shakti is a source of great peace and bliss and the awakening of this potential force is the goal of every individual. Based on this ancient practice, Reela Hota presents Vishwasya Beejam-Kundalini

ANTAR YATRA

Fusion of Odissi, Contemporary, Mayurbhanj Chhau, Rajashtani Folk and Russian Folk dances depicting the Symbolism of the Seven Chakras. Premiered at the Siri Fort Auditorium, New Delhi, 2014.

THE PHILOSOPHY

'Antaryatra' is a blend of different dance styles and is aimed at making people gender sensitive by enlightening them about the yogic 'Chakras' and importance of attaining a higher 'Chakra'.

According to yogic practice, a soul evolves from chakra to chakra. Each chakra has certain attributes and a man's nature, as well as actions are governed by them. In the dance, historical and contemporary figures have been depicted to show the physical manifestations and relevance of this esoteric theme.

The entire dance drama comprised seven acts showcasing the rise of man to the highest chakra of divinity. For instance emperor 'Ashoka' who is depicted by using Broadway free style is very interesting.

The emperor took lives because of his ego but changes after he sees the devastation he has caused and turns into a Buddhist and inner change takes place. Artists also showcased higher chakras like 'Visuddhi', 'Sahasrara' and 'Mokshya' which shed light on the paths taken by Meera Bai and Lord Buddha to enable them to become better human beings.





RAMLEELA IN OPERA

First ever collaborative musical theatrical production on the great Indian Epic, Ramayana. Featuring Italian Opera and Classical and Tribal dances from India. Premiered in Siri Fort Auditorim, New Delhi, India, December 5, 2014.

THE PHILOSOPHY

In a rare collaborative musical that brought opera with five Indian dance forms, Delhi for the first time witnessed an interesting cultural specimen at the Siri Fort Auditorium on Dec 5th 2014.

Ramleela in Opera art form saw 100 artists from Italy and India, working hard to put the spotlight at the confluence of culture and ideas. Written by Yoga Guru Bijoylaxmi Hota, the story of Ramleela in opera art form starts with Lord Rama's marriage to Sita, followed by the banishment of the trio (Ram, Laxman and Sita) from Ayodhya and Sita's abduction. The opera continues with Hanuman from Kishkindha visiting Lanka, clearing the path for Lord Rama to battle it out with Ravana. It finally ends with the famous trio returning to Ayodhya followed by celebrations.

In a theatrical setting, an epic like Ramayana is a fresh and unique cross cultural musical with opera and attractive Indian dance forms together, like Yakshagana from Karnataka, Purulia Chhau from West Bengal, Odissi from Odisha, Manipuri from Manipur and Kathak from Delhi.

Mattia Oliviere (Opera) as Rama and Reela Hota(Odissi) as Sita star in the performances. The Live Music is provided by a most unique and interesting mix of Indian and Western Orchestra of 40 elements. Fabrizio Da Ros conducts.

SANSKRIT

THE MANTRA BHASHA

A fusion of Classical Indian and Western Ballet on the healing and transcendental aspects of ancient languages ,SANSKRIT-THE MANTRA BHASHA', was presented in 2013 at Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi

Sanskrit may not be the preferred language of the common man but it may lend its healing properties now to art. The ancient language and its therapeutic relevance to the modern man is the theme of this production.

The fusion dance, focuses on the sacred syllable aum, and the exploration of all sounds originating from it.

The dance, a mix of classical ballet from Romania and Odissi, brings together the best of both. Romanian ballerinas, with their rigorous ballet techniques, and Odissi dancers, with the focus on eye movements, dynamic body postures and intricate footwork, blend on stage to convey the meditative theme of healing.

The dance performances includes pure Odissi orchestration, classical ballets and fusion orchestration



RABINDRA ABHIVYAKTI

A multi-arts presentation of the YOGIC significance of selected poems of Rabindranath Tagore. Featuring Odissi, Kathak, Gaudiya Nritya, Pung Cholom & Contemporary Dances Rabindra Abhivyati was premiered on 6th, March, 2012 at the Amphitheater, The Ashok, Chanakypuri, New Delhi.

THE PHILOSOPHY

Many years after his death, Rabindranath Tagore's works are still being explored. Reela Hota's recent production "Rabindra Abhivyakti" used the idiom of music and dance to focus on the less-known spiritual philosophy of the mystic poet Rabindranath Tagore. The aim of "Rabindra Abhivyakti" is to establish Tagore as an enlightened man and role model for artists of today. Art is meant to accelerate human evolution. However, if the focus is on the material in art, one evolves accordingly.

The production comprised of "Mangalacharan", an invocation to Goddess Saraswati, the Goddess of knowledge and arts, and goes on to describe the experience of a Nada Yogi devotee. The Tagore works of "Dui Pakhi", "Nirjharer Swapnabhanga", "Rath Jatra" and "Mokshya", which traces the progress of an individual soul from bondage to liberation or the transcendental state are expressed through this dance.

VEDAS

EKO HUM BAHU SHYAM

An Odissi dance production on the wisdom of the ancient sacred texts Vedas

THE PHILOSOPHY

Vedas are one of the oldest literary works in the world where the Indian religion bases its teachings and principles. There cannot be anything more stunning than witnessing these tales in the form of dance.

The Vedas: Eko Ham Bahu Shyam' showcases the different aspects of the Vedic culture and lifestyle as Vedas are the scriptures of ultimate knowledge that show the path to purge negative past karmas and fulfill all human desires while maintaining the harmony in society.

The show was premiered at The Ashok, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi on March 18, 2017 in an attempt to bring Vedic knowledge to the general public through an interesting medium-Dance.

It depicts the nature and philosophy of Vedas, human desires, the ashram system and the realization of the ultimate truth- that is advaita – in Odissi dance form.





FOUNDER RAYS OF WISDOM SOCIETY DIRECTOR IAAF

"RAYS OF WISDOM SOCIETY IS A CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION, FOUNDED BY REELA HOTA, WITH THE AIM TO REKINDLE OUR INHERENT SPIRITUALITY AND OPEN OUR SENSES ONCE AGAIN TO THE WISDOM OF THE ANCIENTS."

AIMS & OBJECTIVES OF RAYS OF WISDOM SOCIETY

- Promote Indian Art & Culture
- Propagate the wisdom of behind Ancient Indian Practices
- Present the Nature and Benefits of Yoga , Veda, Tantra, Indian Rituals & Practices
- Educate people to improve the Environment through Ancient Indian methods
- Explore the effect of Ancient languages on the mind
- Aid scholars & artists in their Research on Indian Cultural Philosophy & Spirituality and publish their findings

THE INTERNATIONAL ANCIENT ARTS FESTIVAL



The Ancient Arts Festival is an array of multi-cultural dance and music presentations of performers while the symposium-sessions is dedicated to presenting research on the healing power of different ancient art forms. All ancient cultures recognized the deep relationship between creativity and spirituality and the healing potential of art. As the first ever international event of its kind in India, the symposium has had respected scholars and experts from reputed universities, from fields as diverse as music, dance, poetry, theatre, education and sociology, present their research on the effect of various arts on the human body. Renowned performers from cultures across the world participate in the festival.

THE IAAF GUESTS



THE IAAF SPEAKERS



THE IAAF ARTISTS





INTERNATIONAL

Romania
Bulgaria
Bhutan
Mauritius
South Africa
Botswana

Zimbabwe
Zambia
Hungary
Sweden
Slovakia

EVENTS

International Ancient Arts Festival

Feel India Cultural Programs for Ministry of Tourism

Attended International BRICS Summit

International Conference, Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India

'Conference of South Asian Ministers' on the occasion of International Literacy Day

"Sanskrit; The Mantra bhasha "

"4th International Ancient Arts Festival"

CVC Global Meet, Govt. of India

International Odisha Dance Festival, Bhubaneswar

CAPAM International Conference

3rd International Ancient Arts Festival

BRICS SUMMIT, New Delhi, India

Rabindra Abhivyakti, New Delhi, India

Guru Debaprasad Das Award Function

Chakradhar Samaroh, Raigarh

Kalidas Samaroh, Ujjain

Dance on Tantra, Ashok Amphitheater

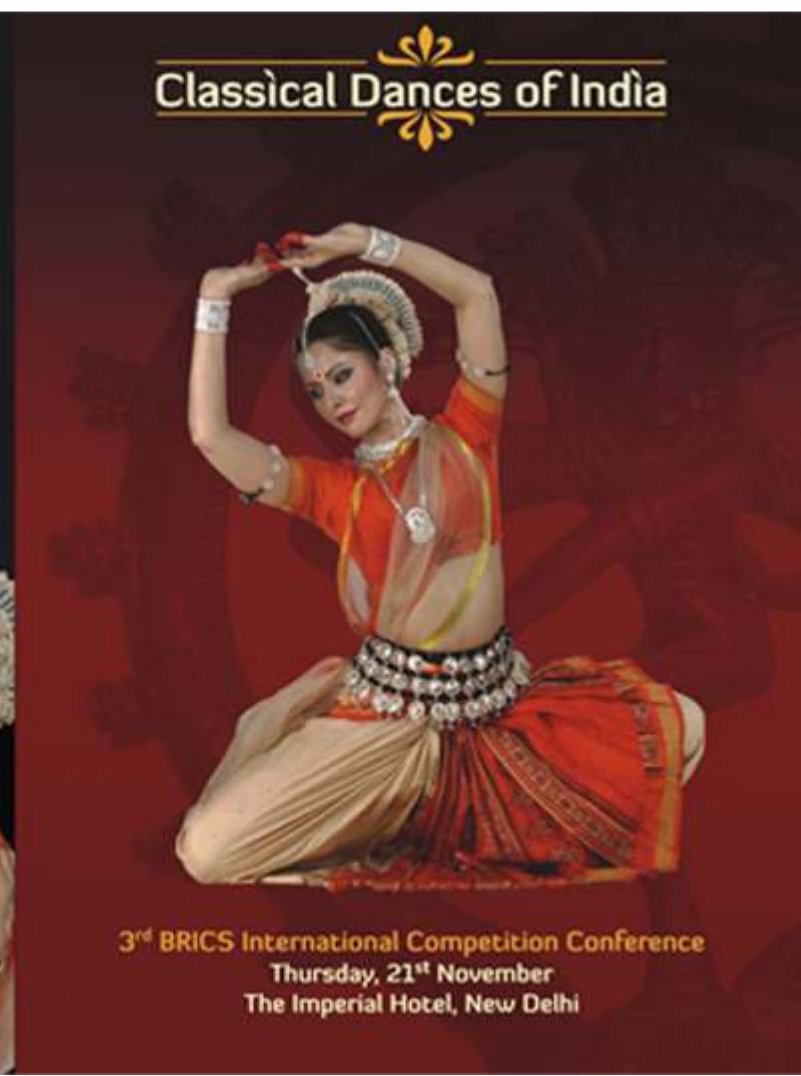
Sang Prasang, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh

Chalukya Mahotsava, Karnataka

Sanatan Sanskriti Award Ceremony

Sur Sangam, Lucknow, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

Kharavela Festival, Bhubaneswar, Orissa



THE TIMES OF INDIA

VARIETY



"I have never seen a dancer like Reela"
Guru Gitanjali Lal, Kathak Kendra, New Delhi

"First-ever operatic Ramleela in Delhi"
Times of India

"WHAT'S DOING IN; New Delhi"
New York Times

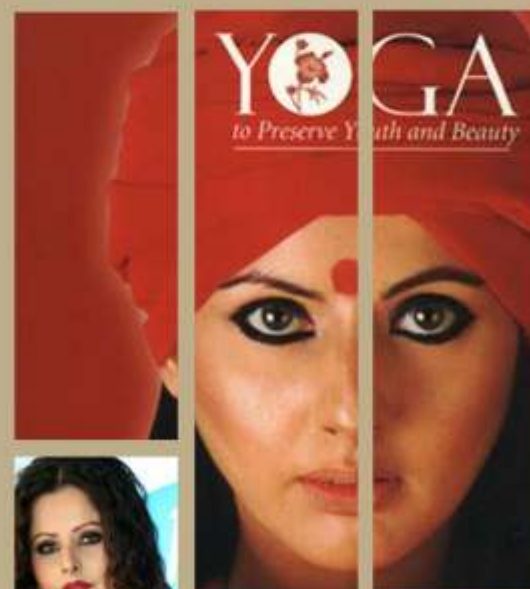
"Atma Mukti: Odissi dance by Reela Hota"
India Today

"Reela Hota, danseuse du sublime"
L Express

"A melting pot of art and culture"
Millennium Post

"Zambia: Indian Dancer Delights Zambians"
AllAfrica.com – The Post

REELA HOTA



MODELLING & ENDORSEMENTS



Reela Hota could wring as much mileage from an Odissi dance as she did while modeling on television but she didn't do one at the cost of the other. Heritage Sarees, Meena Bazar, Parachute Hair oil, Safi and Luxor sign pens are some of the brands Reela modeled for. Though, she feels, the most important break came when she landed the Aristocrat Premium campaign.

Currently Reela Hota does brand endorsements for products such as Jewels of Exotica, DD Bharti, Soundarapandian Bone & Joint Hospital, Delhi Technological University, and Vera Pharma Limited.