

APARNA KESHAVIAH

curriculum vitae

Dancer / Choreographer / Teacher / Scholar
w: www.keshaviah.com

BIOGRAPHY

Aparna Keshaviah is a Bharatanatyam dancer and classically trained musician whose work evolves the traditional lexicon of Bharatanatyam to communicate in non-native contexts. Her modern reformulation of the south Indian dance form has captivated diverse audiences around the U.S., India, and Europe, where she has performed solo and with leading companies like the *Ragamala Dance Company*. Keshaviah is co-founder of the Dance ARTS residency in Western North Carolina, a Fulbright scholar in dance, and a Senior Statistician at Mathematica, where she refines research methodology to improve public health.

DANCE POSITIONS (selected)

2003-	Freelance Bharatanatyam Dancer/Choreographer US, India, Italy
2017-19	Visiting Lecturer The Asheville School. Asheville, NC
2016-17	Co-Founder / Dance Committe Member Dance ARTS (Artist Residency in the Smokies). Waynesville, NC
2006-07	Fulbright Scholar in Dance U.S. Fulbright Foundation. INDIA
2003-05	Dance Faculty Brookline Community Center for the Arts. Brookline, MA
2003-04	Artistic Director Sanchali Performance Troupe. Cambridge, MA

EDUCATION

2014	Certification in Classical Music Composition Coursera
2006-07	Classical Indian Music - Mridangam drum M. Vasudev Rao
2001	Sc.M. in Biostatistics (Epidemiology minor) Harvard School of Public Health
1999	B.A. in Mathematics (Spanish minor) Duke University, with <i>Cum Laude</i> distinction
1993	Arangetram ('Ascent to stage' solo debut) in Bharatanatyam Ranee Ramaswamy / Ragamala Dance Company
1982-99	Classical Western Music - Piano and Voice Duke University, Minnesota Music Teachers Association
1982-89	Classical Indian Music - Carnatic vocal Malathi Rao

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COMMISSIONS + RESIDENCIES (selected)

2019	BLACK MOUNTAIN COLLEGE + ARTS CENTER. Asheville, NC
2017-19	THE ASHEVILLE SCHOOL (Residency). Asheville, NC
2018	ASHEVILLE PERCUSSION FESTIVAL (Residency). Asheville, NC
2016-17	DANCE ARĪS (Artist Residency in the Smokies). Waynesville, NC
2015-16	ASHEVILLE PERCUSSION FESTIVAL (Residency). Asheville, NC
2016	FOLKMOOT USA. Waynesville, NC
2015	UNC-ASHEVILLE ARTSFEST. Asheville, NC
2015	ASHEVILLE FRINGE ARTS FESTIVAL. Asheville, NC
2013	THIRD LIFE STUDIO CHOREOGRAPHER SERIES. Somerville, MA
2012	LESLEY ELLIS SCHOOL (Residency). Arlington, MA
2011	NATIONAL MUSEUM FOR WOMEN IN THE ARTS. Washington, DC
2011	AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME, with Dr. Paul Rudy. Rome, ITALY
2009	DEVANRITYA DANCE ENSEMBLE (Residency). Hudson, WI
2007	FULBRIGHT CONFERENCE. Maharashtra, INDIA
2006	DANA-FARBER CANCER INSTITUTE. Waynesville, NC
2006	STONEHILL COLLEGE. Easton, MA
2005	RIVERS SCHOOL. Weston, MA
2005	CLUB PASSIM. Boston, MA
2004	PEABODY-ESSEX MUSEUM. Salem, MA
2004	EMERSON COLLEGE. Boston, MA
2003	CAMBRIDGE CENTER FOR ADULT EDUCATION. Cambridge, MA
2002	HIMALAYAN INSTITUTE HOSPITAL TRUST. Uttarakhand, INDIA
2001	HARVARD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH. Boston, MA
1999	DUKE UNIVERSITY. Durham, NC

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GRANTS + HONORS

2020	THE ART OF MENTAL HEALTH EXHIBIT. Featured Artist, Duke University Rubenstein Arts Center
2013	"SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DANCE." Regional Finalist, Boston Auditions
2008	CONGRESS ON RESEARCH IN DANCE. Selected Presenter, Hollins University
2006-07	FULBRIGHT GRANT (DANCE). U.S. Fulbright Foundation, INDIA
2003	BHARATANATYAM SUMMER RESIDENCY PROGRAM. Canadian Heritage Department, CANADA
1999-01	NIEHS / PFIZER SCHOLARSHIP. Harvard School of Public Health
1999	BAXTER FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP for Academic Excellence. Baxter Healthcare Corporation
1995	MINNESOTA ALL-STATE CHOIR. Minnesota Music Educators Association
1994	MINNESOTA STATE HONORS CONCERT IN PIANO (Senior Level A). Minnesota Music Teachers Association

PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE COMPANIES

2004	SANCHALI (Artistic Director). Cambridge, MA
2003	NAVARASA DANCE THEATER. Somerville, MA
2002 -03	COLLAGE DANCE ENSEMBLE (Guest Choreographer). Boston, MA
2000-02	THE LONGWOOD PLAYERS. Boston, MA
1995-99	DUKE UNIVERSITY CHORALE. Durham, NC
1996-97	PAYAL DANCE ACADEMY. Raleigh, NC
1992-95	RAGAMALA DANCE COMPANY. Minneapolis, MN
1990	NRITYA JYOTI DANCE INC. Minneapolis, MN

BIBLIOGRAPHY + PUBLICATIONS (selected)

Blue Ridge Public Radio. "Asheville Percussion Festival Stretches How People Hear and Think of the Music" with Matt Peiken. Jun 2018.

MAIN-FM RADIO. "Asheville 'n the Arts" program with Carol Anders. Jun 2015.

Keshaviah, Aparna. "Is Conservatism De-Conserving Bharatanatyam?" *AttenDance magazine*. 2009-10.

Keshaviah, Aparna. "The Reviewer's Bias" *Narthaki.com*. Aug 2009.

Keshaviah, Aparna. "Decoding the Modern Practice of Bharatanatyam" *41st Annual Congress on Research in Dance Proceedings*. 2008.

PULSE DANCE MAGAZINE. "So, how many bharatanatyam-s are out there?!" interview with the Editor. Autumn 2007.

Keshaviah, Aparna. "'This' or 'That': The Unbearable Burden of Binaries" *PULSE Dance magazine*. Spring 2007.

Keshaviah, Aparna. "Choreographing Traditions in Chicago" *PULSE Dance magazine*. Winter 2006.

INDIA NEW ENGLAND NEWSPAPER. "Demystifying the confusing history of Bharata Natyam" interview. Sep 2006.

INDIA NEW ENGLAND NEWSPAPER. "'A Step Apart' artist add twists to Bharata Natyam" performance review. Jun 2004.

LOKVANI (<http://www.lokvani.com/lokvani/article.php?article_id=1783>). "A Step Apart is a Step Forward" performance review. Jun 2004. MIDDLE-

EASTERN DANCE IN NEW ENGLAND. "Sanchali presents 'Bharatanatyam: A Step Apart' performance review. Nov/Dec 2004. INDIA NEW

ENGLAND NEWSPAPER. "Community arts center says Bollywood offering among its most profitable" article. Oct 2004. MIDDLE-

EASTERN DANCE IN NEW ENGLAND. "Out of Bollywood: Modern Indian Dance" article. Jan/Feb 2004.

CITIZENS BANK. Photo exhibition (photo by Larry Osgood). Fall 2003.

INDIA NEWSWEEK. "Raaga and Taala: An Indian classical dance and music showcase" performance review. Jul 2003.

+ Over 40 publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals on various topics in public health.