

PT.BIRJU MAHARAJ at ALAKNANDA INSTITUTE FOR PERFORMING ARTS

KATHAK WORKSHOP FROM 23rd JUNE TO 28TH JUNE 2011

CATCH IT ON ----TIMES OF INDIA, DELHI TIMES, PAGE 16, NOIFA ON 30TH JUNE 2011

Pt.Birju Maharaj ji Kathak Workshop at ALAKNANDA
INSTITUTE, NOIDA

Nrityashri Alaknanda organised Pt.Birju Maharaj ji first Kathak workshop at Noida at Alaknanda Institute for Performing Arts, Noida from 23rd June to 28th June 2011. Maharaj ji inaugurated the Workshop at the Institute on 23rd June at the centre with Danceuse Saswati Sen, Dr.H.Dasgupta (Principal Brps), Gautam Dasgupta (Music Director) and Alaknanda.

150 kathak students have joined the Exclusive Workshop. The parameters of selected were strict for the workshop uner the Legendary Maestro Pt. Birju Maharaj. Saswati di said that "Knowledge is to be Humbly asked for and treasured as a Diamond" Maharaj ji explained that the Dance with EYES is most Beautiful and Soulful. He said "The four fingers are GOPIES and Thumb is the KRISHNA who is always looking at them". The junior batch which is already trained for minimum 4yrs and are leartning the Krishna Vandana. The Beauty of Lord beauty was performed by Saswati di while teaching and Maharaj ji sketched out the nuances of abhinaya for all. The senior was blessed with Tihās in a series and Maharaj ji created a TUKRA in the mood of extempore and taught the dancers. Saswati di said it will be called Tukra of Noida.. Dancers are in awestruck with the MAGIC that Pt. BIRJU MAHARAJ as he demonstrates every ANG and BHAAV with DIVINE BEAUTY AND GRACE.

In the mission of spreading KATHAK around the Globe its ALAKNANDA's Dream to bring the Younger Generation Closer to the Legendary Master. Its the values of Guru Shishya Parampara which enriches our Culture and Art. "Guru Pranaam"on 28th June 2011 at 6.30pm at BRPS HALL for the Finale Presentation as we all students SALUTE OUR MASTER - Pt. Birju Maharaj ji. The energy Maharaj ji has is infectious. Saswati di like a dynamite.Her eye for detail is incredible and the meaning Maharaj ji gives to dance is mesmerising. He makes

your movement symbolize a DIYA, NAATH, FLOWER and his words are engraved in our mind and hearts. The vision of the dance changes when Maharaj explains the curve of the ANG and the BHAAV to be associated with ANG.. Saswati is a Baby who follows her GURU with all her SOUL and SPIRIT and that's the devotion one SHISHYA should have.. We are learning so much from your VALUES "DI". I "SURRENDER" my dance to you "MAHARAJ JI".

Maharaj ji sang his own composition to bless Nrityashri Alaknanda, The Institute, The dancers of the Workshop and Brahmananda Pub School and Saswati Sen di performed on Maharaj ji's Thumri - "RADHA RANI SHYAM ROOP DHAR.. MAAND MAAND MUSKAYEE"

MAHARAJ JI asked the young generation to take up classical dance and music sincerely and were also glad that in the scenario of so much western influence the Guru Shishya Parampara still is seen in today's times and the younger generation is involved with classical culture especially in Alaknanda Institute. Maharaj ji said that it's not possible to become a STAR in a day .. It takes lots of hardwork, dedication, devotion, riyaz, samarpan and understanding to become an ARTIST.