

**CULTURAL PROGRAM**

By

**DANCER-CHOREOGRAPHER****MALAVIKA SARUKKAI**

Malavika Sarukkai, the nationally and internationally acclaimed dancer-choreographer, initially trained under eminent Gurus – Guru Kalyanasundaram, Guru Rajaratnam and Guru Kalanidhi Narayanan. A firm believer in the continuity of the classical tradition, she has, over the last twenty years, evolved a distinctive dance style that is rooted in the sacred, works with the classical alphabet, and invests interpretations with contemporary energies. Malavika explores and expands the language of Bharata Natyam drawing from deeper sources of Indian cultural heritage, while bringing to her style an immediacy which speaks in the present tense.

Malavika has participated in major Dance Festivals in India; Festivals of India in USA, France, UK, Japan , Brazil ; International Festivals and Cultural Events at Jacob 's Pillow, UCLA , Asia Society, Theatre de la Ville, Edinburgh Festival among many others. Malavika has contributed a significant body of original work, choreographing and presenting several thematic productions.



In recognition of her contribution to Bharata Natyam , Malavika has received several awards, notably - Padma Shree , Sangeet Natak Akademi and Kalaimamani awards.