

2025 SEASON

PERFORMANCE AT
DEWAN FILHARMONIK PETRONAS

FRONT ROW DFP DIGITAL CONCERT





JUNJUNG TRADISI: A BEAUTIFUL TRADITIONAL Malaysian showcase

STREAM TODAY ON







DEWAN FILHARMONIK PFTRONAS

Dewan Filharmonik PETRONAS (DFP) is Malaysia's first concert hall dedicated to classical music. Located at the PETRONAS Twin Towers, it was officially opened on 17 August 1998 by the Patron of the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra (MPO), YABhq. Tun Dr. Siti Hasmah Haji Mohd Ali and Prime Minister, Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad.

Designed by Cesar Pelli, the hall takes its inspiration from the traditional shoe-box shape of the great 19th century European concert halls with the magnificent Klais Pipe Organ providing a spectacular backdrop to the stage.

The hall seats 920 people at one time which includes box seats, corporate suites and a royal suite. Acoustics experts Kirkegaard & Associates have incorporated unique acoustical devices into its design to maximize the hall's natural qualities.

DFP plays an integral part in the music and cultural landscape of the city of Kuala Lumpur and Malaysia. It continues to enthral audiences since the day it first opened its doors. Among renowned Malaysian artists who have mesmerized audiences at DFP include SM Salim, Sheila Majid, M Nasir, Siti Nurhaliza, Hattan, Jamal Abdillah, Khadijah Ibrahim, Ramli Sarip, Aishah, Ella, Yuna, Faizal Tahir, Dayang Nurfaizah, Aubrey Suwito, Akim, Hazama, Hujan and Misha Omar among others.

International superstars who have graced the stage are Harry Connick Jr., Diana Krall, Anoushka Shankar, Laura Fygi, Zakir Hussain, Larry Carlton, Harvey Malaihollo, Ruth Sahanaya, and Judika.

World renowned orchestras that have performed here include the New York Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, BBC Symphony, and Vienna Symphony.

Beyond classical music, DFP has hosted ensembles of jazz and world music genres such as the Count Basie Orchestra, Yellowjackets, Ladysmith Black Mambazo, Mezzoforte, Igudesman & Joo, Pink Martini, and Gotan Project.

DFP has also been the venue for many local and international cultural performances, corporate events and film recording. Some of the clients that DFP have worked with are PETRONAS, UMW Toyota, Netflix, Warnakala, Allianz Malaysia, SP Setia, Embassy of The Republic of Korea, Embassy of Japan, MCKK Foundation, Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS (UTP) and The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur.

DFP's success is attributed to its exceptional architectural design, superior acoustics, and recording studio modelled after the legendary Abbey Road Studios. As the first purpose-built concert hall in Malaysia, DFP will continue to become the premier iconic hall with diverse music and cultural offerings to create unique experience for all.

DFP Heritage **The Temple of Fine Arts:**

Classical Traditions Ragas and Mudras

Saturday 6 September 2025, 8:00pm



The performance will last approximately 90 minutes with a 20-mins intermission

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THE TEMPLE OF FINE ARTS - CLASSICAL TRADITIONS: RAGAS AND MUDRAS

Ragas and Mudras are two fundamental concepts in Indian classical arts, particularly in music and dance. While distinct, they both serve to evoke specific emotions, meanings and experiences.

Ragas: essentially a melodic framework or a "mode" in Indian classical music. It's much more than just a scale (like major or minor in Western music). A raga is a specific combination of notes (swaras), along with particular rules, melodic phrases and nuances (called gamakas) that define its unique character.

Mudras: symbolic or ritual gesture, primarily performed with the hands and fingers but can also involve the entire body or even eye movements and breathing techniques in some contexts. The word mudra comes from Sanskrit which means "seal", "mark" or "gesture".

This highly anticipated performance is an immersive journey into the heart of Indian classical music and dance. The audience will experience the soulful melodies of both Hindustani and Carnatic classical music, two distinct yet equally profound traditions of Indian music. The concert will feature intricate ragas and dynamic talas, brought to life by the accomplished musicians of the Temple of Fine Arts.



The media preview of Ragas And Mudras at DFP on 25 June 2025



The media preview of Ragas And Mudras at DFP on 25 June 2025

Adding a vibrant visual dimension to the evening, the stage will come alive with exquisite presentations of four classical dance styles of India:

Bharatanatyam: originating from Tamil Nadu, this ancient temple art form is renowned for its sculptural poses, intricate footwork and expressive storytelling through bhava (emotion) and mudra (hand gestures).

Odissi: from the eastern state of Odisha, odissi is characterized by its fluid movements, lyrical grace and sculptural poses, often inspired by temple carvings.

Kathak: Hailing from North India, kathak is known for its rhythmic footwork, swift spins and dramatic storytelling, often incorporating elements of Persian and Mughal culture.

Kuchipudi: This captivating dance form from Andhra Pradesh combines vigorous footwork with graceful movements and expressive acting, often incorporating live singing by the dancers.

"Classical Traditions: Ragas and Mudras" is a testament to the Temple of Fine Arts Malaysia's enduring commitment to preserving and promoting Indian classical arts. For decades, TFA has been a sanctuary for students and artists, nurturing talents and sharing the beauty of these ancient forms with a wider audience. This performance at the Dewan Filharmonik PETRONAS, a premier concert venue in Malaysia, offers a unique opportunity to witness the depth and diversity of India's artistic legacy.

Introduction

The Temple of Fine Arts (TFA) is a non-profit, voluntary, non-sectarian organisation dedicated to the development, propagation and enrichment of the performing arts, with special emphasis on Indian classical dance and music. It is an institution set up for the purpose of inculcating art and culture among the youth of today, ensuring the passing down of knowledge of the arts and cultural traditions that form a major part of the Asian heritage. By preserving and disseminating these great art forms, the TFA in its own humble way. continues to play a major role in the development of art, culture and heritage in Malaysia.



The TFA was founded in 1981 by the late His Holiness Swami Shantanand Saraswathi who brought two legendary dance masters, the late Master Gopal Shetty Guruii and the late Master Sivadas Guruji who established an institution that would teach Bharatha Natyam, Oddisi, Kuchipudi, Indian folk dances, Malay and Chinese dances and basic techniques in Kathak, Mohini Attam, Katakali, Manipuri, contemporary and Bollywood dances

The Institution also incorporated music to its curriculum including the teaching of vocals, veena, mridangam, flute, violin in the South Indian classical style and vocals, sitar and tabla in the North Indian classical style, as well as the Western piano. The teachers belong to a tradition of great masters in the arts who had held sway in the world of arts.

The TFA expanded its presence by having centres in Penang, Malacca and Johor Bharu. Presently, the Institution has 2,300 students served by 50 teachers nationwide. It is a trans-national institution with branches in Malaysia, Singapore, Perth (Australia), Colombo (Sri Lanka), New Jersey (the USA) and in Chennai and Coimbatore (India).

It has a core of world class maestros such as Pandit Birju Maharaj, Dr. L. Subramaniam, Pandit Chandrakant Kapileshwari and Ustad Usman Khan as deans and advisors.

Achievements

The Institution's record is perhaps unrivalled in the history of stage theatre in the country. It has presented over 20 major productions and 300 short works. It has explored different themes through integration of the various Malaysian cultures in productions such as The Swan Lake, The Legend of Mahsuri, Lady White Snake, Butterfly Lovers, Jonathon Livingston Seagull, A Midsummer Night's Dream and Ramayana and Meera.

The Temple of Fine Arts Orchestra is a 60-member orchestra which consists of musical talents of teachers and students from all centres in Malaysia. Nadopasana, Naad Brahma, Naad Pravaham, Krishnaarpanam and Swaradhara are some of its musical productions staged in Singapore, Sri Lanka, Australia, India, the UK and the USA.

Since its inception, over 350 students have graduated in the discipline of "Bharathanatyam" by presenting debut performances called Arangetrams. Over 30 students have obtained degrees in the performing arts in the UK, Australia, the USA and India. They have been singled out as the most promising students in their universities, earning them both merit and admiration.



Government's Recognition

TFA is one of the foremost cultural institutions in the country evidenced by its recognition and support from government bodies such as the Ministry of Information, Communication and Culture, the Ministry of Tourism. and the State and the local authorities, as a major reference point of Indian culture. It has performed for the Royalty, Heads of State, at government and corporation events locally and internationally such as the APEC Summit (1998), Commonwealth Cultural Festival KL98, the opening of the Istana Budaya (1999), Merdeka Celebrations, Konsert Di-Raja Malaysia, Visit Malaysia Year, Annual Cultural Extravaganza Citrawarna, Konsert Hari Wilayah, Festival Kesenian Rakyat, and Budi Bahasa Dan Budaya Kita.

TFA's teachers are presently teaching Bharathanatyam, sitar and tabla at Akademi Seni Budaya dan Warisan Kebangsaan (ASWARA), the Cultural University of the Government.



The media preview of Ragas And Mudras at DFP on 25 June 2025

The Institution has frequently won and nominated for the BOH Cameronian Arts Awards. Its teachers have received the National Culture Award (Young Talents Category) from the Ministry of Information, Communication and Culture. Dance Director Vatsala Sivadas and Music Director Kumar Karthigesu were conferred the National Living Heritage Award for their contribution to the discipline of Bharatha Natyam and sitar.

Philosophy

The Institution is run by dance and music teachers and assisted by volunteers from a wide spectrum of professions who share their expertise to the community. The Institution continues to exist on the principle of service to fellow beings through the arts.

graphies



Nadina Krishan, choreographer

Nadina Krishnan began dancing at four and received formal training in Bharatanatyam, Odissi, Kathak and Contemporary dance at the Temple of Fine Arts, Kuala Lumpur (TFA). She then studied Contemporary Dance at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) and continued training under Umesh Shetty, also assisting in choreography and mentoring fellow performers.

Nadina has performed in major TFA productions such as Swan Lake, Ramayana, Taj Mahal and Vishwa Vinayaka across Malaysia and in Singapore, Australia, India, Sri Lanka, the USA and the UK. Currently specializing in Kathak, she has trained under Padma Vibhushan Pandit Birju Maharaj and Paramita Maitra. In 2017, she presented her solo Kathak work Sadhana and continues to teach and choreograph at TFA.



Sumathi Chandra, choreographer

Sumathi Chandra began her dance journey at the Temple of Fine Arts, Singapore, in 1991, graduating in Bharatanatyam in 1995. Her passion for Indian classical dance led her to pursue Odissi under the guidance of Srimathi Geetha Shankaran Lam. She was later trained by Padmashri Durga Charan Ranbir.

Sumathi holds a Master's degree in Odissi and has performed extensively, both locally and internationally. Her versatility is reflected in her training in various genres including Kathak, Indian folk and contemporary dance.

For the past 14 years, she has been under the tutelage of Guru Ratikant Mohapatra, son of the legendary Padmabhushan Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra, where she continues to refine her artistry and choreographic voice. She has presented dance productions such as Samashraya Dwitva, Diksha, Padmapurush. Pragati 1 & 2 (the latter was nominated for the prestigious BOH Cameronian Arts Awards.



Gowri Chandran, choreographer

Gowri Chandran is one of Temple of Fine Arts' (TFA) dedicated homegrown talents with decades of service marked by devotion and commitment. She began her journey in Bharatanatyam at four under Sri V.K. Sivadas and Srimathi Vatsala Sivadas in 1981. Trained in Bharatanatvam and Indian folk dance by masters V.K. Sivadas and Gopal Shetty, she has performed in TFA productions in India, Sri Lanka, Australia, Hong Kong and Singapore.

In 1992, she began training in Odissi under Guru Geetha Shankaran Lam and graduated in 2001. She refined her art through workshops with leading Odissi gurus and trained under Guru Ratikant Mohapatra since 2013, obtaining graduate and postgraduate qualifications with distinction.

A passionate teacher, Gowri, with Sumathi, has trained seven students to their Odissi Manchapravesh (graduation) and choreographed and trained dancers for productions including Samashraya, Diksha, Dvitva, PadmaPurush, Pragati 1, Pragati 2 (nominated for BOH Cameronian Arts Awards), as well as corporate and in-house TFA performances.



Kasthoori Ramanaidu, choreographer

Kasthoori Ramanaidu is an acclaimed classical dance teacher. choreographer and performer, known as one of the Malaysia Kuchipudi Sisters with sister Thachayani Ramanaidu.

With over four decades of dedication, she has been instrumental in promoting Kuchipudi dance. Trained in Bharata Natyam, Odissi at the Temple of Fine Arts (TFA), and Kuchipudi under Padma Bushan Dr. Vempati Chinna Satyam. She has performed at prestigious venues across Malaysia and India.

A graduate of the TFA, she holds the title Nrityaanjali (Bharatanatyam Temple of Fine Arts) and Natya Visharadha (Kuchipudi - Kuchipudi Art Academy), and has received awards including Yuva Kalarathna and Nadana Sigamani. Currently she heads the Kuchipudi department and teaches Bharatanatyam at the TFA. She continues to teach, choreograph and conduct training programmes.



Vishaka Devi Rajasingam, choreographer

Vishaka Devi Rajasingam began her Indian classical dance journey at 10 under the tutelage of Shrimathi Shyamala Narayanan. From a young age, she has actively participated in numerous productions by The Temple of Fine Arts where her artistry was nurtured and shaped. She performed her Arangetram in 2009 and has since become a dedicated teacher at the institute.

While she was trained in Odissi, Kathak and contemporary dance, her recent focus has been on Bharatanatyam where she continues to deepen her practice and expression. Alongside her artistic pursuits, she holds a Master's in education and serves as a teacher at an international school where she blends creativity, discipline and pedagogy in both classroom and on stage.



Jyotsna Nithyanandan Prakash, music director

Jyotsna Nithyanandan Prakash is a composer, performer and educator based at the Temple of Fine Arts, Kuala Lumpur. Currently completing her PhD in Performing Arts. she brings academic rigour to her artistic practice while balancing roles as a teacher, mother and collaborator.

Her compositions have been commissioned by ensembles including the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra and the Malaysian Philharmonic Youth Orchestra. She was also the orchestrator for Giaenis, a project with renowned choreographer Akram Khan. A composer for some Malaysian award-winning productions, she has presented her original works abroad including at New York's Lincoln Center. Her practice is deeply rooted in empathy and cultural engagement, often using music as a platform to reflect on and respond to contemporary social issues.

Ragas And Mudras Production

Musicians

Shobana a/p A. Padmanathan Rajini a/p T. Ramakrishnan Jotsna a/p Nithvanandan Srivaramangai Sadagopan Pangasaasanii Gowrisan Kumaresh Visuvanathan Niithiya Dharshini a/p Muruga Muthuraman a/l Ganason Agilan a/l R. Veerasingam Laynisha a/p Vijayaraj Pravin a/I Gunasegran Bhuma Paranjothy Divya a/p Kathiravan Navva Thalasseri Vadakkekara Abbirami Balachandran Sveta Aditya Kilpady Prasshanth a/I Sagar Dakshayani Thanabalasingam Rosvinder Singh Poorna a/p Prakash Kirthikaa a/p M. Vijandran Asvinniy a/p Nadarajan Karthik Krishnasamy Prakash a/l K. Kandasamy

Dancers

Odissi Ensemble

Sauparnika Chandra Vaisshnavi Manoharan Harshini Mahendran Vinitha Balrama Lameera Manavalan Prishalani Arvina Parimala Muniandy Shiamala Devi Rajoo

Kuchipudi Ensemble

Kasthoori Ramanaidu Thachayani Ramanaidu Murukuntla Lakshmi Sathvika Navya a/p Sooria Theymudu Sanggkeerthana a/p Suresh Rao Hehmaa Sai Rao Ashokarao

Kathak Ensemble

Ramieyah Priya Manimaran Poorna Prakash Khavenavarune Varadan Vaishnavi Prakash Dhanva Thurairaiah

Bharatanatyam Ensemble

Apurva Jai Krishna Ramesh Puiaa Senthidasan Shaneera Karuna-Nair Marianne Privanka Rao Sharmila Devi a/p Thiruselvan Dhanya Thurairajah Kishore Kumar Krishnan

Production Crew

Suren Deran Balakrishnan Meena Swarnamma a/p S.Chokanathan Pillav Nageshwaran a/l Ramachandran Priyanka Nair



WHERE EVERY BEAT TELLS A STORY

DEWAN FILHARMONIK PETRONAS

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Mohamed Sultan Haja Mohideen (Covering)

CEO'S OFFICE

Syafiqah Nabila Mohd

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Firoz Khan Mohd Yunus Muhamad Hafiz Abdul Aziz

HEALTH, SAFETY & ENVIRONMENT

Mohd Fahmi Md Radzi

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Mohamed Sultan Haja Mohideen (Covering)

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Farah Diyana Ishak

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Khor Chin Yang Qaleeda Talib Wynn Ch'ng Way Sean Ong Li-Huey Muhammad Fikrizaki Zakaria

ORCHESTRA MANAGEMENT

Fadilah Kamal Francis Khairol Anuar Mohd Sabri

MUSIC TALENT DEVELOPMENT

Ahmad Muriz Che Rose Shireen Jasin Mokhtar Nur Svafigah Shuib Amin Mikhail Ahmad Zabidi

COMMUNICATIONS & CREATIVE SERVICES

Munshi Ariff Abu Hassan

BUSINESS & STRATEGIC RELATIONS

MANAGEMENT Effendy Khalid

FINANCE & CORPORATE SERVICES

Mohamed Sultan Haja Mohideen

HEALTH, SAFETY & ENVIRONMENT

Mohd Fahmi Md Radzi

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& The Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra

DEWAN FILHARMONIK PETRONAS KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA



SAT 8:00PM

PERFORMANCE AT DEWAN FILHARMONIK PETRONAS PETRONAS TWIN TOWERS

Noh Salleh, vocals Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra Ahmad Muriz Che Rose, conductor

The final MPO showcase of the season witnesses a collaboration with singer-songwriter and musician Noh Salleh, serenading you with his uniquely stylistic hits including Kotak Hati and Angin Kencang. The Hujan band frontman will bring his French pop-influenced songs. Listen as the MPO's orchestral impeccable arrangements take these songs to a whole new level, celebrating the 20th anniversary of Noh Salleh as an artist.

Normal: RM199 RM249 RM299 RM359

Suite: RM409/seat* RM459/seat*

*inclusive of light refreshments

Meet & greet Additional RM100 for all categories. Limited to 60 pax only.

DFP Showcase











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LIVE WITH THE MALAYSIAN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

SAT 8:00PM

PERFORMANCE AT DEWAN FILHARMONIK PETRONAS PETRONAS TWIN TOWERS

Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra Gerard Salonga, conductor K.S. Chithra, vocals Madhu Balakrishnan, vocals Sathyaprakash, vocals Anamika P.S., vocals

Experience a cultural milestone as DFP hosts its first-ever Indian 'live' orchestral concert, a groundbreaking collaboration between the MPO and Mojo Projects. The legendary Padma Bhushan K.S. Chithra, fondly known as the Nightingale of South India, will take centrestage delivering orchestral renditions from her iconic film hits including Kannalane, Malargale, and other works by renowned composers such as Ilaiyaraaja and AR Rahman. Joining her are acclaimed vocalists Madhu Balakrishnan, Sathyaprakash and Anamika P.S. adding rich vocal textures to this historic evening.

Normal: RM288 RM329 RM588 RM788

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Suite Package: Malargaley: RM6,888* Anjali: RM10.888*

*inclusive of special benefits













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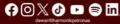
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