

# SIDDHI ABHAY

DANCER,  
CHOREOGRAPHER, FACILITATOR.

contact: +91 9922420109  
Email: siddhi.sukruti@gmail.com



A Kathak dancer based in Pune, Siddhi has recently completed her masters. With over 10 years of experience in facilitation, she aims to take forward Sukruti Kathak Dance Academy, an institution founded by her mother and Guru Maneesha Abhay. Merging contemporary thought with classical traditional vocabulary is the ethos of her experimental theme based work.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- 20 years of training in Lucknow & Jaipur Gharana, under the able guidance of Guru Maneesha Abhay
- Professional solo and group performances in various festivals in India.
- Solo performances abroad.
- Teaching experience of more than 10 years for varied age groups.
- Choreographed technical as well as themed based pieces.
- Performed in the works of pt. Birju Maharaj and Guru Pt. Rohini Bhate.

## QUALIFICATIONS

- MA Dance (Kathak) : 2024
- Short course in Natyashastra & Emotional literacy : 2021
- Kathak Alankar : 2020
- Certificate course in Mahayana Buddhist Psychology & Ethics : 2018
- Kathak Visharad : 2017
- BA German : 2017

## WORK EXPERIENCE

- Kathak performer & Teacher at Sukruti Kathak Dance Academy : (2013 to present.)
- Solo performances in various festivals in India and Abroad.
- Research and new theme based choreographic work.
- Teaching and facilitation for kids & young adults in London, UK. (2022)
- Dance movement facilitation for kids from marginalised communities. (2019)
- Teaching and choreographies for schools. (2017 to 2019)
- Corporate shows and choreographies

## LANGUAGE COMPETANCIES

- Fluent in English, Hindi, Marathi.
- Conversant in German.





## PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Performance in front of HH The 14th Dalai Lama. (Delhi, Mumbai)
- Performance under the sacred Bodhi tree. (Bodhagaya)
- Sadaneera Festival. (Bhopal)
- Theba Palace festival (Ratnagiri)
- Shaniwarwada Festival. (Pune)
- Valsad Festival. (Gujrat)
- Pune Festival (Pune)
- India International Dance Festival (Pune)
- Pratibha Sangeet Kala Mahotsav. (Ujjain)
- Madhurita Sarang Smruti Samaroh. (Pune)
- Yuva Tarang. (Mumbai)
- Prayatna Film & Dance Festival. (Pune)
- Solo performances (London)

## CHOREOGRAPHIC WORK

- German poem : Margarete am Spinnard.
- Technical & Abhinaya pieces for varied age groups.
- Worked in a german play.
- Choreographed short thematic pieces citing Buddhist literature.
- Recently choreographed 'Shikhandi' A quest to unfold emotions, which received critical acclaim.
- Working on new thematic projects.



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The magnum opus of the two day festival was immensely promising choreographer Siddhi Abhay's *SHIKHANDI*. It was a classic confluence of the contemporary and traditional idiom of Kathak weaved into a power packed presentation.

Siddhi could be safely claimed as the find of the festival that features choreographers who follow the legacy of the iconic Guru Rohini Bhate.

—Shyamhari Chakra

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## VIDEO LINKS

### Short presentation [Link](#)

- Durga Vandana- A musical composition praising the might and vigour of Goddess Durga.
- Taal- Pure technique highlighting the noteworthy aspects of Kathak like footwork, chakkars, subtlety and poise.
- Nayika- An abhinaya piece showing the intricate emotion of Viraha (longing).



### Doha [Link](#)

Surya Chipe, a doha composed by Pt Shambhu Maharaj of Lucknow Gharana and choreographed by Guru Rohini Bhate; is a unique piece of abhinaya rarely expressed in these times.

## Choreographies and other links

### 1. [Mahabharata](#)

A kavitt depicting the story of Mahabharata through Kathak.

### 2. [Tishra Teentaal](#)

Tishra jaati teentaal exploring connections between Kathak & Flamenco.

### 3. [Saaripaata](#)

The game of ludo, earlier known as saripaata, depicted playfully through Kathak.

### 4. [Shikhandi](#)

Critically acclaimed choreography.

