

# Reaching out through classical dance

THE Asian classical dance festival Samarpana which began last year made classical dance accessible and enjoyable to all, achieving its aim of connecting and collaborating. This year, too, the festival has brought some of the best classical dance forms to the public and promises to maintain the standards it set last year at its launch.

This year, the event will be held from Sept 27 to 29. On the final day of the festival, there will be performances in bharatanatyam, contemporary and ballet dance forms with the different dance schools in Singapore coming together to put up the show.

The dance act titled Feathered Fables will feature stories on birds, with an underlying philosophy of finding oneself, in each story. Using a common theme, the production will showcase the underlying similarities and continuity between dance forms.

Choreographed by Jonathan Guillarme, the ballet performance by L'Academie De Danse will feature the story of Jonathan Livingston Seagull, which will talk about passion and the search for perfection.

Members of the NUS Dance Ensemble will perform Simurgh in contemporary dance, choreographed by Zaini Tahir in an ever-changing, uncompromising and unconventional repertoire. Inspired by Farid Attar's mystical poem Conference Of The Birds, this piece explores the pilgrimage to find God in oneself.

Shruti Laya will perform The Golden Mallard in pure bharatanatyam, an adaptation from the Jataka Tales, which tell stories about the different births of Buddha. The story is set in the time when the birds chose the Golden Mallard as their leader and interprets the Mallard princess' choice of husband.

*Samarpana will be held from Sept 27 to 29 at the Drama Centre of the National Library Building. Tickets range from \$20 to \$70 and can be bought from SISTIC.*

## Win tickets

You stand to win a pair of category A tickets to Feathered Fables by answering the question below.

E-mail your answer to [info@samarpanafestival.net](mailto:info@samarpanafestival.net) with the subject: Samarpana Week 4

Include your name, IC number and contact number.

Closing date: Sept 15, 6pm

**What does a fable mean?**

(a) A story, usually involving animals

(b) A bell (c) A closed gate

Winners will be chosen by lucky draw from the correct answers. Only the winning entry will be informed. Winners can pick up their tickets on the performance day at the venue, bringing a copy of their e-mail confirmation.

**The winner of last week's contest is Theresa Young.**



Samarpana's final act... it will bring together various dance schools in Singapore.

PHOTOS:  
SAMARPANA