



For Immediate Release

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Kabir Cultural Centre in collaboration with *Les Événements Vox Populi* is proud to bring to Montreal **Kathak Dance: Rhythms and movements from North India** presented by *Anjani's Kathak Dance of India*. The programme is a spectacular collage of KATHAK from traditional dance forms to contemporary transformations such as 'World music and Kathak Rhythms' and 'Art of Basketball - Kathak style'.

Kathak dance is the most prominent classical dance form of North India and Pakistan and traces back its origin to the nomadic troubadours justly called *kathaks*, which means storytellers. The techniques of Kathak call for a highly sophisticated choreographic language consisting of mudras (codified hand gestures), the movement of feet, the facial expressions and the positions of the body. The most striking element in a Kathak show is the footwork as well as the pirouettes that impress with their speed and lead to momentarily frozen poses resembling a classic Indian statue.

The founder, **Anjani Ambegaokar** is the first artist of Indian heritage to receive the National Heritage Fellowship Award from the National Endowments of Art, USA in 2004. Her choreography includes traditional full-length dance dramas like *Amrapali - Raj Nartaki* on the one hand and innovations such as *Art of Basketball-Kathak style* and *World Music and Kathak Rhythms* on the other. The principal dancer, **Amrapali Ambegaokar**, besides being an exceptional Kathak exponent, has incorporated classical Kathak dance, Flamenco, and modern dance techniques in Cirque du Soleil's *Dralion* to play the Principal Character/Dancer "Oceane": goddess of water. She has acted in Hollywood and Bollywood films and made guest appearances on The Today Show, NY, and The Tonight Show with Jay Leno and several others. In the Montreal performance, four other accomplished dancers from their company will accompany Anjani and Amrapali.

Kabir Cultural Centre (www.centrekabir.com): is non-profit, non-political and secular and is registered under Quebec Companies Act. It is named after Kabir, a fifteenth century mystic, poet and philosopher who preached harmony amongst all people irrespective of their religious background. Kabir Cultural Centre has a vision of engendering harmony, mutual respect, fostering pluralistic traditions and building bridges amongst the cultural communities of South Asian origin and the larger Canadian society. Art forms such as music, dance, theatre, book reading and film shows followed by stimulating discussions constitute our current activities. *Les Événements Vox Populi* (www.evenementsvoxpathuli.com) has been presenting a wide range of speakers, authors, artists and specialists explaining to the public their points of view pertaining to Psychology, Philosophy, Spirituality, Health, Knowledge of other cultures and Social Consciousness and action.

KATHAK DANCE: Rhythms and movements from North India

By Anjani's Kathak Dance of India
Sunday 22 October 2006 at 6 :30 PM
D.B. Clarke Theater, Concordia University
1455 de Maisonneuve West, Montreal

Tickets: \$50, \$35, \$20 (for students/seniors \$15).

Group rates available

Information/Reservation: 514 586 3148 514 695 3264 or www.admission.com 514-790-1245