

Shaily Dadiala She/Her

Choreographer · Dancer · Art Instigator

Artistic Director Usiloquy Dance Designs, Philadelphia, PA

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Education

Visharad (B.A. equivalent) in Classical Dance specializing in Bharatanatyam from the *Bruhad Gujarat Sangeet Samiti*, India (1988-1994) and 2-year training in *Hindustani* Classical Music.

Founded contemporary Bharatanatyam company Usiloquy Dance Designs in Philadelphia (2008); Artistic Director, choreographer, and Dancer. Recipient of the Leeway Foundation's Art and Change Grant (2012).

Teaching

- Queens, NY for a year (2001-2002)
- Levittown, PA in collaboration with the township recreation department (2005-2008)
- Usiloquy Dance Designs, Philadelphia (2008-Present)
- Other teaching assignments include workshops and Master classes at the Thomas Jefferson University and Temple University, Philadelphia (2006), Desales University, Center Valley, PA (2007), Fall and Spring semesters at the University of the Arts, Philadelphia(2009), College of Design, Nasik, India (2013)

Works conceived and choreographed for Usiloquy

Grihani an exploration of the underrated world of a homemaker and the societal expectations of the role. Premier at the Philly Fringe Festival, 2008.

Chaat the myriad textures and flavors of the South Asian Street dish *Chaat* serve as metaphors for the complexity of universal human emotions. Premier at the Painted Bride Art Center, 2009.

Chandroutie based on the music and traditions of the Indo Caribbean diaspora that originated from the indentured labor movement to South America in the 19th century. Premier at the Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts, 2011.

Ragas and Airs highlighting parallels between Celtic music and folklore and Indian traditions. Premier at the An-Gorta Memorial, Philadelphia, 2014.

Choreography and Dance Portfolio

- "Point of departure" commissioned by the Melanie Stewart Dance Company randomly pairing thirty music composers with thirty dancers, Christchurch Neighborhood House, 2012.
- "The Buddha's Dance from Lumbini" based on Indian and Japanese music with composer Gene Coleman and Ensemble N_JP at the Rotunda, 2013.
- Gabrielle Revlock's "Confetti", a series of overlapping and interlocking duets, a human obstacle course, and a non-monogamous dance dating journey, the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, 2014.
- "My Place is in the Kitchen" Bharatanatyam and mixed-media solo underscoring the life of female entrepreneur Jyoti Gupta in a living-museum format produced by the Philadelphia Asian Performing Artists, Asian Arts Initiative, 2019.

Select Performances

Wilmington Fringe, the Wilmington Opera House, DE (2009), Jahajee Sisters' Indo-Caribbean Women's Empowerment summit, Queens Museum of the Arts, Queens, NY (2011) Roots, Rites, N, Rhythms festival at the Mann Center for the Performing arts, Philadelphia (2012), Asian Pacific American month celebration at the Capitol Building, Harrisburg, PA (2019)

Presentation

"Classical Indian Dance in a Contemporary Context - An Introduction to The Theory and Practice of Bharatanatyam." 10th annual conference of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Association for Multicultural Education *How Far Have We Come and Where Are We Going: A Forty Year Retrospective on the Movement for Multicultural Education (April 2008)*

Committees

~Philadelphia Asian Performing Artists Strategic Planning Committee (2021) Devised the Mission/Values/Vision of the organization as part of a nine-member team.

~Philadelphia Mayor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs (2020-current)