

Dance workshop at Punaroor Viswanatha Swamy temple

Amidst the paddy fields and small hillocks is a beautiful temple in the Malnad region – the Punaroor Viswanatha Swamy temple in Mulki near Udupi. It is a calm and serene place resonating with sound of the temple bells and chanting of the manthras. It was here in this beautiful atmosphere that Indira Kadambi got to conduct an Abhinaya workshop for four days during monsoon.



There were many more workshops lined up for students full daylong. Their day started with Yoga, Kathak training, Theories in Bharathanatyam, etc. Every evening, there were some beautiful programs by the stalwarts. During the workshop, it was amazing to see around 80 students observing the teaching with such rapt attention. There were some interesting discussions too. They seemed to be having lot of fun in the class – learning, observing, discussing.

Indira recounts “It was not only a pleasant experience to be teaching such wonderful passionate students but also a divine experience for me to be performing in the temple. “

She further adds “Karnataka Sangeeta Nritya Academy needs to be appreciated for this good effort of trying to reach the art to a wider community in remote places though they need to work on getting things more organized and take care of the hospitality in a more efficient manner. But good hospitality by the locals definitely was heartwarming.”

One of the participants wrote to her “..It was AMAZING experience learning from you. No matter how short the duration, it was such an enriching experience. I'm so glad you came down all the way from Chennai to teach and perform.....You're a GREAT dancer; your dance touched me so much that day, I was still weeping 1/2 hour after the show. I don't even think I told you how much I loved it. The last time I cried like that I was 6 and I'd just watched Dhananjayan Master do "Yenna Tavam Shaidanai?".....I believe there is a saying in Tamil of how something is always stored in your mind's eye---"kannuliye nikkaradu" and yours was one of the few precious memories I have of that sort.....”

Indira concluded her reminiscence by speaking about how she has been blessed by her Gurus and as a teacher it is a life worth living.