

Samiksha K M

Born in the culturally rich and serene city of Hassan, *Samiksha* is a distinguished young artiste, acclaimed for her refined prowess in both the musical and dance traditions of Indian classical art.

An alumna of VTU, Belagavi with a Bachelor's degree in Engineering, she further pursued her passion for the arts, earning a Master's degree in *Bharatanatyam* from the esteemed Karnataka State Dr. Gangubai Hangal Music and Performing Arts University, Mysuru.

Samiksha's initiation into the sacred realm of classical dance began under the benevolent tutelage of *Guru Smt. Ambale Rajeshwari*, and was later nurtured by *Shri Unnath Jain* of Hassan and Srikanth Natarajan from Kozhikode. Her artistry was further honed under the meticulous guidance of *Sri Vijayakumar S.* of Chennai, whose training refined her depth and discipline in Bharatanatyam.

Parallel to her dance journey, Samiksha also ventured into the world of classical music. Her early training in *flute* was under the guidance of the eminent *Vidwan A. V. Prakash*, and she presently continues her musical pursuit under *Vidwan A. P. Krishnaprasad*. In addition, she receives advanced training in *Nattuvangam* from the renowned *mridangam* maestro, *Vidwan Nagai P. Sriram* of Chennai.

A recipient of the *prestigious CCRT Scholarship for Young Artists* from the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, in both the junior and senior categories, Samiksha's academic and artistic credentials are notable. She has been awarded *distinction* in the proficiency grade examinations conducted by the Karnataka Secondary Education Examination Board.

Further, she holds a *Grade B accreditation* from *Doordarshan Kendra* - a formal recognition of her commitment and excellence in Bharatanatyam.

Samiksha is the founder and artistic director of **ABHIGNA® – School of Dance**, situated in Hassan, where she imparts rigorous training to numerous aspirants, nurturing a new generation of classical dancers.

Her performances have graced several prestigious platforms across India, including *TAPAS Natyotsava*, *ILAMAYIL TIRAMAI Dance Festival* at Krishna Gana Sabha, and *NATYARANGAM* at Narada Gana Sabha in Chennai. She has also been featured at *KHAJURAHU DANCE FESTIVAL 2024* at Khajuraho, *Rasa Sanje, VRC Festival, Yugala Nrityotsava, Nrutya Bhanu* in Bengaluru, *Shilparamam* in Hyderabad, *Bhakti Bharatotsava* in Tumkur, *Smriti Festival* in Hassan, *Natyotsava* in Sagara, and in festivals hosted by *Ganabharati, Natya Sabha, Nrutya Samarpana, Ekatwam, Vasundharotsava, and Manjira Mahotsava* in Mysuru.

Widely appreciated by both *connoisseurs and critics*, Samiksha is recognized as an artiste of rare sensitivity, depth, and unwavering dedication to the classical arts.