

## **Cultural Festival Octave – 2019** by CCRT, New Delhi and NCZCC, Prayagraj under MoC

The Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT) and North Central Zone Cultural Centre (NCZCC), Prayagraj under Ministry of Culture are jointly organizing *Octave – 2019*, a celebration of the Classical & Folk Dancers and Artisans from entire North-East Region of India and selected CCRT Scholar Artists from Delhi/NCR from 26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at CCRT Lawns, 15A, Sector 7, Dwarka, New Delhi.

The North-East India is one of the most ethnically and linguistically diverse regions in Asia, each state having its unique culture and traditions. In order to build up a pervasive consciousness of the rich natural and cultural heritage of North-East Region, CCRT in collaboration with NCZCC is organising a cultural festival titled *Octave – 2019*.

### **Tuesday, March 26 2019**

Sur Sangam – School of Music, Art and Dance will present *Nritya Sangam* led by Meghranjani Medhi at 6:30 pm. The performance will start with a *Shiva Vandana* in Kathak style. The presentation is a unique amalgamation of Kathak and Sattriya Dance. It will showcase the unique unity and integration embedded in Indian culture. It will be followed by rendering of music by renowned band *Minute of Decay*. Sisters hailing from Manipur namely Worshon, Singchon and Thotyaphy Muivah formed a New Delhi based all girl group in late October 2011. They will be accompanied by experts from Mizoram. The band has also played on BBC Radio.

### **Wednesday, March 27 2019**

The cultural programme will begin with dance presentations by CCRT scholarship holders Ankita (Odissi), Sreejith (Kathakali), Sudepto (HM Vocal), Sharanya (Mohiniyattam) and Ritika (HM Vocal) from 5:30 pm onwards. Well known artist Ranju Moni Saikia from Assam will be performing Sattriya Dance at 6.30 pm. Sattriya Dance is a dance drama performance with origins in the Krishna-centered Vaishnavite monasteries of Assam and attributed to the 15<sup>th</sup> century Bhakti Movement scholar and saint named Srimanta Sankardev. The first item is a *Krishna Vandana* namely *Shri Krishnaya Namaha* and *Shantakaran Bhujaga Shayanang*. The second item is a pure *tandav* number named *Gosai Nach* followed by a *Slokar Nach* set to *Ektaal*. The pure number will be followed by an *Avinaya* on the extract *Eklavya Guru Dakshina*, set to *Ektaal*. It will be followed by *Minute of Decay* band and subsequently by a play 'Local Foreigner' directed by Molina Singh. The play revolves around a young girl from North-East and her tribulations in settling in an urban city.

### **Thursday, March 28 2019**

The cultural programme will begin with dance presentations by CCRT scholarship holders Yashodhan (HM Vocal), Gokul (Kathakali), Snehalini (Odissi), Poorva (HM Vocal) and Shreyasi (Bharatnatyam) from 5:30 pm onwards. Shri Bipul Das Group from Guwahati will be presenting *Ardhang*, a composition on Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati in form of Kathak Dance at 6.30 pm. Lyrics and music is by Pandit Birju Maharaj Ji.

### **Friday, March 29 2019**

The cultural programme will begin with dance presentations by CCRT scholarship holders Mangalam (Carnatic Music Vocal), Roshni (Odissi), Bhamidi (Kuchipudi), Anagha (Kathakali) and Anandita (Bharatnatyam) from 5:30 pm onwards. Shri Hemanta Kalita and group from Assam will be presenting *Ullas* depicting desire of *Nayika* to meet her *Nayak* in *Varsha Ritu* at 6.30. This dance production is a combination of *dhrupad*, *thumri*, *kajri*, *tarana* with technicalities of Kathak tradition.

A Crafts Fair will be held daily from 11:00 am onwards. A wide spectrum of crafts including handloom weaving, cane and bamboo works, *sholapith*, brass and bell metal works, ivory, wood-work, pottery, fiber craft, carpet making, masks, painted wood vessels, jewellery will be showcased.

A 02 days Hindi Workshop titled *Aao Milkar Seekhen Hindi* will also be conducted for all the participating artists to bring them into the mainstream of the country.

The main purpose of this festival is to give a glimpse of our rich history especially the North-East Region to the people and motivate the young generation to preserve our heritage.