# Aalaap, this december



DECEMBER 4, 11 AND 18 MARGAZHI
& MEZZE with Gobbelin

**DECEMBER** 6,13, 20 AND 27

RASA: THE MARGAZHI EDIT

with Kanakavalli

DECEMBER 14 AND 15 LIL MARGAZHI

with Lil Trails

DECEMBER 26 TO 29 NATYA KALA CONFERENCE 2024

with Krishna Gana Sabha

DECEMBER 30 THE DIASPORA

@Medai:
DANCE FESTIVAL The Stage



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Margazhi & Mezze, curated by Aalaap in collaboration with Gobbelin, a cafe and restaurant housed in Gandhi Nagar, Adyar, Chennai, is a three-part conversation plus demonstration series set against the backdrop of Chennai's vibrant Margazhi season of music and dance. This event will explore the intersection of artistry, friendship, and food, bringing together artistes with promise and potential for an engaging discussion that will be followed by some Mezze and coffee.

The event aims to foster a deeper appreciation for the arts while celebrating the spirit of friendship, dialogue, and food.

Scheduled across three Wednesdays in December—4th, 11th, and 18th—Margazhi & Mezze will be held between 3pm and 4.15pm. Each episode will feature a conversation between two renowned artists who will delve into their craft, share insights about their art form and their friendship with each other, and discuss what the Margazhi season means to them.



### Episode 1 December 4, 2024 | 3pm to 4.15pm Sumesh Narayanan and Ramkumar Kanakarajan

The first episode will feature Sumesh Narayanan, an accomplished mridangam artiste with over a decade of experience and 2000 performances with leading Carnatic musicians. He will share stage with drummer, Ramkumar Kanakarajan (fondly known as KANAXX amongst fans), a sought-after live performer and one of India's most versatile musicians with a career spanning over two decades.



# Episode 2 December 11, 2024 | 3pm to 4.15pm Sriranjani Santhanagopalan and Bharat Sundar

The second episode will feature Sriranjani Santhanagopalan, one of the leading Carnatic vocalists of her generation, known for her evocative voice and mastery over both complex ragams and soulful bhajans. She will be joined by Bharat Sundar, one of her closest buddies, an award-winning Carnatic vocalist and composer renowned for his distinctive voice and creative approach to tradition.





Episode 3
December 18, 2024 | 3pm to 4.15pm
Dr Apoorva Jayaraman and
Shweta Prachande

The final episode will feature
Dr Apoorva Jayaraman, a Bharatnatyam
artiste with a background in Astronomy,
who brings a unique, multidimensional
perspective to her art form. She will be
joined by her colleague and friend,
Shweta Prachande, an award-winning
Bharatnatyam dancer known for her
technical prowess and creative
innovations, who is a regular feature at
the Margazhi Festival. The duo will
discuss the idea of practice,
performance and partnership in the
context of dance.

Tickets for Margazhi & Mezze are priced

at Rs 400 per person, per session

You can get your tickets by writing to

ops.aalaap@gmail.com

or filling this form <a href="https://forms.gle/VvK82g7fyCNYvn8P8">https://forms.gle/VvK82g7fyCNYvn8P8</a>

Gobbelin is located at 56, B Ramachandra Adithanar Road, Gandhi Nagar, Adyar





Kanakavalli in collaboration with Aalaap presents
Rasa: The Margazhi Edit, a four-part performance series
every Friday, this December.

Curated by Chennai-based boutique arts consulting and content company, Aalaap, and presented by Kanakavalli, this series is an endeavor to celebrate Indian performance arts that are so intrinsic to December in Chennai, where both Kanakavalli and Aalaap are based.

The performances – double bill evenings featuring dance and music – will unfold in the outdoors in Kanakavalli's signature store housed at Kingsley in Chetpet, Chennai.

These events are open to all but RSVP to ops.aalaap@gmail.com or fill this form https://forms.gle/rqT5dx52ouXYMW5J7





### December 6

### 6:30pm

Rasa: The Margazhi Edit begins with a performance by Bharatanatyam artiste, Nilava Sen presenting Entheos, a Bharatanatyam–contemporary production that draws from the mystic philosophies of Baul minstrels and Sufism.

### 7:30pm

This will be followed by When Walls
Dance, a production by
Bharatanatyam artiste, Prachi Saathi.
When Walls Dance weaves together
dance, spoken word, music with
animation and Warli tribal art and talks
about the story of a little girl Champa
and her beloved tree.

### December 13 6:30pm

Putanaa by Bharatanatyam artistes, Eesha Pinglay & Swarada Bhave. Putanna explores the duality of life, taking inspiration from the character Putanaa from Ramayana. The production is an exploration of Putanaa's inner journey.

December 13 will host a performance of

### 7:15pm

This will be followed by **Kaal-Taal**, a Kathak performance by **Mahima Gulechha**, who will present four pieces from the Kathak repertoire, choreographed by different artistes, that will take us on a journey through centuries and explore the art form in a way that is nuanced and sensitive.





### December 20 6:30pm

Rasa: The Margazhi Edit will showcase an exclusive evening of music by The Madras Mehfil Collective led by Vandana Srinivasan, who will present Ghazals, Bhajans, Sufi and semiclassical genres of music.

#### 8pm

This will be followed by a premiere of Sing a Lullaby presented by Gurupriya Atreya and Vedanth Bharadwaj, singing lullabies in different languages and thereby delving into the globality of the lullaby.

#### December 27

### 6.30pm onwards

The last of the Rasa series is an evening curated by Bharatanatyam and Contemporary artiste Mavin Khoo titled Varnamala, in which three dancers Pallavi Anand, Divya Nayar and Pritam Das will present a Varnam each.

Pallavi Anand's The Rigour of Structure, will showcase the beauty of a structured exposition defined by clarity of intention and meaningful artistic deliberation.

**Divya Nayar's The Music in Danc**e will celebrate Divya's dual skill in music and dance through the exploration of a Varnam.

Pritam Das's The Intensity of Shringara will be a complete immersion into the king of emotions, Shringara/ Love.





Lil Trails, in collaboration with
Aalaap presents Lil Margazhi,
an event that unfolds across December 14 and 15;
two mornings in the month of Margazhi that has come to
be associated with all things music and dance, in Chennai.

In its spirit and essence, Lil Marghazi continues to celebrate the spirit of Lil Trails - children.

Over two mornings, we will witness music performances, storytelling sessions and dance performances by children with a curiosity, keenness and an innate talent for the arts.







## December 14 Musical Tales 11am to 12.30pm

The first day of the first edition of Lil Margazhi
features solo performances by young musicians;
Madhav Prahalad on the violin and
Ayushmaan Sairam on the mridangam.
Additionally, storyteller Janaki Sabesh will enchant
audiences with tales that reflect the spirit of Margazhi,
celebrating music and dance in Chennai. The day will conclude
with a performance titled Lil Dikshitars, showcasing a music ensemble
of talented students from Carnatic musician G Ravikiran's organization,
which focuses on the works of Muddusvami Dikshitar.





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December 15 Joy of Dance 11am to 12.30pm

The second day, December 15, themed **Joy of Dance**, will highlight the vibrant talents of young dancers. The schedule includes:

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- Bharatanatyam by Taarika Senthilkumar
   ShreeKavini Anand (Students of Guru Lakshmi Ramaswamy, Sri Mudhraalaya)
- Kuchipudi by Asyasree Seshu Bhogireddy (Student of Guru Srimayi Vempati, Kuchipudi Art Academy)
- 3. Kathak by Sanaya (Student of Guru Jigyasa Giri, Devaniya)
- 4. Bharatanatyam by Aarna Badri Narayanan (Student of Guru Nandhini Navnith, Nrityalakshmi School of Classical Dance)

This day promises a beautiful convergence of Kathak, Kuchipudi, and Bharatanatyam, showcasing the unique rhythms and expressions inherent in each dance form while celebrating their rich cultural heritage.

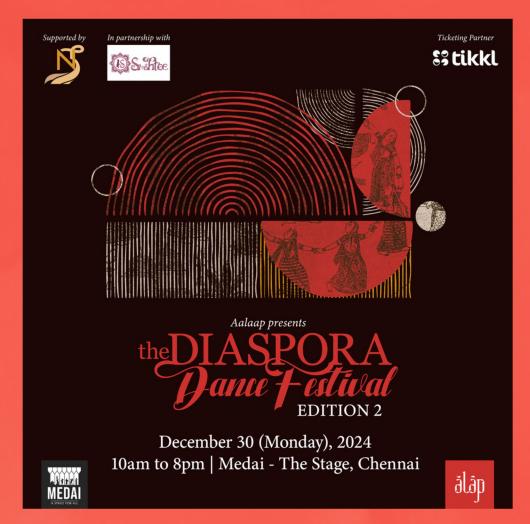
This two-day thoughtfully curated festival promises to be a showcase of talent, creativity, and joy; above all, it reinstates not just our faith in the arts, but also is heartwarming to see the arts have a very bright future, thanks to these children. You'll know why.

Tickets are available on <a href="https://liltrails.com/lil-margazhi/">https://liltrails.com/lil-margazhi/</a>



The year's Natya Kala Conference (NKC 2024) titled
Abhijāta conceived by Krishna Gana Sabha and curated
by Bharatanrtyam & Kathak artistes Nirupama & Rajendra,
will be held from December 26 to December 29, 2024 at the
Krishna Gana Sabha premises, Chennai.
The Creative Collaborator of NKC is Aalaap.

The four-day Conference will host 22 sessions, 3 workshops, panel discussions and presentations. Tickets for the Conference are priced at Rs 1700 and are available for purchase at <a href="https://tikkl.com/natyakalaconference/c/nkc2024">https://tikkl.com/natyakalaconference/c/nkc2024</a>



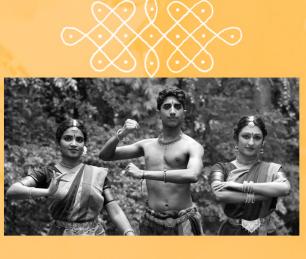


Aalaap presents the second edition of The Diaspora Dance Festival.

The Diaspora Dance Festival (TDDF) presented by Aalaap, is an attempt to represent, showcase and create an exclusive platform for the diaspora dance community from around the globe in our city, Chennai.

In its second edition, TTDF will unfold on December 30 at Medai – The Stage, Alwarpet, and will feature eight performances by dancers from the diaspora. The prelude to the festival is **Vazhi**, a group work by three dancers, Aarthy Sundar, Surya Ravi and Vivek Ramanan, students of Dr Apoorva Jayaraman who will also share a solo work each. The festival features performances by dancers from across Singapore and the United States. TTDF will begin at 10 am and end at 8 pm.

TDDF, this year, is supported by Srshtee and Narthaki.



### 10am to 11:30pm Vazhi: A Prelude to The Diaspora Dance Festival

Aarthy Sundar, Surya Ravi and Vivek Ramanan, students of Dr Apoorva Jayaraman present Vazhi followed by three of their solo works.



### 1pm to 1:45pm Meera Balasubramanian Singapore

Meera Balasubramanian presents Yaadumaagi: A Dance of Infinite Femininity, celebrating the transformative and universal power of the feminine spirit.



### 12pm to 12:45pm Suhasini Muthukrishnan Georgia, USA

Suhasini Muthukrishnan presents Synergy, exploring the notion of synergy in Bharatanatyam through the mesmerizing interplay of lyrical beauty, musicality and technical prowess.



### 2pm to 2:45pm Deepa Mahadevan New York, USA

Deepa Mahadevan will present work that explores the notion of gender in Bharatanatyam. This will be complemented by other pieces that bring into the question the idea of gender both in society and from there to the performative practice.



### 3pm to 3:45pm Gayatri Seshadri Georgia, USA

Gayatri Seshadri presents Nostalgia, which include her cherished memories and serve as reminders of a sense of loss because those moments are gone and cannot be relived in the same way.



### 4pm to 4:45pm Pranamya Suri Dallas, USA

Pranamya Suri presents Guru Parampara – Kuchipudi Over Three Generations, an ode to three generations of her revered gurus, each contributing to the preservation and evolution of Kuchipudi.



### 5pm to 5:45pm Shriya Srinivasan Massachusetts, USA

Meera Balasubramanian presents Yaadumaagi: A Dance of Infinite Femininity, celebrating transformative and universal power of feminine spirit.



### 6pm to 6:45pm Sonali Skandan New York, USA

Sonali Skandan presents Her Way, a collection of original works in the female voice, created by her and Maya Kulkarni



### 7pm to 7:45pm Archana Raja California, USA

Archana Raja presents Yellamma, a folk tale about a rural goddess who emerges from the travails of a regular woman.

Every performance is priced at Rs300 and tickets are available on <a href="https://www.tikkl.com">www.tikkl.com</a>