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**PRESS RELEASE  - DAY 3 May 22, 2024**

**IITM, Chennai:**  The third day of SPIC MACAY’S 9th International Convention at IIT Madras unfolded with hatha yog (Swami Tyagrajanand Saraswati and Swami Tejomayanand Saraswati from Bihar School of Yog) and Nada Yog (Ustad F Wasifuddin Dagar and Pt. Ritwik Sanyal). Meditation was guided by Brahmakumaris Sister Manisha. Gurbani, meditation, shramdaan and yog nidra led participants into a world of absolute bliss.

Participants enjoyed intensives comprising Bharatnatyam by Guru V.P. Dhananjayan and Smt. Shanta Dhananjayan, Carnatic Vocal by Vidwan Neyveli Santhanagopalan, Gurbani by Dr Alankar Singh, Sattriya by Guru Gopiram Burha Bhakat, Kathak by Vid. Sunayana Hazarilal, Mohiniyattam by Dr Neena Prasad, Odissi by Vidushi Madhavi Mudgal, Pung Cholom by Khumukcham Romendro Singh, Purulia Chhau by Shri Tarapada Rajak, Hatha Yog by Swami Tyagrajanand Saraswati, Puppetry by Sudeep Gupta, Dhrupad by Ustad Wasifuddin Dagar.

Participants gained deep insights of our rich cultural heritage through wide ranging craft intensives such as Tikuli painting (Bihar) by Shri Ashok Kumar Biswas, Gond Tribal painting (Madhya Pradesh) by Shri Bhajju Shyam, Mughal Miniature painting (Rajasthan) by Janab Shakir Ali, Roghan art (Gujarat) by Janab Abdul Gafur Khatri, Mask making (Majuli Assam) by Shri Hemchandra , Terracotta (Tamil Nadu) by Shri VK Munusamy. Participants expressed their thanks to Dr.Kiran Seth for organizing such a wonderful workshop session. They all expressed that attending SPIC MACAY is such a learning experience it was both educational and entertaining.

During the afternoon, participants enjoyed the Doll’s theater show by Shri Sudip Gupta (SNA Awardee). He was accompanied by Shreeparna Gupta,S Bhattacharjee, Souparno Gupta, Tunak, Santanu, Ustab and Palashi.  He presented his production ‘Dolls Theatre’.  The audience was left impressed with his intricate puppetry, special effects and rich storytelling.  He introduced life into things. In a story a woodcutter cuts a little plant. A set of blue cranes fly as they raise the heartbeat of the audience. The participants felt emotions in puppets.

It was followed by Habib Tanvir’s Naya Theatre group who presented a play titled ‘Charandas Chor’, which showcased the story of Chandradas, the theif . Curiously, he was an honest thief with a strong sense of integrity and professional efficiency.A journalist, playwright, poet and director, Habib Tanvir’s name is one of the most well-known and respected names in the field of theater. The list of actors are  Sunil kumar, Manni Kumar, Manharan, Amar Singh, Parul, Sangeeta, Imran Ali, Rahul, Neeraj, Sathish, Manna Lal, Swaraj,Payal Singh,Priyamvada, Radhika, Priyanka Singh, Vinod, Angad, Jaleshwar, Vivek Tripathi, Malikram, Darbar, Santhosh, Gopi, Manoj, Mandeep, Dharmendra,Devanand, Bhuvan, Premdas, Puran Lal and  Lakhan.

This was followed by concerts of Vidwan Lalgudi GJR Krishnan (SNA Awardee) - Carnatic Violin. He was accompanied by B Harikumar on mridangam and BS Purushotham on Kanjira. He played many soulful compositions, one which is ‘Nadaloludai on Kalyana Vasantham’ and a beautiful *Ragam thalam pallavi* on ‘kamakshi ambal’. His amazing alapanai the 71st melakartha raga Kosalam captivated the audience.

The last concert  of the day was of Vidwan Neyveli Santhanagopalan (SNA Awardee) Carnatic Vocal in the evening. He was accompanied by Dr.Narmada (violin), Shankar Prasad (Mridangam), Madipakkam Murali (Ghatam). His concert was memmerizing.

This week-long international convention from **20th May to 26th May** was attended by a total of 1300 delegates and is featuring **70 performances** and a total of **33 intensives** which include classical music, dance, yog as well as crafts by renowned maestros of our country. The main supporter of the convention is Tata Consultancy Services.

**ABOUT SPIC MACAY**

SPIC MACAY is a 45-year-old volunteer-based, apolitical, non-profit organization working to bring Indian classical music, dance and other aspects of our culture like folk arts, meditation, yoga, cinema screenings, talks by eminent persons, heritage walks and crafts workshops to university and school students. We are striving to enrich the quality of formal education among adolescents and youth by raising awareness about various aspects of Indian heritage and motivating them to imbibe the values contained therein. Volunteers from all walks of life organize about 5000 programmes every year in 100 towns of India and abroad. During the pandemic, SPIC MACAY organized 1000 programmes Online.

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