

## **NANDINI GHOSAL**

*Odissi Dancer*

*Actress*

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**Nandini Ghosal** is an exponent of Odissi dance. In her childhood she had had an extensive training in the Kathak dance style for over six years and a training in the Bharatnatyam style as well. Later attracted by the grace and poise of the Odissi danceform she took initial training in Odissi under Smt. Poushali Mukherjee in 1986. In 1989 she came under the tutelage of the Guru Kelucharan Mahapatra – the father of present day Odissi. Nandini has mastered the intricacies of Odissi under the legendary Guru for sixteen years and is one of his prominent disciples. Beside being a dancer, choreographer and teacher, she is an accomplished actress having acted in several award winning feature films and on television serials. She was a member of the World Arts Council, an UNESCO sponsored organization of the Valencian Government, Spain. She is an A-graded dancer for Doordarshan (Indian Television) and empanelled with the ICCR (Indian Council for Cultural Relations).

### **SIGNIFICANT PERFORMANCES IN INDIA**

1. The **First South Asian Festival of SAARC** Countries (1992).
2. The Srirampore Sangeet Sammelan (1992 and 1994).
3. The Salt Lake Music Conference (1994 and 1995).
4. The Dance Festival of the **Dover Lane Music Conference** (1994).
5. The Banga Sahitya-O-Sanskriti Mela at Silchar organized by EZCC (1994).
6. The Nrityotsav 1994 in Allahabad organized by the North Central Zone Cultural Centre (1994).
7. The Pollachi Festival (1995).
8. The Bishnupur Mela (1995 & 1998).
9. The **Dussehra Festival** in Mysore organized by the South Zone culture Centre (1997).
10. The **Nrutya Parva** at Bhubaneswar organized by the Sangeet Natak Akademi (1998).
11. The Salangai Natham organized by The South Zone Cultural Centre at Thanjavur, Kumbhakonam and Pattukottai (1999).
12. Utkal Day celebration organized by Utkal Siksha Sansad (2000).
13. **Uday Shankar Festival** [2001, 2008, 2009 & 2012].
14. Pradakshina at New Delhi celebrating Guru Kelucharan Mahapatra's 75<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary (2001).
15. 18<sup>th</sup> **Konark Dance and Music Festival** (2003).
16. Classical Dance Festival, Uttarpara Sangeet Chakra (2004, 2007 & 2014).
17. Bharat Utsav in Manipur organized by the Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre (2004).
18. Uttarpara Music Conference (2005 & 2011).
19. Dhanbad Kala Mahotsav (2005 & 2006).
20. **International Odissi Festival** in Bhubaneswar organized by IPAP (2006, 2011).

21. Performance at the National Centre for the Performing Arts, Mumbai (2006).
22. Performance at the India International Centre (IIC), New Delhi (2007).
23. **Nishagandhi Festival**, Trivandrum [2009].
24. Alauddin Khan Samaroha, Maihar, Madhya Pradesh. [2009].
25. Natyanjali Festival, Thiruvavur, sponsored by Sangeet Natak Akademi [2009].
26. Pratibha Utsav, Nagpur [2009]
27. Dr. Vasantrya Deshpande Smruti Sangeet Samaroha, Nagpur [2009].
28. **Nritya Sangam** organized by the Sangeet Natak Akademi in Bangalore [2010].
29. Kumar Gandharva Samaroh, Dewas, Madhya Pradesh, [2010].
30. Rajgir Mahotsav organized by Bihar tourism, [2010].
31. **National Festival** of Odissi Dance and Music, Bhubaneswar, organized by Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra Odissi Research Centre, [2010].
32. Kinkini Festival, Bangalore, [2011].
33. **Khajuraho Dance Festival**, Madhya Pradesh, [2012].
34. Rhythm Ta Ta Thai Thai, Siliguri, (2013, 2014 & 2015).
35. Cultural Programme, ISM (IIT) Dhanbad (2015).
36. Shradhanjali organized by the Odissi Dancers' Forum of Kolkata (2017)
37. Ekamra Festival Bhubaneswar, 2018.
38. Kamakshi Festival, Guwahati, 2018 & 2019.
39. Gundicha Festival organized by ISKCON, Kolkata; 2019.
40. Nritya Natya Utsav organized by the West Bengal State music Academy. 2019.

### **PERFORMANCES ABROAD**

1. The **Festival of India in Germany** in 1992 where Nandini was a member of the Odissi troupe led by Guru Kelucharan Mahapatra.
2. The **16<sup>th</sup> North American Bengali Conference** at Houston, **U. S. A.**, in 1996 as a solo performer.
3. The **Shahid Divas** Celebrations in Dhaka, **Bangladesh**, in 2002, as a solo performer.
4. **International Arts Meeting**, 2002, in Valencia, **Spain**.
5. **Durga Puja** Festival at Chicago, **U.S.A.**, 2003, as a solo performer.
6. Dance performance organized by **Mayo International Relations Association**, Rochester, **U.S.A.**, 2003 & 2011, as a solo performer.
7. **International Dance Day**, Granollers, **Spain**, 2004 as a solo performer.
8. A series of performances at the **Forum Barcelona 2004, Spain**.
9. **Bangamela** Chicago, **U.S.A.**, 2005, with her own troupe.
10. **Ananda Utsav**, Toronto, **Canada**, 2005, with her own troupe.
11. **Durga Puja** Festival at Boston, **U.S.A.**, 2007, as a solo performer.
12. **Durga Puja** Festival at London, Cardiff and Leicester, U.K, 2008.
13. Programme organized by Alankar Productions in Vancouver, U.S.A., 2011.
14. ICCR sponsored tour of Indonesia. Philippines & Australia, 2015.
15. Stockholm Sangeet, Stockholm; Palladium, Malmo; Stallet, Stockholm and other programmes in Sweden, 2018.

**PERFORMANCES IN DANCE-DRAMAS**  
**(Directed by Guru Kelucharan Mahapatra)**

As a senior disciple of Guru Kelucharan Mahapatra Nandini has played major roles in several dance-dramas choreographed by him. Among others she has played the roles of:

1. Sita in **Mothhamoni Pradan** (Kelucharan Utsav, Bhubaneswar).
2. Radha in **Utkal Mayura Moni** (Beach Festival, Puri).
3. Sita in **Dashanan** (Ganga Mahotsav, Varanasi; Krishna Gana Sabha, Madras; Dover Lane Music Conference, Kolkata and in others).
4. Radha in **Kishoror Chandranan Champu** (Doordarshan).
5. Subhadra, in **Chandashok** (Kelucharan Utsav, Bhubaneswar).

**STAGE PRODUCTIONS**

1. Nandini has produced and choreographed the dance dramas **Tapaswini** based on the Sanskrit poet Kalidasa's 'Kumar Sambhavam' and **Aranyatanaya** based on Kalidasa's 'Abhigyan Shakuntalam'.
2. Nandini has produced and choreographed Rabindranath Tagore's **Bhanusingher Padabali** as an Odissi dance drama.
3. **Kathak Odissi** duet with Alokeparna Guha
4. Nandini has produced and choreographed the Dance dramas **Devitame Saraswati** and **Prakritish**.

**PERFORMANCES ON TELEVISION**

1. As an **A-graded** artiste of Indian Television (Doordarshan) Nandini has executed several solo programmes over the years including the National Programme of Dance.
2. She has choreographed and performed along with her troupe in the special all night programme of Doordarshan to celebrate the birth centenary of Kazi Nazrul Islam.
3. She has choreographed and performed along with her troupe to celebrate the 'Monsoon Season' in 2006 and 'Geetobitan' 2007.

4. Nandini has performed as a dancer in the documentary film, "The Origin and Tradition of Odissi" directed by Shri M. M. Patnaik in which Smt. Sanjukta Panigrahi was the choreographer.
5. She has performed in major roles in several dance dramas made for Doordarshan, directed by Kelucharan Mahapatra, namely "Kishoror Chandranan Champu", "Kaivarta Prasanga" and "Sitaharan".

### **AWARDS AND HONOURS**

1. Nandini won the first place in the Odissi Dance competition organized by the West Bengal Rajya Sangeet Academy in 1989.
2. She received the Calcutta 300 years Sironama Award from Bangla Chalachitra Prachar and Natun Pragati in 1991.
3. She was adjudged the best Odissi Dancer at the Dance Festival of the Dover Lane Music conference in 1994.
4. Nandini was awarded the Jadubhatta Purashkar 1995 by the Salt Lake Cultural Association.
5. Nandini was honoured with the Guru Samman 2016 by Dristi Dance Academy, Guwahati.
6. She received the Suravi Samman, 2018 from Suravi, Bhubaneswar.

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Nandini has been teaching regularly and conducting dance workshops in her own school in Kolkata – **SAVERI Odissi Dance School** and also in Uttarpara Sangeet Chakra.

She has conducted classes, dance workshops and lecture demonstrations in **Spain** and **U.S.A.** including in the Theatre Institute, Barcelona, Spain, St. Olaf College, Minnesota, U.S.A. and the Triveni School of Dance, Boston, U.S.A. and in several institutions in Sweden.

She has taught Odissi dance in a 36 episodes lecture program on television produced by EMRC under the UGC syllabus.

She has conducted Odissi Dance Appreciation courses for the West Bengal State Music Academy.

She has been a judge for the CCRT scholarship examination under the Ministry of Culture.

She has several times been an external examiner for the Rabindra Bharati University B.A.(graduation) Dance Honours Practical examination and a judge for the competition of the Dover Lane Music Conference and the Nehru Children's Museum, Kolkata.

## **FILM WORK**

As an actress, Nandini has performed in quite a few feature films playing the central role in among others:

1. Tagore's **Char Adhyay** in Hindi, directed by Kumar Shahani (Indian Panorama 1998).
2. **Kichhu Sanglap Kichhu Pralap** in Bengali, directed by Ashoke Viswanathan (National Award and Indian Panorama 1999).
3. **Akeli** in Hindi, directed by Vinode Pande.
4. **Sthithi** in Malayam, directed by R. Sarath.
5. **Byatikrami** in Bengali, directed by Ashoke Viswanathan.

Nandini has also performed in short films, digital films and documentaries including in:

1. The short film **Anya Swapna** in Bengali, directed by Ashoke Viswanathan (Indian Panorama 2001).
2. The webfilm **Laboratory** in Bengali directed by Soumik Chattopadhyay.

## **CHOREOGRAPHY IN FILMS AND ON TELEVISION**

1. Nandini has been associated as choreographer with the film 'Kichhu Sanglap Kichhu Pralap' directed by Ashoke Viswanathan, which was in the Indian Panorama'99 and also won the National Award.
2. She has been the choreographer in the telefilms 'Agantuk' and 'Kalo Koffeer Kelenkari' directed by Ashoke Viswanathan for ETV Bengali.
3. She has been the choreographer in the Television serial 'Mallika' directed by Goutam Sen for ETV Bengali.
4. She has choreographed and performed along with her own troupe in the special whole night programme of Doordarshan, Kolkata, to celebrate the birth centenary of Kazi Nazrul Islam, to celebrate the 'Monsoon Season' in 2006 and 'Geetobitan' 2007.

## ANCHORING ON TELEVISION

Nandini has been a television anchor for a number of music programmes on TARA MUZIK including **Anjali** – a programme of devotional songs; **Ganer Tori** – songs written by Atulprasad Sen, Dwijendralal Roy and Rajanikanta Sen and a programme on **Nazrulgeeti**. She has anchored for a classical music programme on TV SOUTH ASIA.

She has also anchored many special programmes and interview based programmes on Doordarshan (DD Bangla).

## TELEVISION WORK AS AN ACTRESS

Nandini has acted in major roles in the telefilms:

1. **Andhi Mein Chirag** and **Joda** in Urdu, directed by Ashoke Viswanathan for ETV Urdu.
2. **Mantramugdh** in Hindi, directed by Saikat Bhattacharya for Doordarshan, National.
3. **Agantuk**, **Kalo Koffeer Kelenkari** and **Lobhey Paap** in Bengali, directed by Ashoke Viswanathan for ETV Bengali.
4. **Sambhaboto** in Bengali, directed by Sarbajit Sen for ETV Bengali.
5. **Dalia** in Bengali, directed by Debangshu Sengupta for ETV Bengali.
6. **Bhaduri** in Hindi, directed by Ashoke Viswanathan for Doordarshan.
7. **Ajantey** in Bengali, directed by Saikat Bhattacharya for Tara Bangla.
8. **Odhora** in Bengali, directed by Moloy Bhattacharya for ETV Bengali.
9. **Ekta Kharap Na Bashar Golpo** in Bengali, directed by Shyamal Sen Gupta for ETV Bengali.

Nandini has also acted in major roles in the Television serials:

1. **Shesh Prashna** directed by Inder Sen for Zee TV, Bengali.
2. **Cell 3**, in Hindi, directed by Ashoke Viswanathan for Zee TV.
3. **Jhora Samayer Upakatha** and **Prapto Boyoshkoder Janya**, for Alpha Bangla.
4. **Mallika** directed by Gautam Sen for ETV Bangla.
5. **Rahasya Galpa** directed by Debangshu Sen Gupta for ETV Bengali.
6. **Samrat Kharvel** in Hindi, directed by Prashant Nanda for Doordarshan.
7. **Shudhu Tomari Janya** and **Kokhono Megh Kokhono Brishti**, directed by Anindya Sarkar, for ETV Bangla.
8. **Fera**, directed by Kaushik Ganguly, for ETV Bangla.
9. **Ek Akasher Nichey**, directed by Ravi Ojha, for Alpha Bangla.
10. **Bou Katha Kao**, **Charulata** and **Roilo Pherar Nimantran** for Star Jalsa.

