





Smt. Julie Sarmah & Sri. Pranab Kumar Sarmah

CORDIALLY INVITE YOU WITH FAMILY TO THE

# Bharatanatyam Arangetram

OF OUR DAUGHTER

Kum. Tanusha Sarmah

DISCIPLE OF

GURU Smt. SOWMYA RAJAGOPALAN

ON

Saturday, September 2nd, at 2:45pm

CHIEF GUEST

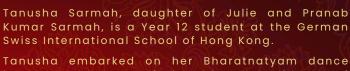
Ms. Satwant Khanalia Consul General of India,

Hong Kong & Macau SARs

ΑT

Christian Family Services Auditorium 1st Floor, 3 Tsui Ping RD, Kwun Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong





Tanusha embarked on her Bharatnatyam dance journey at the age of six under the guidance of Oxana Banshikova of Cosmic Dance, Hong Kong. Her initial training in the Kalakshetra style of Bharatnatyam built a strong foundation and developed a deep understanding of the technicalities of this classical dance form. Tanusha's fascination with the mythology of Indian gods and goddesses drove her interest in this ancient art form, which she saw as a medium for narrating tales through graceful movements.

Later, Oxana relocated from Hong Kong, leading Tanusha to the next chapter of her dance journey under the mentorship of Guru Shrimati Sowmya Rajagopalan. However, her training was temporarily interrupted in 2020 when she battled cancer. With Sowmya's unwavering patience compassion, Tanusha emerged more disciplined, confident and mature Bharatnatyam dancer after her recovery. Despite the challenges posed by online training when Guru Sowmya too, relocated back to India, Tanusha continued to hone her skills under her guidance. Over the years, Tanusha had performed at several social and cultural events in Hong Kong.

Tanusha's musical prowess extends beyond dance. She is an accomplished flute player and etched an impressive score with distinction in her Music Theory exam. Her interests extend beyond the arts, as she finds joy in archery as a sport. She also cohosts a podcast called "p.s. ur wrong", alongside a close friend, which engages in casual yet diverse discussions for a broad audience.

Tanusha actively contributes to her school community through various peer-mentoring groups. However, her dedication to help others transcends the school grounds. For the past three years, she has been actively volunteering with the Children's Cancer Foundation Hong Kong, by participating in charity events and support groups.

Tanusha seeks blessings from all on this momentous occasion as she celebrates her unique and soulful dance journey that has not only helped her stay connected to her Indian roots but also endorsed strength in character.



# Guru Smt. Sowmya Rajagopalan

Smt. Sowmya Rajagopalan is a classical dancer specializing in Bharatanatyam and Kuchupudi. She was born in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. As a child Sowmya was extremely interested in music and dance and learned the violin. After her marriage to Rajagopalan, Sowmya moved to Chennai and built a beautiful family with her husband and two daughters Rasika and Ananya. In this journey, her passion for arts and desire to learn never went away. As an eager learner, Sowmya pursued and completed her MA in music from Madras University.

Her Bharatanatyam journey started under Ranjani Ganesan Ramesh and after 2 decades of practicing this art form, Sowmya is now a Bharatanatyam guru to students across multiple geographies. In addition to practicing and teaching Bharatanatyam full time, Sowmya is a trained Kuchupudi dancer and Veena player. Her kuchupudi training began under Vempati Ravi Garu and she is now under the tutelage of Smt. Sailaja. She learned Veena under the tutelage of Shyamala Sajnani. Sowmya is also a certified nutritionist and a fitness instructor.



She is a proud mother of 2 beautiful daughters: Rasika who is gaining immense popularity as an upcoming Bharatnatyam based out of Chennai, and Ananya who is a budding author executive and producer of films, based out Sowmya is Mumbai. supported by her husband Rajagopalan, a retired executive from HSBC bank.



## 1. Pushpanjali

TaaLam: Adi

Raagam: Gambheera Nattai

Choreography: Sowmya Rajagopalan

## 2. Alarippu

Tisram

# 3. Jathiswaram

TaaLam: Roopakam Raagam: Kalyani

Composition: Thiru. Ponnaiya Pillai

Choreography: Kalakshetra

#### 4. Kali Kauthuvam

Taalam: Kanda Chapu Raagam: Hamsadwani

Composition: Sri Gangaimuthu Nattuvanar

Choreography: Smt. Ranjani Ganesan

Ramesh

#### 5. Varnam

TaaLam: Adi

Raagam: Shriranjani

Composer: Papanasam Sivan

Choreography: Smt. Rukmini Devi Arundel

6. Shree Ram Bhajan

Taalam: Mishra Chapu

Raagam: Yaman Kalyani Composer: Tulasidas

Choreography: Smt. Ranjani Ganesan

Ramesh

#### 7. Aadikkondar

TaaLam: Adi

Raagam: Mayamalavagowla

Composer: Sri. Muttu Taandavar

Choreography: Sowmya Rajagopalan

## 8. Thillana

TaaLam: Adi

Raagam: Bhilahari

Composer: Sri M. D. Ramanathan

Choreography: Smt. Rukmini Devi Arundel

#### 9. Mangalam

TaaLam: Adi

Raagam: Kurinji

Choreography: Sowmya Rajagopalan

# Music Ensemble

## **Mridangam** Sri. Nagai P Shreram

Nattuvangam

Sri. Nagai P Shreram

**Vocal** Smt. Roshni Ganesh

Violin

Flute

Sri. Sruthi Sagar

Smt. TV Sukanya

# Credits

Make - Up & Invitation Design

Kum. Rasika Rajagopalan

Master Of Ceremonies

Sanaya Sarmah & Rasika Rajagopalan

Costume

Shri. Ramesh

Photography

Saurabh Anand

**Videography** Chohan Photography



