

BARKHA PATEL

Professional kathak performer and choreographer

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Barkha Patel is a professional Indian classical kathak performer, choreographer and educator with two decades of training and performance experience. Her practice relies on the intricate combinations and permutations of syllables from percussive instruments to engage curves of the spine and upper body as a source of gestural movement while drawing from my internal state of being to express nuanced facial expressions.

TRAINING

Indian classical kathak, Rachna Sarang	1996 - 2016
Hindustani classical rhythm, Divyang Vakil	2016 - 2020
Classical choreography intensive, Akram Khan Company	2019 (1 week)
Abhinaya (facial expression), Deepak Mazumdar/Mavin Khoo	2020 (6 mths)

EDUCATION

KAVIKULGURU KALIDASA SANSKRIT UNIVERSITY **Mumbai, India**
Masters in Performing Arts, Kathak Dance 2013 - 2015

BOSTON UNIVERSITY, School of Management **Boston, MA**
Bachelor of Business Administration, Finance 2007 - 2011

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

BARKHA DANCE COMPANY (BDC) **New York, NY**
Artistic Director, Choreographer, Performer, Educator July 2017 - Present

- Repertoire pieces:
 - Technical: 16 and 11-beat time cycles, Tirvat
 - 10-20 mins: Maula-E-Kull, Raas Rasika, Bolat Shyam, Embrace of Passion, Traces of You, Zariya, Pad Yatra, bound
 - Full length: Mukta, A Woman Liberated
 - Work in progress: 'unravel'
- Teach workshops, intensives and weekly classes, recitation techniques and choreography to young and adult students

BENVENUTI ARTS **New York, NY**
Part-time Associate Consultant Sept 2018 - June 2019

- Assisted in writing foundation and government grants for dance and theatre clients
- Planned and executed silent auctions from procuring items, creating bid sheets and engaging guests in the auction
- Researched new grants in different regions, creative fundraising platforms and venues to host gala events

SARANG ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS **New York, NY**
Executive Assistant to Artistic Director, Performer, Educator Sept 2011- 2016

- Coordinated annual company performances by booking performance venues, designing and procuring costumes, selling over 300 tickets and choreographing dance pieces
- Planned and executed 2014 dance tour to India and managed a budget of \$40k, designed production plans, drafted timelines, created technical riders and coordinated and lead meetings with the production team

JAMAICA CENTER FOR ARTS & LEARNING **Jamaica, NY**
Advisory Council Member on Building Equity Program Sept 2021 - Sept 2022

AWARDS

Forge Consulting Fellow (recipient of strategic consulting support)	Feb 2021 - Feb 2022
Dance/USA Leadership Institute Trainee/Mentee	May 2020 - Dec 2020
New Jersey Council on the Arts (individual artist) grant recipient	Feb 2020 - Dec 2020
New Jersey Performing Arts Center Choreographic Fellow	Mar 2018 - June 2019

VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY OFFERINGS

KATHAK MEET UP, Co-founder **New York, NY** Jan 2020 - Present

- Host monthly space for kathak dancers in NYC to build community, practice and discuss crucial topics to the art form.

RUBIN MUSEUM of TIBETAN & HIMALAYAN ART, Docent **New York, NY** Jan 2018 - Dec 2019

- Provide theme-specific tours to museum visitors to increase awareness and importance of centuries old art work

WOMANKIND, Dance Instructor **New York, NY** Mar - May 2018

- Taught kathak dance workshops to women suffered have from domestic violence

PERFORMANCES

2021

- March 21st: "Tirvat" for Dance Theatre Harlem (solo)
- April 16th: "Aikyam" for Future Dance Festival (solo)
- May 1st: "bound" for South Orange Performing Arts Center (solo)
- May 8th: "Transcendance of Art" in collaboration with visual artist Shreya Mehta for JCAL art installation
- Sept 15th: Little Island Dance Festival, NYC (solo)
- Oct 30th: "Aikyam" for Joyce Theatre (solo)

2020

- January 12th: "Mukta, A Woman Liberated" at APAP Showcase (ensemble)
- February 17th: "Zariya" at Wise Fruit 9.0 Art meets Activism (solo)
- May 17th: Wise Fruit 10.0 Art meets Activism (improvisational solo)
- June 26th: "Maula E Kull" at CrossCurrent Dance Festival (virtual)
- Sept 27th: Erasing Borders Dance Festival (virtual)

2019

- March 17th: "Maula E Kull" at Dance Theatre Harlem, NY (solo)
- April 19th: New York Kathak Dance Festival (kathak solo)
- June 14th: "Aravani" at NJPAC, Jersey Moves! (solo)
- July 16th: Live music Nritya for Guru Purnima, Ahmedabad, India (solo)
- November 16th: Mukta work in progress preview at The Strand Theater, NY (ensemble)
- November 17th - 22nd: Selected in Akram Khan's Classical Intensive London, UK

2018

- January 30th: Lakme Fashion Week for Gaurang Shah, Mumbai, India (solo)
- February 7th: Articulate Dance Festival, Bangalore, India (solo)
- June 14th: "Traces of You" commissioned by Pangea Dance Festival, NYC (ensemble)
- June 22nd: Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, MA (solo)

November 17th: “Mukta” excerpt at International Human Rights Art Festival, NYC (ensemble)

Notable performances from 2015-2017

Metropolitan Museum of Art: World Culture Festival, NYC (solo)

Out of Doors Festival, Lincoln Center, NYC (ensemble)

Nimbus Dance Works: Offline Dance Festival, NJ (solo)

Modhera Festival, Gujarat, India (solo)

Natyanjali Chidambaram, Chennai, India (solo)

RESIDENCIES

April 2020: 20 hours studio space + final showing of ensemble work with Center for Flamenco Arts, NYC

May 2020: 2 weeks at New Victory Theatre with Thresh Dance Company, NYC

Sept 2021 - June 2022: CUNY Dance Initiative residency with Kupferberg Arts Center at Queens College

WORKSHOPS (taught by Barkha)

May 2021: 2-hour beginner kathak workshop with Nimbus Dance Company

May 2020: Two 1-hour virtual workshops for Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company

February 2020: 2-day workshops for Kaladhara Dance in Salt Lake City, Utah

August 2016: 1 week long workshop in Mumbai, India

January 2014: Two 2-hour workshops for Bergen Performing Arts Center in Tenafly, NJ