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**ARPAN IN PARTNERSHIP WITH KIRKLAND PERFORMANCE CENTER
PRESENTS THE WORLD PREMIERE OF**

YAVANIKA – Veiled perspectives

Two women, two lives: one maps her own destiny; the other succumbs to what must be destiny. Is it up to one to uplift the other? Is one's reality less illusive than that of the other? Is it even reality, or is it glimpses of what we wish to see through the sieve of self-drawn veils?

Date: March 22nd, 2014

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Venue: Kirkland Performance Center

350 Kirkland Ave, Kirkland, WA

Tickets: <http://www.kpcenter.org/performances/yavanika-veiled-perspectives>

Conceived and Choreographed by Joyce Paul Siamak
Creative consulting by Meera Krishna & Siamak Poursabahian
Original Music by Murali Pavithran Vasudevan
Script and ideation by Joyce Paul Siamak
Photography by Siamak Poursabahian
Promo Videos by Ashok Kadavakollu
Light Design by Robert Franklin
Costumes by Arpan

These are some of the questions viewers of **YAVANIKA: Veiled Perspectives** - an avant-garde Arpan production in partnership with KPC - will be forced to ask themselves. YAVANIKA (translated as "curtain") is the story of two women whose lives intertwine and realities shift, as each emerges from the

circumstances thrown at her by the elements of life. The narrative explores how we view life through the veil of our perceived reality, colored by our own personalities and experiences. In a society that is programmed to think of the more assertive and "in-charge" amongst us as those who have life figured out, YAVANIKA challenges you to reconsider the place of the supposedly meek and compliant, and to re-examine your own relationships from a different perspective.

Depicted using the technique of Bharatanatyam – a classical dance form from southern India – the production brings together a team comprising some of Seattle's most prominent, dedicated and talented dancers, whose colorful costumes, mastery in technique and perfect synchronization make for a delightful visual treat. This, along with the eclectic original score, meticulous choreography and telling narrative will leave you with a quiet tug in your heart and an experience you will not forget for a very long time.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Dancer, choreographer & Anthropologist Joyce Paul Siamak, has been creating movement for the stage and street theatre since 1986. Born in New Delhi, India and now a native of Redmond, WA, Joyce began her dancing career inspired by the dancers of Bharatiya Kala Kendra as they played the epic story of Ramlila. She joined the institute to learn Bharatanatyam under the direction of the renowned Leela Samson in 1986, completed her "Arangetram" in 1992 and continued to perform for productions with her guru.

Her choreographic career started blooming in 1986 when she co-founded Abhivaykti Karya Shala, a grass roots performing arts organization that sought to bring social change with dance, music and theatre. All the while Joyce continued to learn and dabble with other arts forms such as Carnatic vocal, Chhau, Odissi and Mohiniyattam. She spent time honing her skill with stalwarts such as Prof C.V. Chandrashekhar, A. Janardhanan and Kalamandalam Gopi.

In academia, she focused on the Anthropology of performance and her Ph.D thesis on Anthropometry and Physiology of elite Bharatanatyam dancers remains the only work of its kind till today. From the University of Delhi, she moved on to work for the leading software company in India which paved her path to her UX research career at Microsoft ultimately bringing her to settle down in the Pacific Northwest.

The unique quality of Joyce's work is her ability to stay within the definition of classical dance while pushing boundaries and exploring non-traditional themes and contexts. Her work also tends to gravitate towards social problems and women's issues. Her choreographic works include acclaimed works such as Kalaprayanam, Laya Samvaad, Ecclesiastes Reworked, Guru Ashtakam, Shanthala Varnam, Maand and Bahudari Thillana amongst others.

Along with teaching and running her own company, Arpan, she is also faculty at the Spectrum Dance Theatre teaching the select Academy students and choreographing for their annual Academy shows. Joyce occasionally teaches master classes at the University of Washington and Cornish College. She is a published author for dance medicine and Anthropology journals.

TICKET INFORMATION

YAVANIKA tickets are priced \$25 may be purchased through the KPC Box Office:

- Phone: 425.893.9900. Tickets may also be purchased [24/7 online](#).
- In Person: Kirkland Performance Center, 350 Kirkland Ave, Kirkland, WA.

- Tickets are also available at the door prior to the performance, subject to availability.