



## Festival Director Speaks

Delhi International Arts Festival is positioned as India's 'Signature Festival' and efforts are on to place it on the international cultural map so that it attracts artistes, writers, connoisseurs and tourists from all over the world and serves as a significant platform for cultural diplomacy.

Cutting across geographical barriers and looking beyond cultural stereotypes, DELHI INTERNATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL (DIAF) is a rare bouquet of all forms of art including literature that unifies the globe into one aesthetic. The festival is not just the capital's but the entire nation's first such arts initiative.

Our mission is to be the most exciting, innovative and accessible Festival of the arts this part of the world, and thus promote the cultural, economic and social projection of India as a global soft power. The high visibility of India as a diverse, dynamic, peaceful, multicultural, refined and tolerant nation will also serve to attract potential investors from around the world. Through bilateral and multilateral activity primarily in art and culture, India is projected as a meeting place of ideas.

We, at DIAF, believe that aesthetics are never compartmentalized by forms or controlled by countries. Creativity is a notion constantly in search of new contents and forms. DIAF looks forward to inviting art projects from other parts of the world and opening new avenues for explorations of different approaches to the development and creation of artistic works. It also believes in reviving and re-projecting many ancient traditional art forms of India and the sub-continent thereby creating

newer audiences and opportunities for continuation of intangible heritage. In this sense the festival committee has taken the first step towards offering a new and unique model that is non-judgmental of the art forms presented and non-bourgeois.

I am particularly happy to inform you that we have a rich artistic offering from various cultures at DIAF 2010. The international segment has 18 Artistic groups from as many countries participating in this year's Festival. Some are cutting edge performances that are at the forward tip of the curve of creativity. I mention Alvin Sputnik's Adventures from Australia, playing multiple shows, Tales Of the Body from Spain, a Butoh performance, Edgologue-a festival of e-creativity,

Ether - a much acclaimed contemporary dance group from Korea, a live literature, multi-media performance from Denmark, a one -man play from New York to mention a few.

Of special interest are collaborative music performances with Indian artistes by many international groups from Countries such as the U.K (performing with Mandolin U.Srinivas), Mexico (performing with Rajendra Prasanna and others), Brazil (performing with Shubendra Rao and others), Austria (performing with Ranajit SenGupta and others), Shivanova (collaborating with the Prasiddha Repertory in dance), Tetrafide percussion from Australia, Voices, Flutes and Percussion from India with artistes from Europe and Ukraine.

DIAF 2010 has stars of Indian Music and dance like Pt. Bhajan Sopori, Gundecha brothers,

Pt. Madhup Mudgal, Kamal Sabri, Priya sisters, Swapna Sundari, Madhavi Mudgal, Bijayoni Satpathy, Prathibha Prahlad's Prasiddha Repertory, Kathak Kendra Repertory, Nartaki Natraj and several others. In addition

are well-known musicians Suma Sudhindra, Sudha Raghuraman and Mita Pandit, Kumud Dewan and others.

Extraordinary young artistes like Pushkar Lele, Pravin Ghokindi, Rajat Prasanna and others as well as talented and creatively different productions from well-known young choreographers like Santosh Nair, Madhu Natraj, Vikram Iyengar, Sudarshan Chakraborty, Satyanarayana Raju, Parul Shah, Sangeeta Sharma will be showcased in the Choreography segment.

The biggest draws of the Festival - star sufi artistes like Jaspinder Narula, Mohammed Ahmed Warsi Qawwals, Nizami brothers, Bharkat Sidhu, dervish dancers from Egypt are all there to excite the audience.

For those wanting music for healing, there is Bhakti Sangeet by Nandini Bhattacharya and Suman Devgan.

The youngsters can look forward to gigs and rock and fusion bands like Parikrama, Advaita, Jasleen Royal, Groove Adda amongst others.

The Film Festival segment has an extraordinary array of films from kids films -made by children (ages 4 -12), films for children, films on extraordinary artistes from various Countries, award-winning Panaroma Films, sports Films and country-specific acclaimed films from Taiwan.

The visual arts is equally engaging with many collaborative exhibitions showcasing Indian and foreign artists.

All this at no cost - for we want you to come and enjoy and understand and contemplate. Art is the only equalising element in society- it engages, it inspires, it helps sensitize, and forms better individuals and thereby a better Nation.

*Prathibha Prahlad*



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A2, 5th Floor, Giridhar Apartments, 28 Feroz Shah Road,

New Delhi 110001

Phone: 011 47340497 / 011 23320407

prasiddhafoundation@gmail.com

delhiinternationalartsfestival@gmail.com

prasiddha.diaf@gmail.com

www.diaf.in, www.prathibhaprahlad.net

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# Delhi International Arts Festival

3 Dec - 12 Dec, 2010

In Collaboration with  
Government of NCT of Delhi

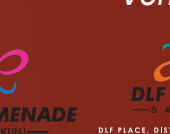


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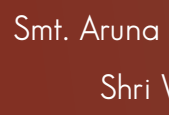
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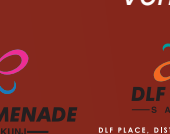
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**Prathibha Prahlad**, Festival Director is among the best known dancers in India. She combines in herself various roles of performer, teacher, choreographer, researcher, cultural organizer, arts administrator and media person. She has also authored a book on Bharatanatyam. Her contribution to the arts has been unparalleled in contemporary dance history. She has been on many Government Committees that determine policy and positioning for the arts, the most recent being her role as Convener of the Opening & Closing Ceremonies of CWG 2010.



**Archana B Sapra** is a Delhi based independent architect, designer and arts consultant. Currently working as Project Consultant for Delhi International Arts Festival 2010, Archana is the Founding Director of Sakaart an interiors and arts consultancy that offers advice to art galleries, cultural organizations and collectors and she is a member editor of the Creative Mind quarterly art magazine.