

# INVITATION



ON BEHALF OF THE LINGALAYAM DANCE COMPANY, THE DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND THE ASIA NETWORK AT MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO **THE ELEPHANT HOUSE PROJECT SYMPOSIUM**

*“The transmission of music & dance in indian modernity: A conversation between artistic & scholarly perspectives”*

**When:** Saturday 1 March 2008  
**Time:** 10.30 – 3.00, Lunch included  
**Where:** Vice Chancellor’s Bldg (#E11A)  
Macquarie University

Join leading artists and academics in a conversation between practitioners engaged in Indian dance and music practice, and the academy. Indian dance and music, along with poetry and drama, lie at the source of Indian aesthetic traditions, and have made a crucial contribution to Indian modernity, and the experiences of the diaspora. The symposium aims to present a conversation between practitioners and scholars by seeking the insights that can come from the actual embodied experience of performing, teaching and learning skills in dance and music. How can these insights converse with research on the history of twentieth century developments in Indian art forms?

- ~ How does the experience of time, of aesthetic values and of artistic coherence in such practices help inject new terms into academic and scholarly discourses on history and culture?
- ~ What is the blend of continuity and innovation that has been codified in India as the Guru-Shishya relationship?
- ~ How do new technologies of transmission, such as through recordings, film, video and media challenge and modify these older forms of power and knowledge?
- ~ How does the concept of rigorous practice over time, so central to the transmission of complex bodily knowledge in a wide variety of traditions, help us to address the issues relevant to the humanities, the social sciences and to the arts?

The symposium is hosted by Department of Anthropology, in cooperation with the History and Music Departments and the Asia Network at Macquarie University. Speakers include **Dr Kalpana Ram**, head of the Department of Anthropology, who will talk about dance as a form of embodied memory in relation to questions of nationalism, gender and the Indian Diaspora. Other speakers will include ethnomusicologists **Dr Adrian McNeill (UMQ)** and **Dr Alex Dea** from Indonesia, **Ramli Ibrahim**, dancer/choreographer/Artistic Director of Sutra Dance Theatre from Malaysia and **Anandavalli**, Director of Lingalayam Dance Company, Sydney.

The Symposium includes short performances, video montage, panel discussions, presentations and lunch.

**RSVP essential:**

To attend the Elephant House Project Symposium at MQ, please email

**[admin@lingalayam.com](mailto:admin@lingalayam.com)**

by **22nd February** and type 'Accept' and your name in the subject line.

If you are unable to attend but would like to pass on the invitation to an interested colleague or someone in your organization, please forward their name, position and contact details to the email above.

Macquarie University Campus maps can be downloaded at

**[http://www.ofm.mq.edu.au/maps\\_regional.htm](http://www.ofm.mq.edu.au/maps_regional.htm)**



Elephant House Project is presented through the partnership between Lingalayam Dance Company and Sutra Dance Theatre, in association with Casula Powerhouse, Critical Path, the Department of Anthropology and Asia Network at Macquarie University. This project has been assisted by the NSW Government through ArtsNSW, and the Australian Government through the Australia Council, its arts funding and advisory body.