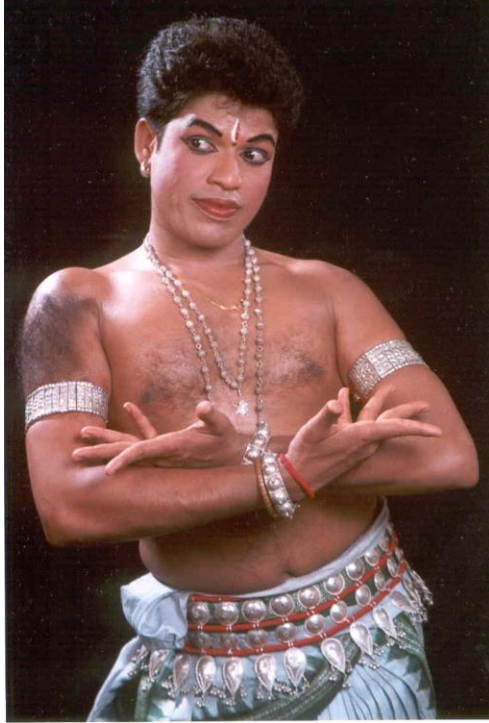




CENTER FOR WORLD MUSIC

AND RELATED ARTS



Yudhisthir Nayak

Yudhisthir Nayak taught and performed Odissi dance for the Center for World Music from 2005 to 2010. He was initiated to Gotipua dance at the age of seven. When he was fifteen, he began learning Odissi dance under the tutelage of Guru Bichitrananda Swain, with direct supervision by Guru Gangadhar Pradhan. Yudhisthir is also trained in Odissi singing, Odissi Mardal, and Chhau dance. His performance of Odissi, with supple and graceful body movements and powerfully emotive facial expressions, reflects his mastery of this art form.

Yudhisthir has performed extensively in India, both as a solo artist as well as a member of dance groups. Some of the major venues where he has appeared are the Konark Dance Festival, the Puri Beach Festival, the Konark Dance and Music Festival, and—in Canada—the Chitrlekha Dance Academy. He participated in several lecture-demonstrations led by his guru. The Ministry of Human Resource Development in India has awarded him a senior national scholarship for young talents. He teaches Odissi dance to students both in India and in the United States. As a teacher-in-residence for the Center for World Music in San Diego, California, he conducted weekly classes of Odissi dance and Odissi drumming (*mandal*).