



Rooted in the South Indian dance form of Bharatanatyam, Ragamala Dance Company was founded in 1992 by Ranee Ramaswamy, and is under the leadership of mother-daughters Ranee (Artistic Director), Aparna Ramaswamy (Executive Artistic Director) and Ashwini Ramaswamy (Artistic Associate). Through multi-disciplinary dance works for the stage, engaging the community, and educating the next generation, Ragamala epitomizes intercultural and immigrant narratives that evoke a shared sense of humanity.

Ragamala engages in a collaborative practice with myriad artists and is rooted in the idea of Bharatanatyam as a dynamic living tradition. Ranee and Aparna's training under legendary artist Alarmél Valli is the bedrock of a creative ethos that springs from beauty, truth, and spirit.

"SOULFUL, IMAGINATIVE, AND
RHYTHMICALLY CONTAGIOUS"

The New York Times

Children of Dharma

WORLD PREMIERE: NOVEMBER 2024

"We create worlds that conjure the wisdom, poetry, dance, music, philosophy, and mythology of the Indian subcontinent, providing a portal for our audience to feel part of a contemporary ritual."
- The Ramaswamy family

Exploring the most enduring questions of conscience facing humanity, *The Mahabharata* is a global epic that is foundational to the culture of the Indian subcontinent. The battlefield is its backdrop, but in Ragamala Dance Company's *Children of Dharma*, we confront the war within.

The Ramaswamys create a series of powerful vignettes in their iconic synthesis of ritual, lush visual imagery, and poetry to invite the viewer into a mythic world of mystery and beauty.

In collaboration with author Keerthik Sasidharan and designer Willy Cessa, this multidisciplinary experience mines the profound nature of India's ancient wisdom, perhaps its most important gift to the world.



IN DEVELOPMENT

Sacred Earth

(with live or recorded music)

7 dancers, 4 musicians & 2 tech (13 total)
or 7 dancers & 1 tech (8 total)

"A unique, soul-satisfying work of Bharatanatyam art." — British Theatre Guide



Invisible Cities

(with recorded music)

10 dancers, Kevork Mourad; 2 tech (13 total)

"The dance styles melded and blurred together in delicious cohesion." — Minneapolis Star Tribune



Avimukta: Where the Seeker Meets the Sacred

(with recorded music)

6 dancers & 1 tech (7 total)

"A gift of stellar completion, grievance and renewal." — See Chicago Dance



Fires of Varanasi: Dance of the Eternal Pilgrim

(with recorded music)

11 dancers, 2 tech, 1 staff (14 total)

"At once solitary, celebratory and divine."
— The New York Times



Ananta, The Eternal

(with live or recorded music)

2 dancers, 4 musicians, 2 tech (8 total)
or 2 dancers, 1 tech (3 total)

A duet evening weaving threads of body, memory, desire, and devotion

(World premiere: October 14, 2023)



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