





## VISION

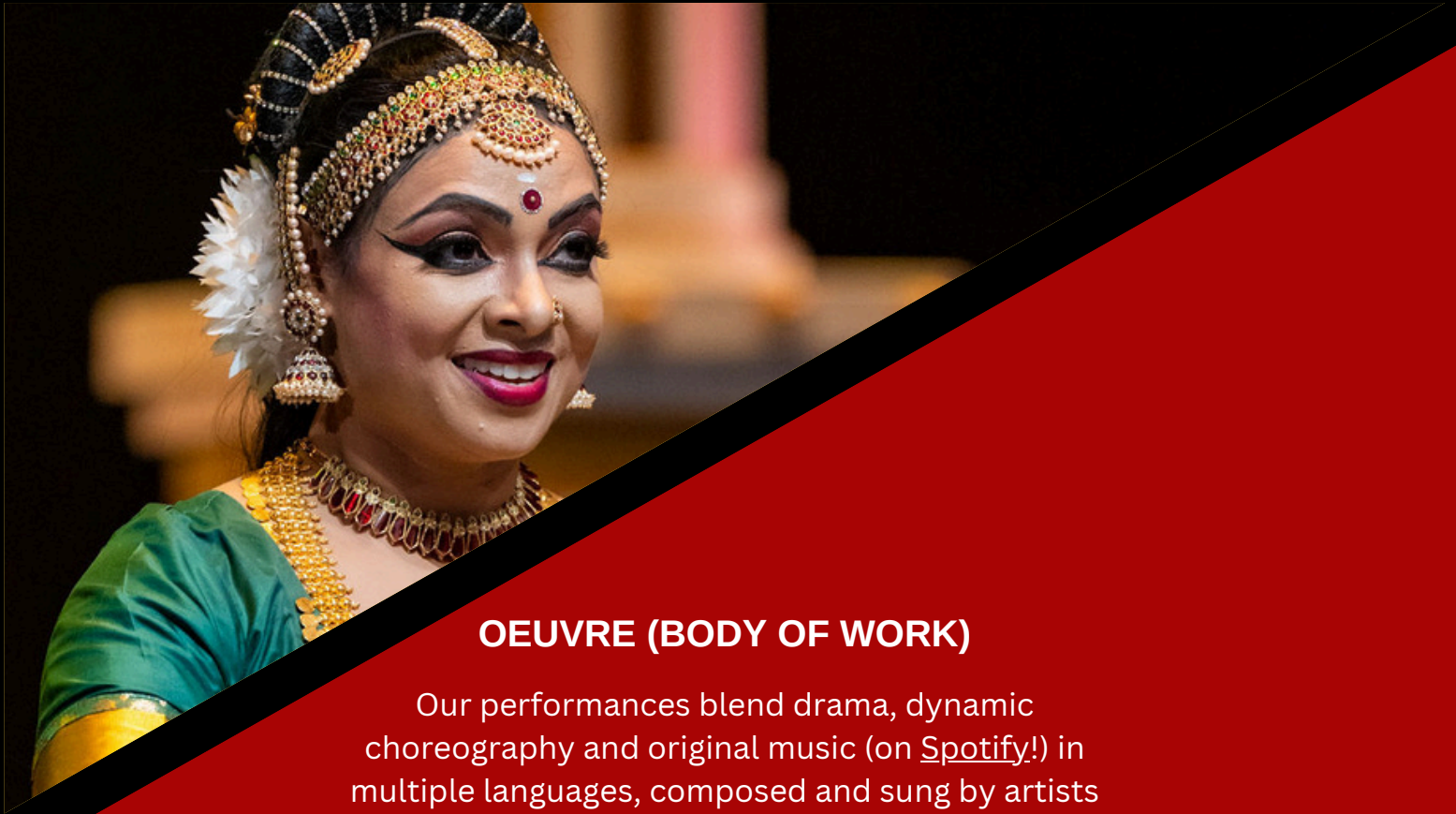
Mohini's vision is to promote Indian Classical Dance as a mainstream art form, reaching diverse audiences across the globe, ensuring that dance remains accessible and inspiring to all.

## MISSION

The mission of Mohini Performing Arts is to create original, high-quality shows that elegantly blend multiple Indian Classical Dance forms, music and theater to portray socially relevant and inspiring themes.

## CORE VALUES

- **Be Original:** We present original and exploratory stories while maintaining the integrity of Indian Classical Art forms.
- **Be Inclusive:** We make every effort to include marginalized communities such as the differently-abled and elderly, by partnering with community-based organizations that support these groups.
- **Support the Arts Community:** We give back to the arts community by building meaningful relationships with similar organizations across the globe to provide financial support to struggling artists.



## OEUVRE (BODY OF WORK)

Our performances blend drama, dynamic choreography and original music (on Spotify!) in multiple languages, composed and sung by artists locally and in India. The themes are carefully chosen to be socially relevant, thought provoking and mobilize social change through arts. Through our work, we strive to build enduring relationships with patrons and community partners who share our passion for arts.



# GHANASHYAM

Ghanashyam was Mohini's first dance ballet production and premiered at the Kirkland Performance Center. This two-hour show with originally composed music, breathtaking sets and costumes received rave reviews. In 2019, Ghanashyam was invited to be showcased at the Soorya Dance Festival in Kerala, India, one of the most prestigious stages in India for Indian Classical Dance. Watch highlights at <https://youtu.be/aIXQD5uX1eA>

**PREMIERED**  
MAY 12, 2018

**ARTISTS**  
30

**VIEWERS**  
650

2 SHOWS



*"..mesmerizing performance from team Mohini. "Ghanashyam" truly raised the bar..As an ardent fan of Mohiniyattam I must say you did justice to the art form. The music, choreography, acting, props, costumes, lighting, emcee all stood out and complimented each other."*

*Leeza Mathew - Founder and Director, Upasana School of Dance, Seattle, WA*



# NIRVANA

NIRVANA, a culmination of three years of research and preparation, is a new journey into an ancient story of the formidable snake-haired Gorgon, Medusa. This powerful retelling shed a unique light on the eternal Goddess of Wisdom and War, Athena's path to self-realization. It echoed the truth that beauty is a reflection of our inner purity. After premiering at the Meydenbauer Theater, Bellevue, USA, to two full-house shows, standing ovations and outstanding [reviews](#), Nirvana showcased at the 52nd Northwest Folklife Festival in Seattle and Seattle Theater Group's (STG) "Dance This" event. Watch highlights at: <https://youtu.be/-i4AX59WsVot>

**PREMIERED**  
**APR 30, 2022**

**ARTISTS**

**40**

**VIEWERS**

**750**

**2 SHOWS**



*"..revisiting the production over and over in my mind – and each time I describe it to someone the depth of your interpretation spiritually and creatively becomes ever more striking. What a treasure..the world needs to see this!"*





# Woman with no Wings

Woman With No Wings, was a bold step in Mohini's creative evolution integrating traditional Indian Classical Dance and music with Contemporary Modern Dance and Western Drama. This portrayal of Queen Cleopatra shed light on mental health, a growing societal crisis in the post-COVID era. Audiences were invited to explore beyond the crown and into the heart of Cleopatra's struggles, who is also just a woman grappling with her inner demons. Woman With No Wings transcends time, revealing the raw, often unseen facets of a woman leader enduring legacy, breathing life into the human struggles that unite us all.



PREMIERED  
SEP 27, 2024

ARTISTS

70

VIEWERS

1200

4 SHOWS



*"We were just blown away by how amazing and how beautiful the whole story was!"*

*Mayor Kelli Curtis, City of Kirkland*



*"..It is very important to talk about these emotions because it is what drives human to do what they do.."*

*Sen. Manka Dhingra*





## MARKETING EFFORTS

Our brand is dedicated to making a meaningful impact in the local community while expanding Mohini Performing Arts nationwide. Key highlights of our recent efforts include:

**Media Coverage:** We were featured on a major Seattle broadcast network, earning significant attention through various media outlets such as Broadway World, The Stranger Arts, and Seattle Magazine.

**Online & Social Media Engagement:** Targeted campaigns around an event led to substantial online engagement across platforms like Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube, with additional outreach through sponsored emails and digital ads, reaching a broad audience. The Seattle Times helped further boost visibility, both in print and online.

**Community Sponsorship & Engagement:** Our sponsorship efforts included on-site promotions like banner displays and program mentions, as well as increased visibility on social media and event shout-outs from the stage.

## MOHINI CARES INITIATIVE

Additionally, our organization is also committed to providing struggling artists in India with financial support through the Mohini Cares Initiative.

Nirvana became a mechanism for the School to engage and financially support struggling artists in India during the COVID pandemic. We aimed to :

- Offer financial support to families whose primary vocation is performing arts-related;
- Grant scholarships to talented youth unable to pursue arts due to financial constraints; and
- Provide opportunities for these artists to engage in Mohini's productions.

Initiative will continue beyond productions.





## OUR TEAM

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**Smitha Krishnan**  
Founder, Executive  
Director



**Bhavya Mathew**  
Director of  
Marketing,  
Communications



**Reshma Rajesh**  
Director of  
Operations



**Manju Jyothish**  
Director of Artistic  
Programming



**Harish K**  
Director of  
Philanthropy,  
Community  
Engagement

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS



**Biju Skariah**  
Sales and  
Sponsorships  
Liaison



**Ashitha Rahman**  
Associate Director of  
Marketing,  
Communications



**Geethika John**  
Digital Content  
Specialist



**Raj Margassery**  
Sales and  
Sponsorships  
Liaison



## ABOUT THE FOUNDER

Smitha Krishnan began her journey in Indian classical dance at the age of four and was introduced to Mohiniyattam at the age of ten under the guidance of Guru Kala

Vijayan. Her Guru, the daughter of Guru Kalyanikuttyamma—a trailblazer who revived Mohiniyattam from near extinction and re-established it as a prominent art form in India—instilled in Smitha a deep respect for the traditionalist style of the dance. Smitha dedicated over 12 years to rigorous training in Mohiniyattam under this lineage.

She performed extensively, delivering solo recitals at renowned venues in Kerala and Chennai, and achieved recognition as a graded artist on India's national television network, Doordarshan. After relocating to the United States, Smitha continued her artistic pursuits, performing in cities across the country, including Columbus, OH; Milwaukee, WI; Chicago, IL; Kansas City, KS; Dallas, TX; Portland, OR; and Seattle, WA.

In the U.S., she further honed her skills under the tutelage of esteemed Mohiniyattam exponents Smt. Smitha Rajan and Smt. Suchithra Visweswaran, both celebrated for their performances and research contributions.

In 2018, Smitha and her team presented Ghanashyam, a two-hour dance ballet that marked a significant milestone for Mohini. Since then, Mohini has pioneered innovative integrations of Indian classical dance and theater to narrate socially relevant and thought-provoking themes. Their subsequent productions, Nirvana and Woman With No Wings, garnered critical acclaim, establishing a distinctive presence in Seattle's art scene.

