



It should be a homecoming for him. Jayachandran, who learnt Bharatanatyam from the Dhananjeyans and was trained in Kathakali at Kalakshetra in Chennai, has brought his troupe, Attakalari, for its maiden show, a combination of music, dance, video and sound. Savour Purushatra, a cocktail of technology and art, today

Pic: D Sampath Kumar



**PERFORMERS ON STAGE**

Hema Bharathi, Mira Saurabh Jagannath, Hema Sundari, Ratosh, Suresh, DJ Sagar and Jai

**ARTISTES BEHIND THE PERFORMANCE**

Purushatra is a combined effort of Jayachandran (choreographer), Naoki Hemanaka (set designer), Kunihiko Matsuo (music director and digital artist) and Mitsuki Matsumoto (Sound and Video creator). It will be performed today at Musio Academy at 7.30 p.m.

**TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT**

Lakshmi Nungambakkam, Spencer Plaza and Citi Centre, Musio World Spencer and Arna Nagar, Regentia Opposite Taj Coromandal. Cost of the ticket: Rs 100, Rs 200, Rs 300, Rs 400, Rs 500

# Tech dance

INDIA is at crossroads. We have a rich cultural wealth but we lag in showcasing them," says Jayachandran Palazhy, artistic director, Attakalari, who is in the city now with his team to perform 'Purushatra', a technology-driven dance performance. Purushatra is a philosophical concept that describes the aim of human life or the meaning of being.

The traditional concepts of four purushatras- Dharma, Artha, Kama, Moksha-are in turn expressed by everyday life and are portrayed the way an individual will view an incident. "To elucidate the concept, we have chosen our experiences as well as our aspirations," says Hema Bharathi, a Kuchipudi dancer, teacher in Attakalari and one of the eight members performing onstage. The stories will further be broken into micro and macro movements and the performers will give life to abstract movements with their expressions.

Purushatra is not a dance or music concert. "It is a combination of music, dance, video and sound. A treatment that can produce what we call multimedia dance performance," says Kunihiko Matsuo, music director and digital artist for the play. The performance is a combination of movements from Bharatanatyam, Kalaripayattu and Japanese noise music.

The artistes perform on a pristine white Zen-like stage. The images of performers are captured in two cameras that are projected on the white screen at real time. "The images are not projected as they are but with some artistic mediation," says Jayachandran. Though understanding the concept of Purushatra through abstract movements requires more effort of the viewers, the performance will give a sensorial feel of dynamism, contrast, joy and tension with its digital images, music and movements.

Purushatra took more than a year to mature. "I took a long time to research the concept and we did improvisations as we performed them," says Jayachandran, adding that Purushatra is the result of the intense collaborative effort taken by him and Kunihiko Matsuo.

And it is not for the first time that Purushatra is being performed in the country.

A shorter version of the dance movements were performed in 2006 in Bangalore. Purushatra then travelled to many countries in Europe and Japan with its complete version and is back to the country performing for the first time in the city.

— U Tejonmayam

**City**  
  
**EXPRESS**  
*We Bring The City To Your Home*