

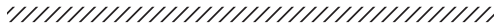


# *Saayujya (The Merging)*

Priyadarsini Govind & T.M. Krishna

**PROGRAM**

*There will be no intermission.*



**Saturday, April 30 @ 7 PM**

Zellerbach Theatre



**Sruti**  
The India Music  
& Dance Society,  
Philadelphia

[www.sruti.org](http://www.sruti.org)



**The  
Pew Center  
for Arts  
& Heritage**

This performance is co-presented with Sruti, The India Music and Dance Society and has been supported by The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage.

## PROGRAM NOTES

A treat both visually and aurally, *Saayujya* is a creative dialogue between India's pre-eminent dancer Priyadarsini Govind and leading music maker T.M. Krishna. The resonant, mellifluous and emotionally-laden voice of Krishna will be juxtaposed with the crisp, strong lines and exquisitely subtle expression of Govind's dance. *Saayujya* features the world premiere of a new work inspired by Philadelphia's place in American history.

The performance will interlace elements of repertoire, form and improvisation from two distinct classical performing arts disciplines, the Bharatanatyam style of dance and the Carnatic style of music, both originating from Southern India, and will highlight distinct improvisational techniques of the vocal and dance art styles. While remaining true to their forms' distinct aesthetic identities, Govind and Krishna push the boundaries of their practice through the creation of new interpretations of traditional repertoire.

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

**Priyadarsini Govind** is one of India's leading Bharathanatyam dancers, and was trained under some of the greatest exponents of the art. She has performed in her native India and abroad for over three decades at venues including The Kennedy Center, Salders Well in the United Kingdom and Theatre De La Ville in France. Govind blends new choreography with the traditional and extends the boundaries of Bharatanatyam repertoire. She is the director of the Kalakshetra Foundation, the premier institution of performing arts education in India.

**K.S. Balakrishnan** (nattuvangam, or vocal support) and **Vedakrishnan Venkatesan** (mrdangam, or double-headed drum) have been Govind's artistic partners for several years now and will be accompanying her on this tour.

**T.M. Krishna** is a rare phenomenon in the Carnatic music world today – a consummate performer as well as a scholar who explores various facets of music-like aesthetics and concert practice, both in form and in structure. He is a provocateur with a purpose, one who is challenging the orthodoxy with fundamental questions on the form and structure of a concert while deeply engaging with the improvisational possibilities that abound in Carnatic music. His concerts are experiences in high art, demanding the audience to engage intensely.

Krishna's team of **R.K. Shriramkumar** (violin) and **K. Arunprakash** (mrdangam) have been performing together for decades and offer a rare synergy, providing support and creative contrasts.