

Atsuko Maeda

Kathak Dancer, Choreographer,
Director of Kadamb Japan

Atsuko Maeda is one of the very few leading Kathak dancers in Japan. Having been fascinated by the beauty and graceful choreography of Smt. Kumudini Lakhia ji, she was trained at KADAMB (Ahmedabad) since 2005, initially with a scholarship from ICCR, Government of India.

Atsuko has an interest in incorporating Kathak with Japanese traditions, and has created unique choreographic works, such as "Fox Rain" "Amabie Nrityang" and pioneered the concept of "Tokyo Gharana."

Atsuko is the founder and director of Kadamb Japan. In addition to her passion for teaching Kathak in Tokyo, she often performs at international and cultural exchanges between Japan and India.

atsukathak.com



Atsuko is a Japanese national who has dedicated her life to the beautiful Indian classical dance form Lucknow gharana of "Kathak" . She started Kathak when she was only 6 years old . Her mother was fascinated by the Kathak and wanted her daughter to learn the dance at a tender age. It was under Yakshini Yazawa in Tokyo where she started learning Kathak as a kid. She went on to further develop her skills under guru Pt.Vijay Shankar-ji. She did her first performance at the age of 10 years at Shinjuku Asahiseimei Hall. And when she was 12 years

old, she went to India for first time to see the “Kathak Mahotsava” at Kamani hall at New Delhi. The beauty of India amazed her and the world of Kathak she always had a vision for. The trip changed her life altogether in the years ahead. She devoted her life to Kathak ever since.

In 2004, she wanted to see Lucknow by herself. At Lucknow, she meets with Pt. Arjun Mishra -ji's and started taking extensive training of Kathak's which includes basic tukdha, param, abhinaya. It is soon she got a chance to dance at Hyderabad youth festival with Arjun ji and his students.

In 2005, she met Padma Bushan Kumudini Lakhia-ji. Kumudhini-ji, a master and one of the greatest dancer and choreographer of Kathak dance in India. It was under her she started practicing after achieving ICCR scholarship at Ahemedabad in Kadamb, a learning center of Kathak dance founded by Kumudini Lakhia-ji. .

A long journey being already taken, she eventually came back to Tokyo and started performing and teaching kathak in Tokyo.

Different magazines had covered her...."Vogue-Nippon" "anan" etc. to mention a few. She had performed in International exchange festival like Namaste India, Aichi EXPO'05, Indo-Japan friendship year'07, Asian Fes.'08, Sakura Festival and many more. . She takes active interest in choreography by herself and manages concerts, information of the same are available at "Amurut Manthan"" Tokyo gharana" etc.

Her journey with Kathak has started as a child and she visits India every year for the love she had got from India. She is looking forward for many visits to India in the days ahead.



Stage History

2021

Jan. New York Kathak Fes. “Home Stages” Online festival / solo

NYKF_Bio <https://www.nykathakfestival.com/atsuko-maeda> / HomeStages <https://youtu.be/MqUJ3jeaQb4>

2020

- Sep "Amrut Manthan #13" by Kadamb Japan
April "Ale for the Artists" by Tokyo City, Online Festival "Amabie Nrityang" <https://cheerforart.jp/detail/947>
Jan. 71st Republic Day of India Party by Indian Embassy Tokyo
Jan. New Year Party by "Rambagh Palace" Rajasthan, India

2019

- Nov. "2019 ALFS Cultural Event" by Indian Ambassador
Nov. "Nritya Pravaah" by Apsara
Nov. "Rachna Club Gala"
Nov. "Super Bollywood Festival Japan Vol.1" by Sahelia
Oct. "Amrut Manthan #12" by Kadamb Japan
Sep. "Namaste India Festival"
April "Indian Classical Dance Solo Act 2019 #6" by Kadamb Japan
April "ICCR Day" by Indian Embassy Tokyo
Feb. "Dhoad -Times of Maharaja- Rajasthani live fusion session" by Ethno-Exotica Vaudeville
*Got UNESCO "Life time achievement award"

2018

- Dec "Jai ho Jamo Fuccharo!" by Ethno-Exotica Vaudeville
Nov Amrut Manthan #11 by Kadamb Japan
Oct "a Night of Jasmin" Presented by Keiko Watanabe Kuchipudhi Dance
Sep "Kathak Utsav" by Kadamb Japan / solo, group Dance and organized Kathak Fes with more than 17 Kathak Dancers from Asia.
16 to 18 April "Indian Classical Dance Solo Act Vol.5" / live solo with Bansuri and Pakkawaj
Feb 69th Republic Day of India Party/ solo, group by Indian Embassy

2017

- 28 Oct Mitsui Asset Management Co, party / group
11 Oct Amrut Manthan #10 / solo, group * New Choreography "Kabu" with Idakkya
30 July TOkyo Gharana #13 / solo with Sarangi and Tabla

2016

- 11 June Soma Dana / Solo
15 May Kathak! Kathak! Kathak! / solo
11 to 14 April Indian Classical Dance Solo Act Vol.3 / Solo

2015

- 11 Dec "Suvarna Parva" at Ahmedabad Gujarat by KADAMB *New Choreography "狐雨-Fox Rain- "
30 Mar Sakura Fes. at Indian Embassy Tokyo / solo, group

2014

- 21 Dec Amrut Manthan #7 / solo, group
13 Dec Sangeet Mela Tokyo / live Solo with Bansuri and Tabla
13 Nov ICCR Day at Indian Embassy Tokyo / solo, group
6 May Setagaya Public Theater Free Stage
14 to 17 April Indian Classical Dance Solo Act Vol.1

2013

- 3 Oct Indian Cultural night Kathak Dance with Sanjukta Sinha at Indian Embassy Tokyo / solo, duet
2 Oct Tokyo Gharatana#10 / Live Solo with Bansuri and Tabla
29 Sep Namaste Indian Fes. / Duet
9 Mar Cheb i Sabha (Ahmedabad, Gujarat) / Duet

2012

- 10 Nov TAGORE Celebration, Kyoto / Solo
28 Oct ANA Airline Co, Narita-Delhi flight start ceremony / Group

6 April Celebrating the World of Dance (Natarani Ahmedabad, Gujarat) / Live Solo with Tabla, Sarangi, Vocal

2011

10 Sep Sangeet Mela 2011/ live solo with Tabla, Pakkawaj, Sitar, Bansuri

4 June Amrut Manthan #4 kadamb Japan / Live solo with Tabla, Bansuri ,Violine

2 April Souli ~ Silk Road's Dance and Music ~

15 Jan Gujarat Grovel Summit (Gandhinagar, Gujarat) / Japanese Group

14 Jan Perm House Concert (Ahmedabad, Gujarat) with Kadamb

2010

13 Oct "Super Deluxe" Roppongi,Tokyo "India Project" by Masako Ono

23 May Mata Prasad Mishra Kathak concert

4 April Sakura Fes. at Indian Embassy Tokyo / solo

2009

26,27 Sep Vasant Panchami Concert in Nagoya / Live Solo with Tabla, Sitar, Santoor

12,13 May Amrut Manthan #2 / Live with Tabla, Sitar

1 Oct Tokyo Gharana #1 / Live with Tibetan Music and Tabla, Bansuri

2008

1-9 Dec HERMES NOEL Show in Shibuya, Sapporo, Kobe and Matsuyama

26 Oct Yokohama International Fes.

18 Oct UK-Japan 2008 "Spirit&Lufe" Muni(Painter) and Bansuri, Tabla

5 May CARTIE Jewelry Show / Live Group

16 April Asia Fes hosted by ALFS

2007

3 Dec India- Japan Friendship year 2007 Finale with KADAMB

17 June Mamushka Tokyo

6 Feb Kathak Mahotsava 2007 (Mumbai Neru Center) with KADAMB

7 Jan Chennai Music Academy Dance Festival with KADAMB

2006

26 Nov MP Shivpuri Concert with KADAMB

31 Oct Tana Riri Music and Dance Festival (Visangar, Gujarat) with KADAMB

23 Sep Navratry Fes (Gandhinagar, Gujarat) with KADAMB

14 Aug Deheradune UP with KADAMB

2006-2007 ICCR Scholarship leaning Kathak at KADAMB, Ahmedabad, Gujarat

2005

Jan National Youth Dance Fes with Arjun Mishra

Mat to Sep Aichi- World Expo India, UN, NPO Village Kathak Performances

5 Sep International Friendship fes

Before 2004

1990 Kathak Mahotsava (Kamani Hall, ND) with Yakshini and Pt. Vijai Shankar ji

1986 Kathak Mahotsava (Kamani Hall, ND) with Yakshini and Pt. Vijai Shankar ji

1984 1st stage with Yakshini Group

1981 started training Kathak under Yakshini Kathak Center, Tokyo



Kadamb Japan

Kadamb Japan is a Kathak Dance Institute based in Tokyo Japan. Presented by Atsuko Maeda, who dedicated under Smt. Kumudini Lakhia ji at KADAMB Ahmedabad.

Atsuko take weekly classes, teach Kathak for around 20 students who loves Kumiben's beautiful style of Kathak. We organize pure Kathak festival "Amrut Manthan" more than 13 years. Even organize Indian classical dance festival call ""HITORIMAU ~ Indian classical dance Solo Act" and "Tokyo Gharana" for Indian classical performing arts lovers in Tokyo.



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