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Young feet to old rhythm



Priyadarshini Ghosh

The two-day classical dance festival at Gyan Manch on December 26 and 27 featured three major styles of southern India—Bharatanatyam, Kuchipudi, and Mohiniattam. The themes, postures and even some *mudras* have certain common elements.

The second day opened with a pure dance number *slokam chenchuruty*, by Priyadarshini Ghosh which highlighted the *adavus*, the *kunchita chari* movements and the typical *ati bhanga* movement of Mohiniattam. For a change the audience was treated to an unusual style. The artiste—*kirtanam pannagendra shayana* and *Raasakali* (padam) were confident. The typical movements of Mohiniattam, which seemed a mixture of Bharatanatyam and Kathakali, were shown with aplomb. *Thillana* based on Raga Dhyanesree emphasised the footwork while the concluding number *Panthadikkam Nammachu*, where Mohini plays with a ball, was extremely enjoyable.