

# JOANNA MEINL

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **Chitresh Das Dance Company/Chhandam School of Kathak Dance**, San Francisco, CA

Performer / Teacher, 1999-Present

- Dance company member for performances both nationally and internationally
- Kathak dance teacher for beginning and intermediate children, teen and adult classes / Director of the Union City branch of Chhandam (2002-06) and San Jose branch, 2009 / Responsibilities include managing teachers and assistants, organizing meetings, creating and distributing school information, creation of lesson plans on semester basis, implementing school-wide curriculum and choreographing/rehearsing students for performances

Arts Education Program Director, January 2007 – December 2010

- Manager and Director for all Arts Education Programs including performances, assemblies, workshops and residencies / Responsibilities included organizing outreach and mailings, booking events, planning curriculum, managing artists, invoicing and payments received

Administrative Manager, February 2002-May 2004

- Office Manager with multiple areas of focus which included: creating office infrastructure, general organizational support, database maintenance, project specific scheduling, calendaring, public relations, logistics management, archiving, article layouts, publicity packet compilation, newsletter and article composition, filing and file system creation, artist visa applications and transportation organization

### **Dance Arts Studios**, San Rafael, CA

Instructor / Administrator / Performer, September 2001-June 2006

- Instructor of social Ballroom, Latin, and Swing dance classes at all levels and all ages
- Administrator responsible for student registration, tuition, class list organization, database maintenance, distributing studio information and public relations
- Performer in Showcase and Special Event presentations

### **West Coast Swing University**, Novato, CA & Sacramento, CA

Instructor, June 2006 – Present

- Group and Private Dance Instructor for social and competitive West Coast Swing as well as Ballroom, Latin and Hip-Hop dance classes

### **Vima Dance Studio**, San Francisco, CA

Instructor & Performer, June 2006 – June 2007

- Group and Private Dance Instructor for social Ballroom, Latin, and Swing dance classes
- Performer in Showcase, Special Event productions & *Vima Burlesque*

### **JAS Dance Productions**, Santa Rosa, CA

Co-Director/ Instructor / Performer / Choreographer July 2007 – August 2009

- Group and Private Dance Instructor for Latin Dance classes including: Salsa, Mambo, Rumba, Cha-cha-cha, Merengue, Bachata as well as SalsAerobics and Hip-Hop
- Performer for Special Events and Competitions

## ARTS EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

### **Young Audiences of the Bay Area (YABA)**, San Francisco, CA

Performer / Teacher, August 2000 - Present

Performer and instructor for Arts Education workshop, assembly and residency programs in elementary, middle and high schools, both public and private, throughout the Bay Area. These arts education programs are designed to expose youth to culturally significant art /dance. Kathak is taught in a multi-dimensional format by demonstrating through choreographed pieces, lecture demonstration, improvisation and audience participation.

### **Marin Dance Theater**, San Rafael, CA

Kathak Dance Teacher / Performer, September 2004 – June 2009

Community Outreach Program, grades K-6

**Marsh Youth Theater**, San Francisco, CA  
Kathak Dance Teacher / Choreographer, February – December 2007  
Youth Theater Arts Performance Group

**GlenView Elementary**, Oakland, CA  
Kathak Dance Teacher, September - December 2005  
GlenView Cultural Arts for Visually Impaired Students

**Barron Park Elementary**, Palo Alto, CA  
Kathak Dance Teacher, April - June 2005

**School House Dance**, Cupertino, CA  
Creative Movement, Ballet & Tap Teacher, June - August 2004

**Summer Gate 2004**, San Francisco, CA  
World Dance Class Teacher, June 2004

## DANCE TRAINING

**Kathak:** Pandit Chitresh Das / Chhandam School / San Francisco, CA / 1995 - 2015  
**Ballroom & Latin Dance:** Allen Parrish / Dance Arts Studios / San Rafael, CA / 2001 - 2005  
**Modern Dance:** Susie Whipp / SFSU / San Francisco, CA / 1995 - 98  
**Ballet:** Arturo Fernandez / San Francisco Dance Center / San Francisco, CA / 1995 - 97  
**Modern, Ballet & Jazz:** Embaje Dance Company / San Francisco, CA / 1994 - 96  
**Ballet and Jazz:** Elizabeth Acuna / Ballet Etudes of South Florida / Miami, FL / 1990 - 94

### **Additional Dance Training:**

NYU: Korean Dance: Salpuri, Middle Eastern Belly Dance  
NYC: Afro-Brazilian Dance, Afro-Cuban Dance  
SFSU: African Haitian Dance: Dr. Albirda Rose, Capoeira: Weldenkolk Olivera, Flamenco: Rosa Montoya,  
Congolese: Malonga Casquelord

### **Music Training:**

Classical Western Flute / Florida / 1988 – 94  
North Indian Classical  
Vocal & Harmonium: Debashis Sarkar / San Francisco, CA / 2003  
George Ruckert / San Francisco, CA / 2005  
Music Theory & Tabla / Kousic Sen / San Francisco, CA / Seasonally 2003 - 2005  
Tabla / Jim Santi Owen / Oakland, CA / 2005 - 06

### **Additional Performance Training:**

Mask, Puppetry, Improvisation / Maria Lexa / *Sun & Moon Ensemble* / San Francisco, CA / 2000 - 01

## PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

### CHITRESH DAS DANCE COMPANY (CDDC) – SELECTED PERFORMANCE / TOURING

**Sita Haran**, World Premiere / San Francisco, CA / September 2009 & Touring 2013  
**Traditional Kathak Solo** / San Rafael, CA / October 2008  
**India Jazz Progressions**, World Premiere / San Francisco / September 2007  
**CDDC India Tour** / New Delhi & Mumbai, India / December 2006 – January 2007  
**Kathak at the Crossroads: International Festival & Symposium** / San Francisco, CA / September 2006  
**Traditional Kathak Solo** / San Rafael, CA / July 2005  
**Thaat**, solo: Dance in the Key of Life, MUCID / Walnut Creek, CA / May 2005  
**Oakland Asian Cultural Center** / Oakland, CA / May 2005  
**Sampurnam**, World Premiere / San Francisco & San Jose, CA / November 2004  
**International Kathak Festival** / University of Chicago / Chicago, IL / October 2004  
**CDDC Tour: East As Center** / CT, Washington D.C., MD / September - October 2004  
**San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival, Malkauns Tarana** / San Francisco, CA / June 2004  
**CDDC Tour** / Salt Lake City, UT / May 2004  
**CDDC India Tour** / Kolkata & New Delhi, India / December 2003 - January 2004  
**Tarang**, World Premiere / San Francisco, CA / September 2003  
**I/we/US**, with Tabla Rasa / San Francisco, CA / June 2003  
**Mateel Community, Nautchwali & Malkauns Tarana** / Redway, CA / November 2002  
**Pancha Jati**, World Premiere / San Francisco, CA / October 2002

**Mercy Hurst College, Moghul Court & Malkauns Tarana** / Erie, PA / September 2002  
**Ali Akbar Khan's Gala Celebration, Hindol Tarana** / San Rafael, CA / April 2002  
**San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival, Moghul Court** / San Francisco, CA / June 2001  
OTHER SELECTED PERFORMANCES

**Sun & Moon Ensemble**, Yerba Buena Gardens / San Francisco, CA / June - August 2000 & 2001  
**Ethnic Dance Festival, Rangmang** / San Francisco, CA / June 1999  
**New Moves**: Choreographer and Performer / San Francisco, CA / May 1998  
**Dancers Group**, Collaborative Performances / San Francisco, CA / September 1997 / April 1998  
**Choreographers Showcase**, Dance Mission / San Francisco, CA / April 1996  
**New York University Dance Team** / New York, NY / August 1994 - June 1995  
**All That Jazz**, Ballet Etudes / Miami, FL / June 1994  
**Nutcracker**, Ballet Etudes / Miami, FL / December 1993 / 94

#### SELECTED AWARDS

##### **West Coast Swing - Competition Awards**

###### **1<sup>st</sup> Place**

Portland Dance Festival 2013 – Invitational Jack & Jill  
Mountain Magic 2012– Champions Jack & Jill and Cabaret  
Bridge Town Swing 2012 – Champions Strictly and Sophisticated Jack & Jill  
Swingtime in the Rockies 2011 – All Star Jack & Jill  
Palm Springs Dance Classic 2011 – Sophisticated Strictly Swing  
Northern California Swing Dance Challenge 2011 – Champions Jack & Jill  
Monterey SwingFest 2011 – Top Female Professional  
Jack & Jill O’Rama 2010 – JILL & JACK  
Fresno Dance Classic 2010 – Champions Jack & Jill  
Halloween SwingThing 2009 – All American Jack & Jill  
South Bay Dance Festival 2009 – Champions Jack & Jill  
Bridge Town Swing 2008 – Champions Jack & Jill  
Mountain Magic Swing Dance 2007 – Advanced Jack & Jill & Cabaret  
Bridge Town Swing 2007 – Advanced Jack & Jill  
Fresno Dance Classic 2007 – Advanced Jack & Jill  
LAPD, Los Angeles 2007 – Advanced Jack & Jill  
Seattle Easter Swing 2007 – Intermediate Jack & Jill & Open Strictly  
South Bay Dance Festival 2006 – Intermediate Jack & Jill  
Greater Phoenix Swing Dance 2006 – Novice Jack & Jill

###### **2<sup>nd</sup> Place**

Mountain Magic 2014 – Champions Jack & Jill  
Fresno Dance Classic 2013 – Champions Jack & Jill  
S.O. Swing, Medford 2013 – Champions Strictly Swing  
Northern California Swing Dance Challenge 2013 - All-Star Jack & Jill  
U.S. Open Swing Dance Championships 2012 – Sophisticated Swing  
U.S. Open Swing Dance Championships 2011 – All-Star Jack & Jill  
South Bay Dance Fling 2011 – Champions Strictly Swing  
Mountain Magic 2010 – Champions Jack & Jill  
South Bay Dance Fling 2010 – Champions Strictly Swing  
Palm Springs New Years Dance Camp 2009 – Champions Strictly Swing  
Palm Springs New Years Dance Camp 2007 – Advanced Jack & Jill  
Dallas Dance 2007 – Cabaret

#### POSITIONS HELD

**Swing in the South Bay**: Event Director, 2011 - present  
**The Next Generation Swing Dance Club**: Board Member, 2008-09

#### EDUCATION

**University of California, Berkeley**: 2002-2003  
*South Asian Studies, Masters Program*

**San Francisco State University**: 1996-1999  
*B.A. Dance Ethnology, Cum Laude*

*School of Creative Arts*

**New York University:** 1994-1996

*Gallatin School of Individualized Study, Dance & Anthropology*