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Trinayan Dance Theater Presents
Swaha: Rituals of Union
....A Thin Line between Humanity and Divinity

The New York International Fringe Festival- FringeNYC
A Production of the Present Company
August 13th - 29th
Tickets: \$15-\$18. For Tickets visit www.FringeNYC.org

New York, NY. June 2010. Trinayan Dance Theater, the New York City based group of Indian classical dancers, brings their latest program – *Swaha: Rituals of Union*, to the 14th Annual New York International Fringe Festival during August 13th - 29th at the Dixon Place Theatre (Venue #1) 161A Chrystie Street, between Rivington and Delancey Street, New York, NY 10002.

Swaha: Rituals of Union is a reflection on a pillar of Sanatam Dharma- the human spirit's search for eternal connection with the Omnipresent Source. The dance theater's work draws on solo movements based on ancient temple practice and postmodern choreography for the ensemble set to the lyrics/chants of traditional hymns of classical North Indian and Indian-inspired new age music. Swaha- derived from the Sanskrit language, is the sacrificial mantra chanted while pouring offerings into the sacred fire for the gods, often during ceremonies when man seeks ultimate transcendence. This neo-classical performance will showcase two premieres: *Ardhanareeswar*, a blending of bold, vigorous movements with soft, expressional gestures describing the cosmic union of the Hindu god, Shiva and his female consort Parvati. *Love in Separation*, an abstract work, explores what is considered one of the highest stages of human emotions, embodying an expansion of the repertoire's postures and movement vocabulary. *Swaha*, the dance theater's latest production, features restaged choreography of India's renowned Gurus: Durga Charan Ranbir and the late Kelucharan Mohapatra and new choreography by Taiis Pascal-Charles.

The performance is an evocative exploration of Odissi, the dance form associated with the temples of Orissa in Eastern India, dating to the 2nd century BC. Passed from Gurus to Disciples, Odissi is renowned for the flowing, sensuous curves of its body postures, its deeply spiritual content, and lilting variation on north Indian music.

“...Power, Passion, Devotion” -Deborah Jowitt, *The Village Voice*.

Trinayan, founded in 2003, is a collaboration of dance artists: Leena Mohanty, Bani Ray, Sonali Mishra, Alicia Braithwaite, and Taiis Pascal-Charles- who are devoted to the study, performance and dissemination of Odissi dance for a collective of 20 plus years. To date, Trinayan has held annual New York showcases at the Joyce Soho, Asia Society, Merce Cunningham Studios, the Brooklyn Museum of Art, The United Nations and Lincoln Center and participated in International Festivals of Odissi Dance, (Washington D.C. in 2000 & 2003).

Trinayan Dance Theater @ The Construction Company - 10 East 18th Street - New York, NY 10003- Suite 3

