

18th

Lecture-

on Saturday, 27 June 2015
5:15 pm at National Museum Auditorium
All are invited

Revisiting Yoga Chakra: Tradition & Modernity A Multimedia Creative Encounter



Smt. Sushma Bahl

Author and Art Historian
with

Helen Acharya

Secretary, Sangeet Natak Akademi

Sushma K. Bahl, MBE, author of *5000 Years of Indian Art* besides other books, and former Head, Arts & Culture, British Council India; is an independent arts adviser, writer and curator. She worked on the festivals of India in the UK in 1982 and South Korea in 2005. She was the Guest Director for *XI Triennale-India 2005*, Project Consultant for *Bharat Rang Mahotsav X11*, and Jury Member for the *14th Asian Art Biennale Bangladesh* both in 2010, curator of *India- ASEAN Artists' Residency & Exhibition 2012* and *Forms of Devotion* international project for the Museum of Sacred Art in Belgium until recently. Sushma is a member of the Paris based International Association of Art Critics (AICA) and a trustee/advisory committee member of Abhyas Trust and Kala Sakshi Trust, both in Delhi, Arts Acre Foundation in Kolkata, Harjai Global Gurukul in Mumbai, Madhavan Nayar Foundation in Kerala and Florence Biennale in Italy. Most recently she conceptualized and executed the Yoga Parv Festival at Sangeet Natak Akademi, Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India.

Helen Acharya graduated in arts and did her master's in English literature from Jamia Milia Islamia University in New Delhi. She trained in Bharatnatyam dance under Sundri Sheshdari, K. N. Dashna Murti and many others at Bhartiya Kala Kendra. Obtained a Diploma in dance choreography under Dr. Maya Rao Natarajan from Natya Institute of Kathak and Choreography. She also studied and performed folk and traditional dances of India as a lead artist of Natya Ballet Centre, New Delhi for more than a decade and choreographed dance and drama productions for the institute. Ms Acharya has travelled extensively all over the country and abroad and has participated in international festivals including the Festival of India in Sri Lanka, Nepal, Korea and USSR. She has undertaken projects on survey, research and documentation of various folk art traditions of India specializing in Chhau dance of India which has been inscribed on the representative list of Intangible Cultural Heritage. Most recently she conceptualised and executed the dossier and film on yoga for nomination to Unesco under the intangible cultural heritage project and is the Secretary, Sangeet Natak Akademi, National Academy of Music, Dance and Drama, an autonomous organization funded by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.