



For Immediate Release.

The Festival of Spirituality and Peace...

RAGAMALA DANCE PRESENTS *YATHRA* (JOURNEY)

St. John's Church, Edinburgh, 10th – 24th August 2009 (not 13th, 20th). 19:30.



“Ragamala shows a way into the twenty-first century for all classical forms”
(Minneapolis/St. Paul Magazine)

U.S.-based Ragamala Dance has been featured at prestigious festivals and theatres worldwide for its contemporary presentation of Bharatanatyam, the classical dance form of Southern India. Mother-daughter Artistic Directors Raneer Ramaswamy and Aparna Ramaswamy's creative vision seamlessly carries Bharatanatyam into the 21st century while respecting the form's rich tradition. Ragamala utilizes the beauty, vitality, and remarkable physicality of Bharatanatyam to create personal expressions of spiritual fulfillment and joy—concepts that are universal and speak to the contemporary experience.

Following an acclaimed 2008 Fringe debut, Ragamala presents the European premiere of *Yathra* (Journey), which explores the intricacies of the human journey—from the dawn of birth to the twilight of life. *Yathra* features an original musical composition by renowned New-Delhi-based soloists and composers Shubhendra Rao on the Sitar and Saskia Rao on her Indian Cello, both performing live.

Concept and choreography by Raneer Ramaswamy and Aparna Ramaswamy.
Live music composed and performed by Shubhendra Rao and Saskia Rao de Haas.

“The performers are masters of their art. A once-in-a-lifetime experience.” *The Fringe Review, Edinburgh*

“Coalescing into one multifarious being, [the women of Ragamala] can be fierce or fragile, stately or ebullient, spiritual or erotic...it's the way in which these dancers alter the very textures of their bodies from moment to moment—the way they thicken, sharpen, attenuate, and refine the highly inflected vocabulary of Bharatanatyam—that best captures the protean spirit of the dance form.” *Dance Magazine*

RAGAMALA DANCE PRESENTS *YATHRA* (JOURNEY)

Venue: St. Johns Church – Festival of Spirituality and Peace (Venue 127).

Dates: 10th August – 23rd August 2009 (Not 13th, 20th).

Time: 19:30 (60mins).

Ticket prices: £ 12 (full) / £ 10 (conc).

Venue BO: 0131 229 7565 – www.festivalofspirituality.org.uk.

Fringe BO: 0131 226 0000 – www.edfringe.com.

For more press information, interviews or images, please contact Calvin Wynter at pr@greenroompresents.com, visit www.greenroompresents.com or call 020 7669 4103 (diverts to mobile).