

The University Musical Society

of The University of Michigan



Presents

Chhau

The Masked Dance of West Bengal

ASUTOSH BHATTACHARYYA, *Director*

Dancers

KSHIROD SING MURA	ANIL KUMAR SUTRADHAR
JAGRU MAHATO	DEEPNARAYAN MAHATO
GAMBHIR SING MURA	RAMESH KUMAR
JANAK SING MURA	KALEBAR KUMAR

Musicians

GANESH KALINDI, *Shenai*
 DHRUBA LAYA, *Dhol*
 BUDDHESWAR MACHOAR, *Dhamsa*

SATURDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 22, 1975, AT 8:30
RACKHAM AUDITORIUM, ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

P R O G R A M

THE KILLING OF THE BUFFALO-DEMON MAHISHA

Ganesha and Kartikeya, the sons of the great god Shiva, were dancing one day in the courtyard of their house when the demon Mahisha appeared before them. Shiva had endowed Mahisha with great powers which enabled him to drive away the gods from the heavens. When he appeared before the two sons of Shiva they fought with him one after the other but both were defeated. Then appeared Durga, the mother of the two gods. She attacked the demon with the determination to kill and after a great battle defeated him.

<i>Ganesh</i>	KSHIROD SING MURA
<i>Kartik</i>	JAGRU MAHATO
<i>Asur (demon)</i>	GAMBHIR SING MURA
<i>Lion</i>	JANAK SING MURA
<i>Durga</i>	ANIL KUMAR SUTRADHAR
<i>Lakshmi</i>	DEEPNARAYAN MAHATO
<i>Saraswati</i>	RAMESH KUMAR

THE DEATH OF THE DEMONESS TADAKA

Rama and Lakshmana, the two young sons of the King of Ayodhya, were proceeding one day to the court of Mithila with the sage Viswamitra. On the way there, they passed the abode of a demoness who used to disturb the sages during their religious practices. Rama, the young hero of the Ramayana, wanted to help the sages. He waited on the road with his brother, and in no time the demoness appeared and attacked them. But they overpowered her and killed her.

<i>Rama</i>	DEEPNARAYAN MAHATO
<i>Lakshmana</i>	JANAK SING MURA
<i>Tadaka (demoness)</i>	JAGRU MAHATO
<i>Viswamitra</i>	ANIL KUMAR SUTRADHAR

THE BOW CONTEST

Janaka, the king of Mithila, had a daughter, and he declared that whoever could shoot an arrow from a bow, which he had received from the great god Shiva, would receive the hand of his daughter in marriage. Kings of many countries came to the court of Janaka, but none was able to lift the bow from the ground. Ultimately Rama appeared with his brother Lakshmana, accompanied by Viswamitra. Lakshmana said that he could shoot an arrow from the bow. But Viswamitra, the sage, wanted Rama to win the contest. Rama lifted the bow from the ground and as he was about to shoot an arrow, the bow broke into two pieces. As promised, Sita, the daughter of Janaka, became Rama's wife.

Parasurama was a great devotee of Shiva. When he heard that Rama had broken the divine bow of Shiva he became very angry and attacked him. But Rama pacified him.

<i>King No. 1</i>	. . . . .	KSHIROD SING MURA
<i>King No. 2</i>	. . . . .	JAGRU MAHATO
<i>King No. 3</i>	. . . . .	GAMBHIR SING MURA
<i>Ravana</i>	. . . . .	KALEBAR KUMAR
<i>Rama</i>	. . . . .	DEEPNARAYAN MAHATO
<i>Lakshmana</i>	. . . . .	JANAK SING MURA
<i>Sita</i>	. . . . .	ANIL KUMAR SUTRADHAR
<i>Parasurama</i>	. . . . .	RAMESH KUMAR

INTERMISSION

THE LAST DAY OF LORD KRISHNA

After the battle of Kurukshetra, Lord Krishna was very sad and melancholy. One day he was sitting under a tree in a lonely forest. A hunter came in search of prey. From a distance he saw something which resembled the ears of a deer. Actually, it was the soles of Krishna's feet. The hunter shot an arrow and killed Krishna. The hunter realized his mistake and deeply regretted his hasty actions. After he left, Arjuna appeared in search of Krishna, and found him dead. He carried the news to the members of his family. The women came there weeping.

<i>Krishna</i>	. . . . .	RAMESH KUMAR
<i>Hunter</i>	. . . . .	GAMBHIR SING MURA
<i>Arjuna</i>	. . . . .	JANAK SING MURA
<i>Weeping Women</i>	. . . . .	ANIL KUMAR SUTRADHAR
		DEEPNARAYAN MAHATO, KSHIROD SING MURA

THE TRAGIC END OF ABHIMANYU

On the thirteenth day of the battle of Kurukshetra (the battle continued for eighteen days) Acharya Drona, the commander-in-chief of the Kauravas took a vow that he would kill Abhimanyu, the young son of Arjuna and nephew of Lord Krishna. Seven great warriors of the Kaurava's army attacked Abhimanyu one by one, but all were defeated by him single-handedly. Then, Acharya Drona laid a trap. Seven warriors suddenly surrounded Abhimanyu cutting him off from his army. The seven warriors fought against him simultaneously. After holding out for a long time against these heavy odds, Abhimanyu died in the battle.

<i>Abhimanyu</i>	. . . . .	RAMESH KUMAR
<i>Karna</i>	. . . . .	JAGRU MAHATO
<i>Duryodhana</i>	. . . . .	DEEPNARAYAN MAHATO
<i>Drona</i>	. . . . .	KALEBAR KUMAR
<i>Aswatthama</i>	. . . . .	JANAK SING MURA
<i>Dushasana</i>	KSHIROD SING MURA
<i>Sakuni</i>	ANIL KUMAR SUTRADHAR
<i>Kripa</i>	GAMBHIR SING MURA

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UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY