



Ms. Hasanthi Niriella

My profile

Office address:

Department of Fine arts,
University of Peradeniya,
Sri Lanka.

Email: hasanthicniriella@gmail.com

Phone: 0775323106

Biography

Hasanthi Niriella is a dancer, choreographer, performance artist and dance activist. Hasanthi received her BA degree from University of Colombo, Sripalee Campus. Currently she is a postgraduate student of PGIHS, at University of Peradeniya. She is trained Kandyan Dance, Low country dance, Sabaragamuwa dance, Bharathanatyam, Kathak dance, Latin American dance and Contemporary dance. She works with dance in Multicultural backgrounds. As a performer, she had experimental performances in Contemporary platform. Her recent performance is 'Six Yards'.

Education

- * MA in Fine Arts (2019 – expected date of graduation 2020)

Postgraduate Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

- * B.A. Special Degree in performing Arts (2003-2007)

University of Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Second Class (Upper) Honor

Thesis: Dance and Space (a study based on stage performances)

- * Visharad in Bharathanatyam Dance (2001-2002)

Awarded by Bhatkhande Sangit Vidyapith, Lucknow, India. Done at Tower hall

Theatre Foundation (Bhatkhande affiliated Institute of Sri Lanka).

*Visharad in Kathak Dance (2005-2007)

Awarded by Bhatkhande Sangit Vidyapith, Lucknow, India. Done at Leluma Kalayathanaya,

Gampaha (Bhatkhande affiliated Institute of Sri Lanka).

* Amateur Award Latin Dancing Bronze Belt Exam (2014)

Awarded by International Dance Teachers' Association (IDTA).
Level –Bronze Belt

Working experience- University Level

*Working as a Lecturer (Temporary) at Department of Fine Arts, University of Peradeniya.

(2019 October to Date)

* Worked as a Visiting Lecturer at Department of Performing Arts, Sripalee Campus, University of

Colombo. (2008 – 2017)

Course units: PFDN 1122- Indian Dance – Folk Dance

PFDN 1222- Indian Dance –Bharathanatyam

PFDN 2112- Indian Dance – Kathak

*Worked as an Examiner at Department of Performing Arts Sripalee Campus, University of Colombo. (2008-2017)

Course units: PFDN 401- Indian Dance -Manipuri

PFDN 1122- Indian Dance – Folk Dance

PFDN 1222- Indian Dance –Bharathanatyam

PFDN 2112- Indian Dance – Kathak

PFDN 2212-Elements of dance for Theatre

PFDN 4122-Experimental & Applied Drumming

*Worked as an Examiner for the Aptitude Practical examination at Department of Performing Arts, Sripalee Campus, University of Colombo. (2013-2017)

Research Interests

*Dance Choreography, Dance science, Contemporary dance, Performance studies, Body mind centering, Dance movement Therapy, Colonialism and Performance, Politics of dance

Abstract

* 'Physiological Interpretation of *'Bambara Walalla'*, a Rotation Technique in Ritual Dance in Southern Sri Lanka' is the research that will be present in First Symposium of the ICTM Study Group on Sound, Movement, and the Sciences, in KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden. (Expected date of paper presentation- Sept 28th 2020)

Creative Works

PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

***Six Yard** – a contemporary dance performance for making discourse about crisis of Sri Lankan women dress code

Mentored by Venuri Perera in choreography lab in Nelung Art Centre, Colombo

Organized by Goethe Institute, Colombo

On 7th -13th of October 2019.

***I Dance for** - a contemporary dance performance against objectifying women in Sri Lanka

Mentored by Venuri Perera in Colomboscope 2019, Contemporary and Multidisciplinary Arts Festival in Colombo

Organized by Goethe Institute, Colombo

On 25th January 2018.

***Porcelain White** – *A story: Unspoken*, a short contemporary piece about the life of a woman in the male dominated society

Mentored by Venuri Perera

Organized by Goethe Institute, Colombo

On 25th and 26th July 2018.

***Moksha Art of Dance** –Kathak Dance Festival

Conducted by guru Moksha Samarasooriya at the Lionel Wendt theatre, Colombo (2008)

***Arangethram** – Bharatha Natyam anointment Ceremony

Organized by Jayashankha Dance Foundation in November 2006 at the Elphinstone Theatre in Colombo.

***“Sri Rangara 2006”** – Multicultural Dance Festival

Organized by the Sri Palee Campus of the University of Colombo.

***IRQUE NEWS** – Dance piece related to welcome program

Organized by the University Grants Commission, Colombo

On 17th May 2005.

CHOREOGRAPHIC EXPERIENCE

*Was one of 15 Participants of the ***Choreography Lab*** at Nelung Arts Centre 7th -13th of October 2019

conducted by Goethe Institute Sri Lanka

*Was one of 15 Participants of the ***Choreography Camp*** at Kalpitiya 25th November-3rd December 2018

conducted by Goethe Institute Sri Lanka.

*Was one of 17 Participants of the ***Choreography Camp*** at Kalpitiya 4th -10th December 2017 conducted

Goethe Institute Sri Lanka.

*Choreographed ***“Neethi Ranga”*** organized by Lawyers Bar Association at the Tower Hall Colombo 10 in 2017.

*Choreographed dances to ***“Neethi Nimnada”*** organized by Lawyers Association (Horana Zone) in 2016.

*Choreographed WP/HO Sri Dewarakshitha M.V. for All Island Dance Competition to ***“Pathuru Dance”***

in 2014, won **1st place** (Horana Zone).

*Choreographed WP/HO Sri Dewarakshitha M.V. for All Island Dance Competition to performed ***“Nawathala Grahapanthi”*** (Sabaragamuwa dance) and won the championship in 2013.

*Choreographed several dance items of various styles for the primary section of the Buddhist Ladies College

for ***“Kids in Concert”*** in 2008.

DANCE/ACTIVIST

***Volunteer Student Councilor** of the Faculty of Arts for the academic year 2019/2020 of University of Peradeniya.

*Interpreter to Prof. Ashley Fagnoli to conduct her ***Dance/Movement Therapy Session*** for **World Disability Day**, organized by Special Education Unit of University of Peradeniya

*Gave my support to Prof. Ashley Fagnoli to conduct the '**Leadership & Stress Management**' workshop organized by Robarosiya club on 1st of December 2019 in Career Guider's Unit in University of Peradeniya.

*'One Billion Rising Sri Lanka', <https://www.onebillionrising.org/share/one-billion-rising-sri-lanka/> Public performance at the Independents Arcade, 14th February in 2018, in 2019 ("# tag me 2")

Professional works (others)

*Won the Best Lighting Award at the "**Yomu Pahan Yata 2006**" short drama festival for the drama "Fantacyak Nowe".

*Was the lighting assistant in 2011 and 2013 "**Anukar**" directed by Prageeth Anuradha.

Working experiences (others)

***Sinhala Teacher (English Medium)** in Peace Island College in Colombo 07 (2016-2018).

***Dance Teacher** in WP/HO/Sri Devarakshitha M.V, Millaniya (2011 – 2015).

***Ballet teacher** in the Buddhist Ladies Collage in Colombo (2008 – 2009).

***Resource Person** in the Cultural Center Sri Palee Campus University of Colombo (2007).

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (school Level)

***1st place** - National Level Dancing Competition 1993

***1st place** - All Island Dancing Competition 1997/98

***2nd place** - All Island Dancing Competition 1996

***3rd place** - All Island Dancing Competition 1994

***Active member** of the school Dancing Group (1992-2000) at WP/HO Taxila Central Collage, Horana.

***Active member** of the school Prefect Board (1998-2000) at WP/HO Taxila Central Collage, Horana.

*Member of the School Table Tennis Team at WP/HO Taxila Central Collage, Horana.