

‘Sangam’ – a Program for Dance and Harp

‘Sangam’ - the Sanskrit word for ‘confluence’

Two art forms, Indian Classical Dance and Western Art Music, find a common meeting place and flow together

With Padma Menon, Indian Classical Dance / **Alice Giles**, Electro-acoustic Harp

Padma Menon is a leading practitioner of the traditional Kuchipudi style of classical Indian dance. She studied under the legendary Indian guru Vempati Chinna Satyam and is acknowledged as one of his foremost disciples. She has studied contemporary western dance, yoga and the Indian martial art form of Kalaripayattu. She has a Masters in Choreography from the Rotterdam Dance Academy and has featured in many international festivals including Cadance and Holland Dance Festival. Padma has won several awards both in India and overseas including the Canberra Times Artist of the Year. She has been invited to international conferences such as DanceUsa where she was one of three choreographers representing the Netherlands. www.padmamenon.com

Alice Giles is celebrated as one of the world’s leading harpists. First Prize winner of the 8th Israel International Harp Contest, she has performed extensively as soloist world-wide. Recital highlights include London’s Wigmore Hall, New York’s 92nd Street Y, Merkin Hall and Frankfurt Alte Oper. She is a frequent guest at international music festivals and as soloist with orchestra, gives regular master classes in Europe and North America as well as an annual summer course in Australia, where she is currently Senior Lecturer at the ANU School of Music. She is director of the Seven Harp Ensemble, and was on the jury of the Israel International Harp Contest, USA International Harp Competition and Cardiff European Harp Competition. Further information: www.harpcentre.com.au