

Mayamalavagoula Varnam

Tala: Adi(2 Kale),

Composer: Papanasam Shivan

Varnam is the most beautiful, rich, exquisite, and intense item in the Bharatnatyam repertoire. and is announced as the piece-de-resistance of the traditional recital. There is a perfect synchronization of "bhava" (emotion),"raga" (melody or tune), and "tala" (rhythm), thus giving the dancer an abundant scope for displaying her rhythmic talents along with varied "abhinaya" (expressions). This piece tests the dancer's stamina and grace as it is the longest and most demanding item. Varnam creates the impression of beauty, grandeur, and profundity by alternative between pure dance sequences and expressional lines.

The varnam has a lot of surprises for the spectators in its complex and fast nritya passages that contains a large number of the most difficult karanas. "The karanas are here not merely for a spectacular aesthetic effect," "they are here to evoke the spirit of Nataraja."