

Interactive CD-ROM for : Windows 95 & onwards / Apple Macintosh 7.0 & onwards

Quick Time and the Quick Time Logo are trademarks used under licence.

DEVADASI MURAI "Remembering Devadasis"

Our world is only one out of three major worlds: that of gods, of humans and of dark, hidden forces. These three are in constant interaction and their inhabitants may rise and fall from one status to another.

Also, they try to visit each other's regions in order to serve their own needs.

Everything is in flux: creation, maintenance and destruction all co-exist at the same time. Such turbulent conditions force mankind to fence for itself: to gain support of the gods, to keep a tight control on the unbridled dark forces and to protect human efforts. The term "Devadasi" refers to a female ritual specialist, good luck and well being are in her hands. Flickering lamps, cooling water, music & dance are her instruments. A formal ceremony solemnized her dedication to the God of the temple. In Tamil Nadu this millennia old tradition has seen great hey days.

Dr. Saskia Kersenboom, Associate Professor in Linguistic Anthropology, University of Amsterdam, a scholar-dancer has researched how texts live through

the performing arts of sound, dance and images in the now not so popular tradition

of Devadasis in temples of South India. This CD-ROM offers:

- 1. Approximately 50-minute Linear Journey in Sound and Image.
- 2. Interactive non-linear access to individual segments.
- Interactive visual simulation of the relationship between Pradakshina, Darsana and Upacara.

CULTURAL INFORMATICS LAB, INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS.

The Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) is visualised as a centre encompassing the study and experience of all the arts.

The arts are here understood to comprise the fields of creative and critical literature, written and oral; the visual arts, ranging from architecture, sculpture, painting and graphics to general material culture, photography and film; the performing arts of music, dance and theater in their broadest connotation; and all else in fairs, festivals and lifestyle that has an artistic dimension.

Through diverse programmes of research, publication, training, creative activities and performance, the IGNCA seeks to place the arts within the context of the natural and human environments. "Cultural Informatics" group uses latest technology to capture in computer-generated multimedia the millennia-old traditional multimedia of India's past and vigorous present.

Other available/forthcoming titles are "Muktesvara Temple", "Rock Art", "Gita Govinda", "Visvarupa", "Agnicayana", "Devnarayan" and "Elizabeth Brunner's Paintings".

PARAMPARA

Parampara was founded to support the continuation of traditional arts of South India by organising exhibitions, lectures and classes.