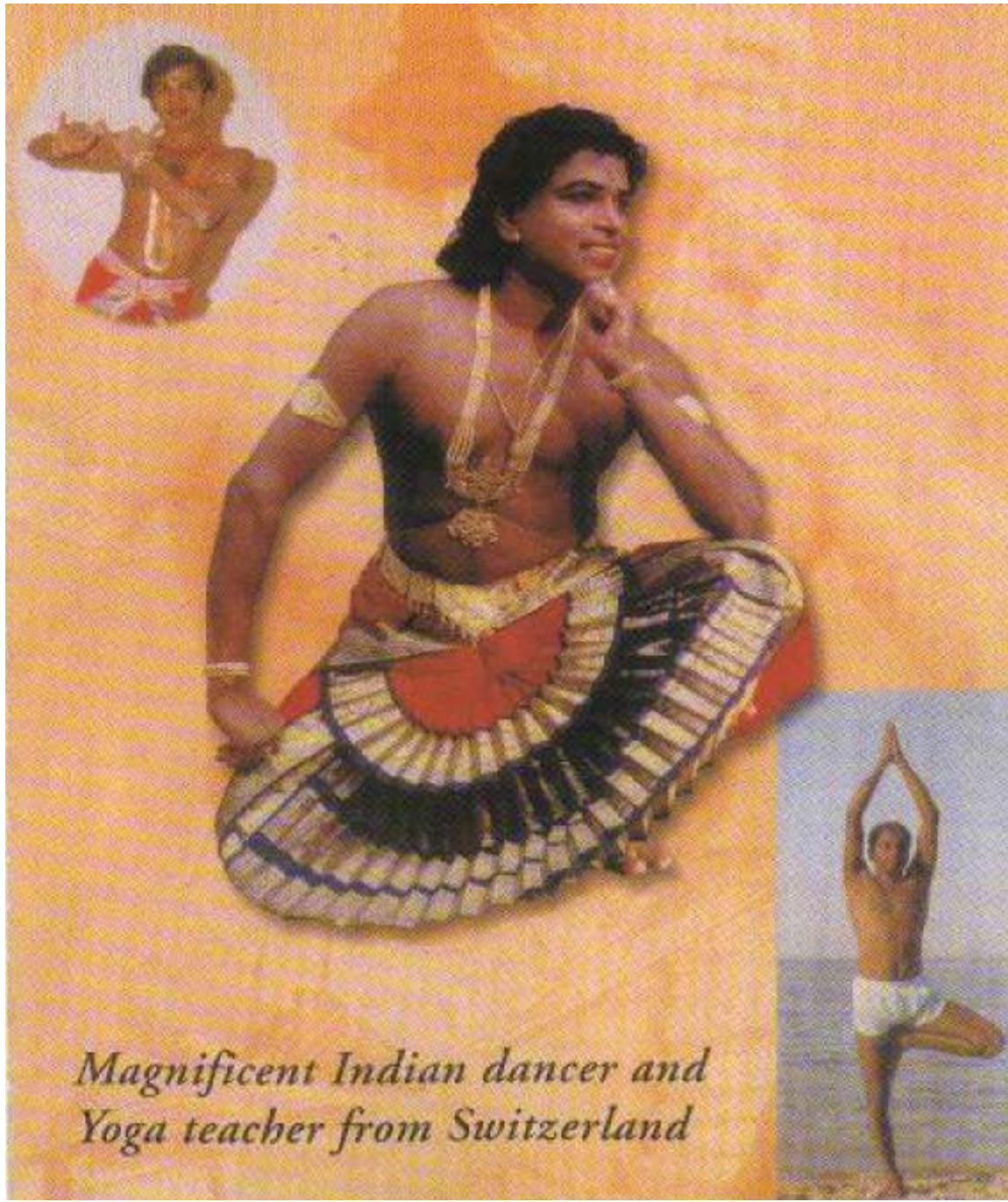

Sri.D.Keshava



*Magnificent Indian dancer and
Yoga teacher from Switzerland*

Dancer, choreographer, and dance and yoga teacher, D. Keshava (Born: 1946, in Mysore, Karnataka), is one among a select group of male Bharatanatyam dancers of India. He trained in Bharatanatyam, under the exacting tutelage of Padmasri Dr. Venkatalakshamma, dancer-teacher par excellence of the Mysore style. He also trained in various classical and folk-dance forms under other great Gurus. The first male dancer to secure the first rank in Vidwath Examination (1973) in Karnataka, and receive the title, "Natyavisharada", for his Diploma, and a Gold Medal for his Degree (1969-1975) from the Mysore University, Keshava has been practising yoga since his childhood; first with his father, and later under the direction of Yogiraj Desikacharya. He also studied singing, mridangam, veena and acting as subsidiary subjects at the University.

For 27 years he has been living in Basel, Switzerland. He and his confrere, Esther Jenny, who have been doing pioneer work in engendering traditional Indian art and culture in Switzerland, have won the hearts of both the critics and public audiences. The Keshavas have often been invited to take part in many international festivals, including TV recitals in Switzerland and abroad. They were, incidentally, the first Indian artists to establish "Kalasri", the first school for Indian Dance and Yoga in Basel. "Kalasri" is recognised and greatly appreciated by the Swiss Cultural Department.



A recipient of the "Kannada Rajyotsava Award 1997" instituted by the Government of Karnataka for his cultural services and achievements. Keshava has several choreography credits. His special programmes of classical dance, folk-dances and novel productions with innovative choreography have brought him accolades everywhere. He has not only evolved a tradition, but also nurtured it: the highly talented daughters of the Keshavas, Anjali and Sumitra, have already made an impression in the field of art and dance in Switzerland. Kalasri celebrated its Silver Jubilee in September 2001.

Choreographies :

Mohini Bhasmasura, Ramayana, Govina kathe, Buddha charitam, Four Dance Styles of India, The four Seasons, Classical and Folkdances of India, The death and the Maiden, the Female Divinity, Nari, numerous classical and folk items.

Navagraha – Sun, Moon and Planets – silver jubilee programme, Bhava-Raga-Tala (new production)

