



Mohiniyattam

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Mohiniyattam (Kerala)

- Also known as the dance of Mohini (an incarnation of Lord Vishnu).
- Performed by women.
- Thumping of footsteps is absent.
- Footwork is gentle.
- Narrates the story of the feminine dance of Vishnu.

Performanee

Mostly a solo performance

The Lasya aspect (beauty, grace) of dance is dominant

Inculcates elements of Bharatanatyam (grace & elegance) and Kathakali (vigor)

The famous Malayali poet V. N. Menon revived it along with Kalyani Amma

Referenes of Mohiniyattam:

- Vyavaharamala written in 1709 by Mazhamagalam Narayanan Namboodiri.
- Ghoshayatra, written later by poet Kunjan Nambiar.

Instruments

Edakka (Main)

Mridangam

Veena

Flute

Kuzhitalam or Cymbals

Costumes

- Kasavu saree of Kerala.
- White and off-white being the principal colors and the presence of gold colored brocade designs.
- Leather strap with bells (Ghungroo).

–‘Atavakul or Atavus’ is the collection of forty basic dance movements.



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