

*Madhurika  
In Love  
With  
Indian  
Dance*



**M**ADHURIKA was born Maureen Sanderson in Canada, and studied various forms of dance from childhood, including classical and modern ballet, Spanish classical and Flamenco, and finally Bharata Natyam.

She attended the University of British Columbia (Canada) and the University of Washington (U.S.A.), studying drama, and then went to London, England, to do further training in dance and drama. There she met BALASUNDARI, the famous Ceylonese exponent of the Kalakshe-tra style of Bharata Natyam. She studied with her intensively for four years and then in 1971 gave her "Arangetram" (traditional ceremonial Indian debut), which was the first in the Western World and much acclaimed by the British press.

She stayed on in London studying further with Balasundari, as well as performing on stage and television, teaching, and giving lecture demonstrations. She then returned to North America and received a scholarship from the "American Society for Eastern Arts", and a grant from the "Canada Council" to do master classes in San Francisco, U.S.A., with the world renowned BALASARASWATI.

In 1972-73 she returned to Canada to give performances, guest classes, and make a documentary on Bharata Natyam for television. Later in 1973, and again in 1975, she was awarded grants from the "Canada Council" to give performances and do advanced studies in India with Shri Adyar K. Lakshman. Shrimati Kalanidhi. Shri Dhananjayan and Shrimati Shanta Dhananjayan.

In Madras she is a member of the "BHARATA KALANJALI" Indian Dance Company, under the direction of Shri and Shrimati Dhananjayan. She has given her own solo performances in Canada, the U.S.A., Europe, the Middle East, India and Sri Lanka.