

Nritta, natya, music... philosophy

Inspiring music and lilting jatis conveyed the message.

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RUPA SRIKANTH



Bharathanatyam Dancer Bala Devi Chandrashekar. Performing at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan School at Kilpauk in Chennai on Monday. Photo : R_Ravindran.

Uddhava Gita is a body of teaching from the Bhaagavata Puraana, in which Krishna counsels Uddhava to give up his attachment to the illusionary, material world and discover the true nature of the self, imparting philosophy through the teachings of the Avadhuta, Hamsa and others.

Bharatanrityam dancer Bala Devi Chandrasekhar presented 'Uddhava Gita,' that was a well-researched effort, with the original verses compiled by Swami Shantanandapuri, recast by scholar Dr. Pappu Venugopala Rao and set to inspiring music by well-known musician Rajkumar Bharati. The mature artist that Bala Devi is, she was sensible about her communication strategy. She displayed detailed notes on audio-visual screens on either side of the stage, had an informed Sanskrit scholar, Lalitha Subramaniam, to introduce each segment, planned a detailed musical score and visualised the content with reasonable clarity.