An awe inspiring, innovative, creative thematic presentation from the epic Mahabharatha, Karna- Destiny's child, was staged at the beautiful auditorium of the Indian Consulate on Jan 5th 2018, as a New Year's gift to the art lovers of Dubai by the world renowned Bharathanatyam danseuse Mrs. Bala Devi Chandrashekar. The life history of Karna right before his birth culminating with his attainment is Veeraswargam in the battlefield of Kurukshetra, was performed as a solo performance bundled with emotions, feelings and outburst of joy and pathos many times, was indeed a visual treat to the elite audience who applauded every movement of the legendary performer.



Dishonored at every stage of his life as a soothaputhra, Karna's disgruntled emotions were felt individually by the audience. Duryodana honored Karna with the crown of Anga Desha at his moment of frustration and thus made Karna live his life for the sake of friendship and gratitude.

The incident of his learning under Parashurama and the curses that he got as a result was depicted flawlessly by Smt Bala Devi. The blend of perfect Jathis with theermanams, mixing the apt ragams at the required scenes was impressive.

The dhaanam of the kavacha and kundala to Indra, the late recognition by his mother Kunti, conquering Abhimanyu and Ghatothkaja stole the show and the audience responded with thunderous applause, most deserving to the performer.

The yachakam by Lord Krishna, the fruits of his Dharma, blessing him with Vishwa roopa were simply heart throbbing and the emotional enactment by the performer brought tears to the eyes.

Dr. Rajkumar Bharathi's supportive vocal with suitable ragams especially Shubhapanduvarali, Kaanada, Gambeera naatai, chakravakam to name a few were masterpieces.

The Rasanubhava of Bharatha was nurtured, refined and experienced by Smt Bala Devi on stage. It was awe inspiring. Indeed a delightful treat for the New Year.

Dr. Bala Nandakumar,

Associate professor In Bharathanatyam, Sri Sathguru Sangeetha Vidyalayam college of Music and Research Centre, Madurai.

A feedback from a raska visiting Dubai...