

The lecture demonstration and performance are funded and organized by the Cluster “Asia and Europe in a Global Context: Shifting Asymmetries in Cultural Flows” at Heidelberg University and the Deutsch-Indische Gesellschaft, Heidelberg.

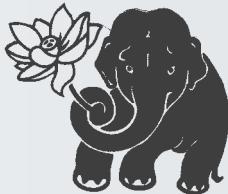
For more information on the Cluster **“Asia and Europe in a Global Context”** and the **Deutsch-Indische Gesellschaft** please visit [www.asia-europe.uni-heidelberg.de](http://www.asia-europe.uni-heidelberg.de) and [www.dig-heidelberg.de](http://www.dig-heidelberg.de) respectively.

## CONTACT

Heike Moser  
E-Mail: moser@asia-europe.uni-heidelberg.de

Further information on Kutiyattam  
(with pictures and an annotated film-clip):  
<http://www.indologie.uni-wuerzburg.de/bhasa/kuti/kuti-utf8.html>

In cooperation with  
Deutsch-Indische Gesellschaft, Heidelberg



## Lecture Demonstration and Performance of

# KUTIYATTAM SANSKRIT THEATRE FROM KERALA, SOUTH INDIA

Heidelberg, Monday, April 27, 2009



# KUTIYATTAM – SANSKRIT THEATRE FROM KERALA, SOUTH INDIA

## LECTURE DEMONSTRATION

**Monday, April 27, 2009, 11 am to 1 pm**

Karl Jaspers Centre  
Voßstraße 2, Building 4400  
Conference Room 212 (Second Floor)  
69115 Heidelberg

**ADMISSION FREE**

## PERFORMANCE

**Monday, April 27, 2009, 8 pm**

German-American Institute Heidelberg (dai)  
Sofienstraße 12  
69115 Heidelberg

**ADMISSION**

8 Euro/ 6 Euro (reduced)

## Explanation / introduction / translation:

Dr. Heike Moser

**Kutiyattam** – literally „acting / playing together“ – is the only surviving traditional Sanskrit theatre of the Indian subcontinent. In 2001 it was awarded by the UNESCO the title “Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity”. Performances are still very rare, Kutiyattam is staged only by 30 to 40 actors, actresses and musicians worldwide. Typical for this dance-theatre are its spectacular and colourful costumes and makeup, its highly stylised mime and its complex hand gesture-language as well as its unique recitation. The plots of the plays are taken primarily from the Hindu epics Ramayana and Mahabharata.

## PERFORMERS

### **Actors and actresses:**

*Kalamandalam Rama Chakyar* is one of the most senior and known performers of Kutiyattam. Originating from Painkulam family, he started to learn from his maternal uncle Painkulam Rama Chakyar at an early age. Until his retirement he was a professor of Kutiyattam at Kerala Kalamandalam.

*Kalamandalam Sangeeth Chakyar*, a very promising young actor, is a disciple of *Kalamandalam Rama Chakyar* and originating from the Kutancheri Chakyar family.

*Kalamandalam Priya* (alias Dr. Heike Moser) is the first foreigner to be initiated in Kutiyattam (1995). She performs and gives lecture-demonstrations regularly. Her PhD about Kutiyattam was recently awarded a prize by the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation. She works as Scientific Coordinator of the Institute of Asian and Oriental Studies at Tübingen University, teaches Indology and is affiliated with the Cluster “Asia and Europe in a Global Context” as Research-Fellow.

### **Drums:**

*Kalamandalam Ravikumar* (Mizhavu) studied the typical drum for Kutiyattam called Mizhavu at Kerala Kalamandalam, Cheruthuruthy and is a promising young musician.

*Kunju Vasudevan* (Idakka) plays the stinged drum Idakka and acts as troupe-manager.





Lecture Demonstration and Performance by

# KUTIYATTAM

## SANSKRIT THEATRE FROM KERALA, SOUTH INDIA

Dr. Heike Moser (Tübingen/ Heidelberg)  
Kalamandalam Rama Chakyar (Kerala Kalamandalam, Indien)

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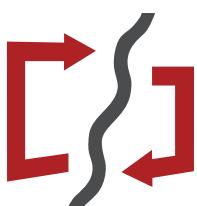
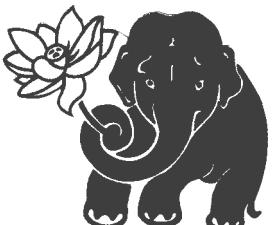
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ASIA AND EUROPE  
IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT  
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RUPRECHT-KARLS-  
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