BIO DATA

Name: **KAUSTAVI SARKAR**

Date of Birth: 9th. January 1985

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ACADEMIC STATUS

Nrityashastra : Nalanda Dance Research Centre, Mumbai, India.

Independent Program : Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance, New York.

Research Assistant : Texas A&M University, Texas, USA.

M.S. Economics : Texas A&M University, Texas, USA.  
B.S. Economics : St. Xavier’s College, Calcutta University, West Bengal, India.

DANCE - HIGHLIGHTS

* Awarded Nalanda Nritya Nipuna, 2011 from Nalanda Dance Research Centre   
  under Dr. Kanak Rele.
* Awarded the Parampara Award by The Odissi Forum, Kolkata.
* Rankholder in senior category Odissi dance conducted by West Bengal Rajya Sangeet Academy.
* Fellowship on Improvisation and Choreography: Self Choreography Odissi Recital : New York.
* Participated in Odissi International, 2010, Bhubaneswar.
* Awarded Odissi Jyoti at the 4th Naveen Kalakar 2010, Bhubaneshwar.
* Awarded Singar Mani at the 49th Kal Ke Kalakar Sangeet Sammelan 2010, Mumbai.
* Awarded Baisakhi Award by Chinta o Chetana on 21st April, 2010, Bhubaneswar for contribution to Dance.
* Substitute faculty and Repertory member for Srjan, the premier Odissi institute since 2007.
* Working with Pausali Mukherjee Dance Academy under Guru Pausali Mukherjee and “Sankalpa Nrityayan” with Subikash Mukherjee in Kolkata (since 2010 January).
* Selected (deferred) Recipient of Protima Bedi Scholarship (Nrtiyagram) (2009).
* Faculty at “Chhandayan”, the institution run by Pundit Samir Chatterjee, in New York (2009).
* Invited Guest Artist in Texas A&M University for Indian Dance(2007-2008).
* Represented India at the Commonwealth Day Celebrations in Sri Lanka(2007).
* National Scholarship for ODISSI(2005).
* Gold medal winner in the National Skating Championship(2003).
* Sportsperson of the year (Telegraph Awards)(2003).
* EMPANELMENT with:

∙ EZCC (Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre, Govt. Of India.

∙ ICCR (Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Govt. Of India).

* SANGEET NATAK ACADEMY
* INDIA ASSOCIATION, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
* SPICMACAY, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
* OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

✵**DANCE**

1. Selected in the Independent Program at the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance, New York for collaborative work and cultural exchange.
2. Presently a student of ‘SRJAN’, a premiere Institute for Odissi Learning founded by Late Guru Kelucharan Mahapatra, under the guidance of Guru Ratikant Mohapatra and Smt. Sujata Mohapatra. Started Odissi under Guru Pausali Mukherjee.

III. Kaustavi stepped into dance at Uday Shankar India Culture Centre under Guru Amala Shankar and was a part of their troupe.

*A MODEST LIST OF IMPORTANT PERFORMANCES and SCHOLARSHIPS*

* 28th August, 2011 : Awarded Parampara award by Odissi Forum, Kolkata.
* May 23rd to July 23rd : Privately sponsored research on Scholarship in Dance Pedagogy for the proposal : “Conservative Avant Garde in Odissi”, inspired from Dr. Richard Schechner from Tisch School of Arts, New York.
* 8th March, 2011: Brahan Natyanjali, Thanjavur.
* 11th February, 2011: Chitrangada, Kolkata.
* 31st January, 2011: Srjan Repertory, Air Defence Academy, Gopalpur, Orissa.
* 29th January, 2011: Srjan Repertory, All India Sanskrit Conference, Banki, Cuttack.
* 22nd January, 2011: Nalanda Nrityotsava, Mumbai.
* 21st January, 2011: Odissi Dance Forum, Parampara, Kolkata.
* 18th January, 2011: Haridas Sammelan, Mumbai.
* 6th January, 2011: World Dance Alliance Day, Bangalore.
* 29th December, 2010: Srjan Repertory, National Festival, Bhubaneswar.
* 28th December, 2010: National Festival, Bhubaneswar.
* 27th December 2010: Nimapara Mahotsava, Nimapara, Cuttack.
* 19th December, 2010: Odissi International Festival, Bhubaneswar.
* 17th December, 2010: Srjan Repertory, Jajpur Road.
* 13th December 2010: Srjan Repertory, Bhuaneswar.
* 11th December, 2010: Uday Shankar Nrityotsava, Kolkata.
* 10th December, 2010: Uday Shankar Nrityotsav, Kolkata.
* 21st November, 2010: Baliyatra Festival, in Cuttack.
* 13th November, 2010: ICCR Performance of Srjan Repertory in Bhubaneswar.
* 19th October, 2010: Performance at Gopalpur, Orissa.
* 14th October, 2010: Performance for Durga Utsav, Kolkata.
* 23rd September, 2010: Performance at the 5th Devdasi Festival, Bhubaneswar, Orissa.
* 21st September, 2010: Performance in a creative ballet “Tuhu Mama Madhava”, Kolkata.
* 10th September, 2010: Lecture Demonstration and Appreciation course on Odissi at the West Bengal Dance Group Federation, Kolkata.
* 5th September, 2010: Srjan repertory “TANTRA” at the 16th Guru Kelucharan Mohapatra Award Ceremony, Bhubaneswar, Orissa.
* 12th August, 2010: Performance at MalharAvishkar festival, Pune.
* 18th July, 2010: Performance at Raindrops festival by Smt. Uma Dogra, Bombay.
* 4th July, 2010: Performance at Chhandak Festival by Smt. Dalia Dutta, Indore.
* 24th June, 2010: Performance at NrityaMela by Guru Pausali Mukherjee, Kolkata
* 15th June, 2010: Srjan Repertory Performance at Cuttack Raja Mahotsav, Cuttack.
* 10-12th June, 2010: Shooting for HMV SaReGaMa for Tagore’s Chitrangada, Tarakeshwar.
* 8th June, 2010: Performance at 4th Naveen Kalakar, Bhubaneshwar.
* 23rd May, 2010: Performance at 49th Kal Ke Kalakar, Mumbai.
* 14th May, 2010: Performance at the birth anniversary celebrations of Rabindranath Tagore, Kolkata.
* 9th May, 2010: Srjan Repertory Performance at Pakha, Orissa.
* 7th May, 2010: Srjan Repertory Performance at birth anniversary celebrations of Pandit Bhubaneswar Misra in Sangeet Maha Vidyalaya, Bhubaneswar.
* 23rd April, 2010: Srjan Repertory Performance at Kala Vikas Kendra, Cuttack.
* 15th April , 19th April, 2010: Performance at Baisakhi festival, Bhubanesar.
* 1st April, 2010: Performance at Golfgreen Utsav, Kolkata.
* 26th March, 2010: Performance at Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata.
* 25th March, 2010: Performance at Kala Mandir, Kolkata under an institution named Pratichi.
* 12th March, 2010: Performance at Doordarshan Festival, Bhubaneswar as a part of

Srjan Repertoire under Guru Ratikant Mohapatra.

* 9th March, 2010: Performance at “Pratibha Utsav”, organized by EZCC, Kolkata.
* 21st February, 2010: Exclusive Performance in Jalpaiguri, West Bengal, India.
* 23rd January, 2010: Performance in Bidhannagar Mela, Kolkata as a part of the repertory of Gunjan under Guru Pausali Mukherjee.
* 14 - 18th December, 2009: ICCR tour to Chicago with Smt. Sujata Mohapatra, for programs in Chicago.
* 2nd December, 2009: Performance at “Chhandayan” Saturday Concert Series, Manhattan, New York.
* 14th November, 2009: Performance at The Hindu Temple, Queens, New York.
* 21st October, 2009: Represented India at the multicultural interaction at Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance, New York, U.S.A.
* 17th October, 2009: Diwali performance in Orlando and Ocala, Florida.
* 14th October, 2009: Diwali performance for Citibank, Clifton, New Jersey.
* 15th August, 2009: Performance in Delaware, U.S.A.
* 13th August, 2009: Performance in Philadelphia, U.S.A. with acclaimed Odissi dancer Bani Ray.
* *4th July, 2009*: Choreographer, Performer for “Fobana”, Annual Bangladeshi Conference, Houston, Texas.
* *29th June, 2009:* Performance for Ratha Yatra, Austin Hindu Temple, Austin, Texas.
* *21st June, 2009:* Performance for the Bangladeshi Association, “BAGHA”, Austin, TX.
* 20th May, 2009: Performed for “Vasudha”, a cultural evening in Austin, Texas.
* *1st May, 2009*: Performed for an NGO for wounded soldiers, College Station, Texas.
* *25th April, 2009*: Odissi Performance in Houston, Texas.
* *11th April, 2009*: “Poela Baisakh”, Bengalee New Year celebration in Austin, Texas.
* *7th March, 2009*: Invited as a judge for Sangam, A talent show organized by the ISA.
* *28th February, 2009*: Accompanied Sujata Mohapatra for Performance in Tulsa, Oklahoma.
* *27th February, 2009*: Accompanied Sujata Mohapatra for Performance in Dallas, Texas.
* *22nd February, 2009:* Performance in College Station, TX, USA with Smt Sujata Mohapatra in Omkarnath Temple and Baithak, SPICMACAY.
* *7th February, 2009* : Yuvabharati, Bharatnatyam and Odissi Concert, Palo Alto, CA,USA
* *1st February, 2009*: Saraswati Puja, Houston, Tx.
* *18th January, 2009*: Pongal Utsav, College Station, Tx.
* *31st December, 2008*: New Year Cultural celebration, Austin, Tx.
* *17th December, 2008*: Indian Cultural Interaction, Saltlake City, Utah.
* *25th November, 2008*: Brazos Valley World Fest, College Station, Tx.
* *19th November, 2007*: Dia, Diwali programme.
* *31st October, 2008*: Ekta, Indian Association programme, TAMU.
* *18th September, 2008*: Performed at Omkarnath Temple, College Station.
* *22nd August, 2008*: Houston Telegu Society, Performance at University of Houston.
* *21ST July, 2008*: Kolkata Utshob, Madhusudan Mancha.
* *7th July, 2008*: Rathayatra in Austin Hindu Temple.
* *1st July-6th July, 2008*: Workshop at College Station and Austin by Guru Ratikant Mahapatra organized by Kaustavi Sarkar.
* *21st June-26th June, 2008*: Workshop conducted at San Hose, CA.
* *1st June – 10th June, 2008*: Workshop at College Station.
* *15th April, 2008*: Performed at Bengalee New Year celebrations.
* *2nd March, 2008*: Performed for SPICMACAY, Texas.
* *25th February, 2008*: International Week, Texas A&M University.
* *23rd February, 2008*: Performed at the Saraswati Puja in the temple in College Station and Houston.
* *6th December, 2007*: International Programs Holiday Reception, College Station.
* *21st November, 2007*: Brazos Valley World fest programme.
* *10th November, 2007:* Program at Hindu Society, Navasota.
* *9th November, 2007*: Dia, Diwali programme.
* *7th October, 2007:* Ekta, Indian Association programme.
* *9th September, 2007*: Spicmacay programme.
* *15th August, 2007*: Performed at the Independence function for Indian association.
* *27th July, 2007*: Performed in New Jersey.
* *10th June, 2007*: Performed at a fundraiser for Somsar, an NGO.
* *18th May, 2007*: Performed at SAI (Sports Authority of India, Kolkata).
* *10th May, 2007*: Performed in Bhopal, for CRY India.
* *20th April, 2007*: Performed in Rotary club Kolkata.
* *18th April 2007*: Performed in Deesha, Kolkata under Srijan.
* 7th April 2007: Performed in Bombay at Samsmaranam in memory of Guru Shri Kelucharan Mahapatra.
* 1st April 2007: Performed in Guwahati for I.T.A. center for performing arts.
* *12th to 14th March 2007*: Representing India at the Commonwealth Day Celebration in Columbo, SriLanka sent by the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs, India (ICCR SPONSORED).
* *10th March 2007*: Live performance in Calcutta with Guru Ratikant Mahapatra playing pakhawaj for SOMSAR RAMAKRISHNA SEVA MANDIR.
  + *25th February 2007*: Performance in the Indian classical dance festival organized by Goa Kala Academy.
  + *20th February 2007*: Performance in Toshali Handicrafts Emporium in Bhubaneswar.
  + *22nd February 2007*: Performance in Music College in Bhubaneswar.
  + *7th January 2007*: Performance in NALCO in Anugul, Orissa.
  + *29th December 2007*: Performance in Kerela.
  + *25th December 2006*: International Odissi Conference in Bhubaneswar.
  + *23rd December 2006*: Performance in Benaras Hindu University, Benaras.
* *25th**November 2006*: Shivpuri Mahotsava, Shivpuri (near Jhansi), and Madhya Pradesh.
* *18th November 2006*: Anandalok Awards, Calcutta.
* *5th November 2006*: Dev Dipavali Mahotsava, Benares.
* *6th October 2006*: Kumari Utsav at Sant Sai in Cuttack.
* *10th September 2006*: Guru Kelucharan Mahapatra Award Ceremony, Bhubaneswar.
* *18th August 2006*: Varsha Utsav in Bhubaneswar.
* *1st June, 2006*: Behrampore festival in West Bengal in the presence of Pandit Birju Maharaj and Smt. Saswati Sen.
* *15th April 2006*: Baisakhi Festival, Bhubaneswar.
* *8th April 2006*: Samssmaranam, the second death anniversary of late Guru Shri Kelucharan Mahapatra in Bhubaneshwar.
* *5th March 2006* - The National Festival of Bijapur, Karnataka.
* *28th, Feb, 2006* – ‘Vasantotsav’, a festival organized by

‘Kalashram’ under Pandit Birju Maharaj New Delhi.

* *24th, Feb 2006* - Performed in Governor’s honour in Bhubaneshwar for the newspaper “Sambad”.
* *22nd, Feb 2006* – Performed in ‘Sruti Mandal’, a Festival in Jaipur.
* *23rd, Jan 2006* – Performed in Shovabajar Rajbati, a festival in Calcutta.
* *8th. Jan 2006* –Performed in ‘Deesha’, a Festival celebrating 80th.

Birthday of Guru Sri, Kelucharan Mahapatra.

* *6th. Jan 2006* – Performed in Jhargram Festival in West Bengal.
* *13th. December 2005* – Performed in Uday Shankar Nrityotsav.

In Calcutta.

* *5th. December 2005* – Performed in Konark Festival in Konark, Orissa.
* *3rd. Sept, 2005* – Performed in ‘Xpressions’ a Festival organized by

Xavier Institute of Management in Bhubaneshwar.

* 7th April 2005: Performed in “Samssmaranam” in memory of late Guru Kelucharan Mahapatra in Bhubaneswar.
* *15th January 2005*: Dance performance in the “YOUNG DANCERS FESTIVAL OF EASTERN INDIA” under “SANGEET NATAK ACADEMY”, Bhubaneswar.
* Performance at Mahajati Sadan, organized by SOMSAR RAMAKRISHNA SEVA MANDIR in Kolkata in Sept’ 2004.
* Presented an Odissi Dance at ‘JALSAGHAR PROGRAM’, a

Prestigious Cultural exposition under the auspices of Pathuriaghat

Rajbati in 2004.

* Conducted as the Anchor in “NUPUR”, a Weekly Serial program on

Dance in E-TV Bangla Channel in 13 Episodes beginning 14-11-2003

Upto End-January’ 2004.

* *2nd December, 2003*: Presented a Dance recital in a 2-Day long Dance

Festival “SADHANA” at Chinmay Mission Hall, New Delhi, held

Under the auspices of ‘KALASHRAM’, a premier Institute of classical

Dances founded by PANDIT BIRJU MAHARAJ.

* *11th December 2002*: Presented a recital in ‘ODISSI’in “UDAYSHANKAR NRITTYOTSAB 2002” a weeklong distinguished Dance Festival at Rabindra Sadan.
* Performed at a “WHOLE NIGHT MUSICAL CONFERENCE” held at

Durgapur in the year 2002 with Tabla Maestro Swapan Choudhury.

* Stood First in “KALIKATA NAGARIK SAMMELAN’S” Cultural

Competition in 1999.

* Won Super-achiever title in ‘BATA QUEST 2000’ amongst 1223

Participants.

* “BATA QUEST” Winner consecutively for 1998 to 2002 in the Eastern

Solo Category.

* Won Scholarship by standing First in *‘ODISSI’* Dance competition

Under the auspices of PASCHIM BANGA RAJYA SANGEET

ACADEMY in 1997 and in 1996.

* “INDIAN CLASSICAL MUSIC YOUNG TALENTS’ CONFERENCE’

2000” held at Kala Mandir 2001.

* *23rd February 2001*: “STARS OF TOMORROW IN THE CLASSICAL DANCE ARENA” - *‘ODISSI’* performance at Madhusudan Mancha organized by WEST BENGAL DANCE GROUP FEDERATION.
* Stood First in BHARATNATYAM - Dance competition held in

AURABINDA BHAWAN, CALCUTTA in the year 2000.

* *9th January, 1999*: Won “JUGAL SREEMAL ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP” by securing 1st position in BHARATNATYAM at the TAGORE FOUNDATION MEET at NEHRU CHILDRENS’ MUSEUM.

SHORT BIODATA

“Nalanda NrityaNipuna”, “Singar Mani”, “Odissi Jyoti” Kaustavi Sarkar, disciple of Guru Ratikant Mohapatra stepped into the world of Odissi under Guru Pausali Mukherjee. She has also received training from Smt. Sujata Mohapatra. She has been a devotee of this art form for the past ten years during which she has performed extensively representing it at the national and international front.   
  
A National Scholarship holder and recipient of Baisakhi Award, Kaustavi is dedicated to serve Odissi and spread it to different parts of the world. She got accepted in the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance, New York for cultural exchange before which she completed her MS in Texas A&M University, College Station and worked in the Wall Street, New York. She is empanelled with ICCR, EZCC, and Sangeet Natak Academy performing under all three. She has participated in numerous festivals, some of them are International Odissi Festival, National Odissi Festival, Raindrops, Chhandak, NrityaMela, Raja Mahotsav, Naveen Kalakar, Kal Ke Kalakar, Baisakhi, Pratibha, Samsmaranam, Vasantotsav, Sadhna, Uday Shankar, Konark etc. held all over India and numerous festivals in the US including Yuva Bharati concert, Brazos Valley World Festival, International Festival, Fobana etc.  
  
She has also performed/ taught extensively in the US and has been pivotal in organizing workshops and shows for her Guru Shri Ratikant Mohapatra and Smt. Sujata Mohapatra. Temporarily being in India Kaustavi is doing post graduate education in Odissi theory. After completion she will resume her education in the US.