

## Pradhanica Dance and Music Company

**Kathak** dance is a centuries-old art form originating in Northern India that is rich in composition, storytelling, and music. With over 100 bells tied to each ankle, the dancer turns percussionist, tapping out complex foot patterns to complement their rhythmic spins and intricate hand gestures. Pradhanica introduces world percussion and a contemporary presentation to make this ancient tradition entertaining and accessible to audiences of all ages and backgrounds. With its conversational and interactive segments where the audience claps and recites pieces drawn from the kathak repertoire, Pradhanica provides a rare opportunity to directly participate in the art-making process.

Led by artistic director and choreographer Jin Won, composed by Indian rhythm maestro Pandit Divyang Vakil, Pradhanica features a diverse group of artists and performers.





## Artistic Director Jin Won

Praised by the NY Times as "An exuberant dancer whose musicality transformed her dancing into something primal" Rhythm artist Jin Won explores the sonic and visual possibilities of rhythm through dance and music. An accomplished kathak dancer and tabla player of South Korean origin, Won spent over 15 years in India training in Indian classical percussion and dance under Pandit Divyang Vakil and Shrimati Shubha Desai, respectively.

While equally adept at traditional and contemporary presentations of kathak and tabla, Won's latest endeavours are explorations of rhythm as a unifier across cultural expressions. Since moving to the United States in 2011, Won has collaborated with Korean and Arabic traditional artists and incorporated a multitude of percussion instruments from around the world into her work.

## Reviews

### New York Times

The treasure was Pradhanica. Fleet-footed choreography, along with music which illuminated Indian rhythms in enticingly off-beat ways. (Jin) Won's musicality transformed her dancing into something primal. The tension between wildness and control was a hallmark of Pradhanica. - *Gia Kourlas*

### NJ Arts

Jin Won adds innovations to North Indian Kathak dance...is the forward scout leading this ensemble into new lands in a delightful concert framed but not limited by tradition. She is an embodiment of pure rhythm, irresistible as she is versatile. - *Robert Johnson*

### India.com

Split-second precision, crisp spins, and clean footwork went perfectly with the ear-pleasing, yet complex arrangement of drumming. - *Jinal Shah*

