

Indian dance, music, theater at Cape May State

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CAPE MAY – Cape May Stage will present a dance, music and theater tradition from southeast India called Kuchipudi at 7 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 28 at the Robert Shackleton Playhouse, Lafayette and Bank streets in Cape May.

This particular performance of Kuchipudi was created by and stars Neelima Raju.

Raju began studying the art of Kuchipudi in 1987 at Kuchipudi Kalakshetra. In 2001, she received her degree after completing the requirements of the course in Kuchipudi.

Since 1994, she has done more than 100 solo performances.

In the 13th century, a theatrical, musical and dance tradition emerged based on the existing religious, social, political, economic and cultural atmosphere. It was Siddhendra Yogi, in the village of

Kuchipudi, who codified the ideas.

Originally an all-male travelling tradition, it has been passed down through an oral tradition between mentor and student from generation to generation. As it was passed down, the tradition incorporated many changes and eventually came to be known as Kuchipudi, from the village where it originated.

Raju’s performance explores salient features of this unique tradition, combining traditional repertoire and new choreographies.

Kuchipudi is part of Cape May Stage’s Second Stage Series. Tickets are \$20.

For more information and reservations, call 609-770-8311 or visit www.capemaystage.org .

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