



Edition

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Feminine Fortitude

Stories of Strength from Nashik's Leading Ladies



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND CONTINUED SUPPORT.

SINCERELY,

FEMME FORWARD EDITORIAL TEAM

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"Dear Readers,

As we prepare to embark on another captivating journey through the pages of Voice Vista magazine, I am honored to introduce you to our latest edition: 'Feminine Fortitude'.

As the Chief editor of this esteemed publication, it has been a privilege to witness the evolution of Voice Vista and the incredible stories we have had the opportunity to share. From our inaugural issue, 'Femme Forward', to the captivating narratives in 'Pedal Passion', 'Kankavali', and 'Vinayaki Gudde', each edition has been a testament to the diverse voices and experiences that make our magazine unique.



In 'Feminine Fortitude', we delve deeper into the lives of remarkable women who have overcome obstacles, shattered glass ceilings, and made a significant impact in their respective fields. From groundbreaking entrepreneurs to visionary leaders, this edition celebrates the strength, resilience, and unwavering determination of women everywhere.

As a Chief-editor, my role is to ensure that each story is crafted with care and precision, allowing the essence of each woman's journey to shine through. It is my hope that the stories featured in 'Feminine Fortitude' inspire you, uplift you, and remind you of the incredible power that lies within each and every one of us.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated team of writers, photographers, and designers, whose passion and creativity bring the pages of Voice Vista to life. And to you, our cherished readers, thank you for joining us on this journey and for allowing us to share these inspiring stories with you.

Here's to celebrating the indomitable spirit of women and the transformative power of feminine fortitude.

Warm regards,

Dr Anagha Naik

Chief Editor,

Feminine Fortitude



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"Dear Readers,

As we journey through the fifth edition of Voice Vista magazine, I am filled with an overwhelming sense of gratitude and excitement. Since our humble beginnings in March, each edition has been a testament to the incredible stories and voices that define our publication.

From our debut issue, 'Femme Forward', to 'Pedal Passion' showcasing the inspiring journeys of cyclists, and 'Kankavali' and 'Vinayaki Gudde' exploring diverse themes, our magazine has been a canvas for celebrating uniqueness and resilience.

Now, as we unveil 'Feminine Fortitude', I am thrilled to present a collection of stories that illuminate the strength and grace of women who have excelled in their respective fields. Through this edition, we shine a light on the remarkable achievements of these trailblazers, inspiring others to pursue their dreams with courage and determination.

'Feminine Fortitude' is more than just a title; it is a celebration of the indomitable spirit that resides within each woman. From entrepreneurs and artists to leaders and innovators, the women featured in this edition embody the essence of resilience and perseverance.

I am deeply grateful to our contributors, whose passion and talent breathe life into the pages of Voice Vista. To our readers, thank you for embarking on this journey with us and for allowing us to share these inspiring stories with you.

As we continue to evolve and grow, let us embrace the power of feminine fortitude and celebrate the extraordinary women who shape our world.

With warmest regards,

Pooja Prasun

Founder & Owner
Feminine Fortitude



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अध्यात्मिक, पौराणिक, ऐतिहासिक वारसा लाभलेले नाशिक शहर आता मेट्रो सिटी कडे वाटचाल करत आहे. 'गोल्डन ट्रॅंगल' चा भाग होत असलेल्या नाशिक नगरीतील स्त्री शक्तीचा नवनवीन क्षेत्रात स्वतःला सिद्ध करतानाचा काटेरी वाटेवरील सोनेरी प्रवास म्हणजे 'Feminine Fortitude' हे मासिक.

प्रतिकूल परिस्थितीवर धैर्याने मात करत पारंपारिक क्षेत्रासह आधुनिक क्षेत्रात स्वतःचं वेगळं स्थान निर्माण करणाऱ्या महिलांचा हा सन्मान. या कर्तृत्ववान महिलांनी प्राप्त केलेलं यश याचंच फक्त सेलिब्रेशन न करता या महिलांनी त्यांच्या अंगी विकसित केलेलं धैर्य, बुद्धीचातुर्य, करूणा असे अनेक गुण यासह सामाजिक बांधिलकी जोपासण्यासाठी जाणीवपूर्वक केलेले प्रयत्न समाजासमोर मांडण्याचा आमचा छोटासा प्रयत्न. येणाऱ्या पिढीसाठी 'Feminine Fortitude' चा हा अंक नक्कीच मार्गदर्शक ठरेल अशी आम्ही आशा बाळगतो.

The Voice Vista Portal च्या माध्यमातून दर महिन्याला आम्ही विविध संकल्पना आणि विषय घेऊन नियमितपणे आपल्या भेटीला येत आहोत. 'Feminine Fortitude' हा पाचवा शब्दगुच्छ आमच्या वाचकांच्या हाती देताना आम्हाला मनस्वी आनंद होत आहे.

जर्नलिस्ट सुनिता चौहाण
संपादिका (मराठी अंक),
Feminine Fortitude



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Stories of Strength from Nashik's Leading Ladies



KIRTI BHAWALKAR

In the realm where the ethereal grace of dance meets the structural elegance of architecture, a harmonious symphony of creativity unfolds. Today, we delve into the captivating world of interdisciplinary collaboration with Kirti Bhawalkar, a visionary artist who seamlessly intertwines the intricate movements of Kathak with the timeless beauty of architectural design. Through her pioneering work, she illuminates the profound connections between these seemingly disparate forms, offering a glimpse into a realm where artistry knows no bounds. Join us as we embark on a journey of discovery, where every step and every structure tells a story of innovation and inspiration.

1. Can you tell us about your journey as a dancer and how you came to establish your own academy? My journey started when I was in school. Our teachers played an important role in guiding us towards our future. I had a group of friends in our residential area, and we used to gather to play games in the evenings. One of my friends always mentioned she wouldn't be there on Thursdays and Fridays because she attended Kathak classes. I was curious about what happened in those classes and persuaded my parents to let me join. Despite warnings of potential body aches, I was determined. I was mesmerized by the environment, and my Guru Rekha Nadgouda Taai played a significant role in shaping where I am today.

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I was fortunate to receive guidance from Dr. Manjiree Taai Deo and Guru Shama Taai Bhate as well. My family supported my passion for Kathak, allowing me to choose arts as my subject for college and further studies. I was honored with awards at the Youth Festival and received the HRD scholarship, facilitating my pursuit of Kathak. Eventually, I ventured into teaching and established Nrutyangan, which has become my institute. Training students under my guidance has been fulfilling, with many achieving the Visharad Degree, and some even becoming gold medalists or starting their own Kathak institutes. I'm grateful that my passion for Kathak is reflected in my students.

2. What inspired you to explore the intersection between dance and architecture in your work?

A colleague, who is an architect, invited me to give a lecture demonstration on fine arts and architecture. Initially unsure how to relate Kathak and architecture, I eventually realized there were many points of connection. During the lecture, which extended beyond two hours, I elaborated on the theoretical aspects of classical dance, correlating them with architecture. The session was engaging, and both students and faculty enjoyed it.

3. Can you elaborate on the concept of architecture

design spaces translated into art forms that you have developed?

Many of my choreographies require different design aspects and structures. For instance, in choreographing "Majhi Maay Saraswati," I aimed to depict an entire village within the stage frame, including houses, wells, and surroundings. This approach draws from architectural studies, where the surroundings are considered. While architectural formations are static, dance formations are kinetic.

4. How do you approach the process of translating architectural designs into dance movements and artistic expressions?

I see a relation between architecture and dance in the creation of designs in empty space. While architectural designs cannot be directly translated into dance postures, principles such as lines and formations apply to both. For example, the Lotus Temple's shape can be metaphorically represented in dance. Pyramid formations in dance evoke similar thoughts as actual pyramids, creating visual imagery for the viewer.

5. What are some key principles or themes that guide your collaborations between art and architecture?



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Space, time, and energy are fundamental elements in choreography, akin to architectural principles. Both disciplines require considerations of depth, width, lighting, and levels. Just as an architect plans the interiors and exteriors of a structure, dancers must think about costumes and what they reveal. Compound elements in architecture parallel the rhythmic patterns in dance, contributing to the overall composition.

6. Can you share any examples of projects or performances where you have successfully integrated architecture and dance?

There are a few choreographies in which the designs created resemble architectural structures. For instance, as previously mentioned, the Lotus formation in our yearly program 'Anvat' resembled the Lotus Temple in Delhi. Also, the temple structure created in our project 'Indrayani' resembled the pyramidal structure of temples. Classical dance, especially, is closely linked with temples, allowing us to represent them through enacting pillars, the pyramidal structure, and other elements.

7. How do you believe this unique approach enhances the viewer's experience and understanding of both disciplines?

By correlating both disciplines, viewers can appreciate and understand architecture and dance better. Understanding the thought process behind them enhances the experience in terms of beauty and thought. Delving deeper into both dance and architecture allows viewers to envision elements such as lines, depths, spaces, lights, and levels, thereby gaining a deeper understanding of both forms.

8. What challenges have you encountered in implementing this concept, and how have you overcome them?

The challenge lies in not directly basing choreographies on architectural textures, but rather on shapes and designs inspired by architectural monuments or structures. While the entire choreography isn't based on a single monument, certain parts may draw inspiration from architectural elements such as angles, levels, heights, and energy, which are interconnected.

9. Can you discuss the role of collaboration and interdisciplinary exchange in your work?

Dance and architecture, being creative fields, require a thoughtful approach to design. Collaboration between dancers and architects allows for the integration of theory and creativity, leading to innovative results. Architects can benefit from understanding aspects of Kathak to incorporate them into their designs, such as the physical rhythm (Laya) in dance and its correlation with the structural rhythm in architecture.

10. How do you envision the future of this concept evolving, and what potential do you see for further exploration and innovation?



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Understanding structural designs is essential across all fine arts, including performing arts, painting, and architecture. Exploring the interrelatedness of these disciplines can lead to further innovation and a deeper understanding of artistic expression.

11. Can you share any insights or lessons learned from your experiences combining art and architecture that may be relevant to other creative professionals?

In one of my choreographies, I attempted to depict the Saraswati Yantra through dance postures, which was a unique challenge. Expressing the poetic concept visually requires powerful conveying of expressions (Abhinaya) and emotions (Bhavana). Understanding common elements between classical dance and architecture, such as lines, shapes, and meanings, is crucial for other creative professionals exploring interdisciplinary collaborations.

12. How do you foster creativity and experimentation within your academy, both for yourself and your students?

Creativity is inherent in daily life and forms the basis of both dance and architecture. In Kathak, creating lyrical compositions and choreographing them involves storytelling while adhering to rhythm and beat. For students, activities like 'Upaj' (impromptu) enhance creativity by challenging them to create acts or stories spontaneously, fostering a culture of experimentation.

13. What impact do you hope to have through your work in bridging the worlds of art and architecture?

By integrating creativity from both disciplines, I hope to contribute to a more elegant and enriched world, enhancing the experiences of students studying dance and architecture.

14. How do you balance the technical aspects of architectural design with the expressive and emotive elements of dance?

In dance, technical aspects are conveyed through colors, shapes, expressions, and emotions, primarily through 'Abhinaya.' Similarly, in architecture, the entire structure must express its intended message or emotions. For instance, the Taj Mahal's bright white aura may reflect Shahjahan's emotions behind its creation.

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15. Finally, what advice would you give to aspiring artists and architects interested in exploring interdisciplinary collaborations and pushing the boundaries of traditional artistic practices?

I advise aspiring artists and architects to observe various fine arts and understand their common elements. Keen observation and understanding of structures created in both dance and architecture will intensify their grasp of interdisciplinary collaborations and traditional artistic practices.

As we bid farewell to this enriching conversation, we carry with us a profound appreciation for the boundless creativity and visionary spirit of Kirti Bhawalkar. Through her insightful exploration of the intersection between dance and architecture, she has not only broadened our understanding of these art forms but also ignited a spark of inspiration within us all. May her enduring passion continue to inspire future generations of artists and architects to push the boundaries of tradition and forge new paths of artistic expression. Let us embark on our own creative odyssey, guided by the timeless wisdom imparted by Kirti Bhawalkar, and embrace the endless possibilities that await us on the horizon of imagination.

Ideation & Conceptualisation : Pooja Prasun

Editor in Chief : Pooja Prasun

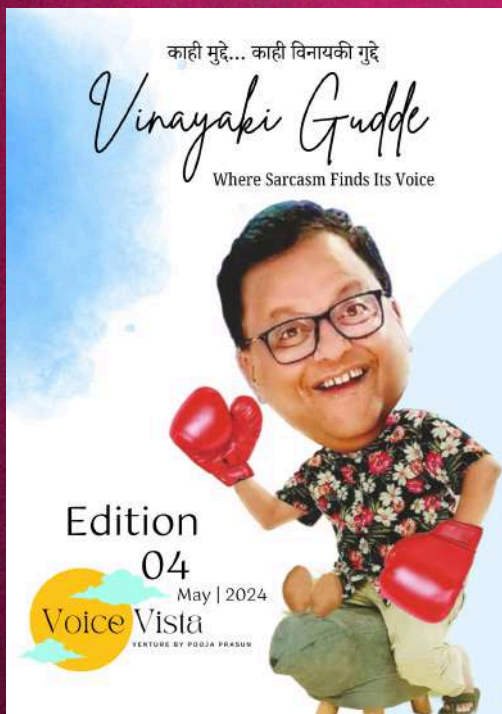
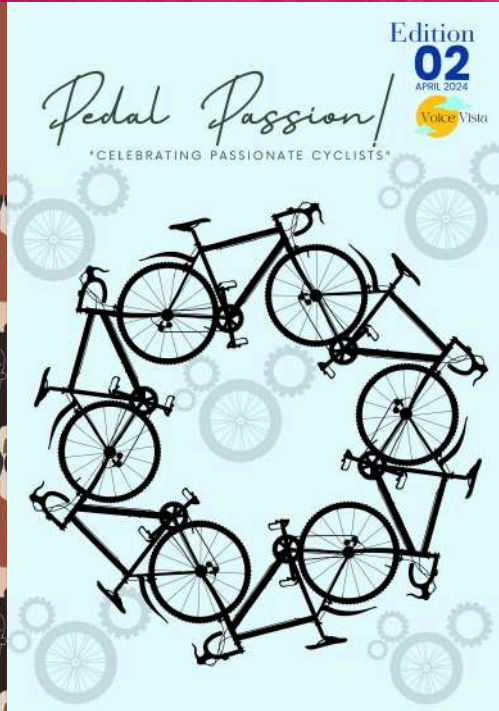
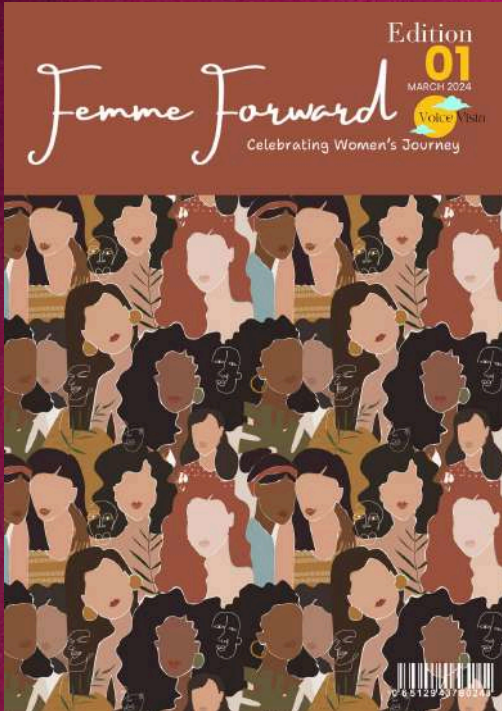
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Introducing "Feminine Fortitude" - a testament to the powerful female faces of Nashik who have not only excelled in their respective fields but have also set a benchmark in their domains. These remarkable women are the embodiment of commitment, dedication, and resilience, and their inspiring journeys serve as a beacon of hope and motivation for others.

"Feminine Fortitude" delves deep into the remarkable stories of these trailblazing women, uncovering the challenges they have overcome, the triumphs they have celebrated, and the lessons they have learned along the way. Through captivating narratives, insightful interviews, and stunning visuals, this magazine provides a platform to celebrate the indomitable spirit of women who have dared to dream and achieved greatness against all odds.

Each issue of "Feminine Fortitude" is a celebration of strength, perseverance, and empowerment, showcasing the diverse talents and accomplishments of women from all walks of life. Whether it's in the fields of business, arts, education, or social activism, our magazine shines a spotlight on the unsung heroes whose stories inspire and empower generations to come.

Join us on this extraordinary journey as we honor the resilience and fortitude of Nashik's formidable women, and celebrate their unwavering commitment to making a difference in the world.