

I. Chirantan is a short piece on Tagore. It is in a ballet in quest for peace. It is based on some poems from Gitanjali, which have been recorded in the voice of Amitabh Bachchan.

II. UDDHARAN

Music: Ananda Shankar & Taufiq Qureshi

Concept & Choreography: Tanusree Shankar

'Uddharan' or upliftment, is inspired by a sloka in the Bhagvat Gita, *Uddharate Atmanah Atmaanam*". In other words, the upliftment of man's soul is in his own hands and achievable. This ballet envisages man's journey, his adventures and misadventures, his efforts to uplift his soul, conscious of the tensions between the co-existing but conflicting forces of vice and virtue, and the need for man to choose between them.

The ballet begins with the mother of creation, the creative force breeding life into her creation and setting them off on an existential journey towards their in determinant futures. Initially familiar only with virtues and peace, they are not fazed by the threatening storms of life, they cannot recognize them as evil.

But gradually they encounter negative forces that prey upon their innocence and seduce them into the very real attractions of sin and evil. Some succumb to it, some live callously with the joys of virtues and the pleasures of vice, only a few rises about it all. Shunning the negative forces and embracing the positive charges of Satya, Dharm, Prem, Shanti and Ahimsa. Thus, while mother creation has dust thrown upon her sacred head, which she gently but sorrowfully shakes off, we see her face still combating with tears and smiles, the badges of grief and patience, while man treads tediously on his path in search of salvation.
