



Anna Luisa Spagna
luisaspagna1@yahoo.it
sutraartiperformative.com

Anna Luisa Spagna is dancer, dancetherapist and independent researcher.

- Graduated at the Three-year International School Relational Expressive Dance Movement Therapy, Dmt-ER®, Rome – Italy.
- Member of ARTE, Professional Association of Art Therapies.
- Member of Associazione di Promozione Sociale Danzare le Origini.
- Degree in Pedagogy, University of Salento - Italy.

The interest in theatre anthropology drove her - more than two decades ago - to India where she received training in the classical Indian dance Odissi and in the traditional dance Chhau of Seraikella. To pursue her training, she was awarded with an ICCR scholarship (Indian Council for Cultural Relations)

She performed and gave lecture-demonstrations on Odissi and Chhau dances in various festivals and institutions, and choreographed and danced many performances in Contemporary Indian dance style.

Later, focusing her interest on gender studies she conducted research on Yoginis and Shakta cults in ritual, dance and visual arts and created the Yogini Ritual Dance.

An important turning point in her connections with India came after receiving the degree in Relation Expressive Dance Movement Therapy. Dmt-ER® has given her a new approach: from the investigation on Indian culture and arts through Indian classical and traditional dance styles to the application of a Western dance therapy methodology to relate with Indian people.

Currently, she is based in Kerala where she introduces the Relation Expressive Dance Movement Therapy – Dmt-ER® in various contexts.

She led dancetherapy sessions at Alpha Palliative Care Link Centre (ONG) in Irinjalakuda with physically challenged patients, in particular with people recovering from a stroke in a programme of Neuro-Rehabilitation Physiotherapy.

About this experience she delivered the lecture "Fine, I am Fine! An experience of Dancetherapy in stroke recovery in Kerala - India" at the Continuous Professional Training meeting organized by ARTE, Professional Association of Arts Therapy (Online conference, July 2020).

In Trivandrum she conducted sessions at Mental Health Care Oolanpara with students, staff, doctors and nurses and with a group of psychotic patients; at the Department of Psychology of Government Women's College with students; at Arts Association of Regional Cancer Centre with staff and doctors; at Gandhi Bhavan organized by Alive (ONG) with elderly people; at the Bharat Bhavan organized by Humans (ONG) for well-being with adults; at Women and Children Homagalile - Kuttikal Kayalla with abused children.

She conducted sessions with dancers and actors at School of Drama and Fine Arts - University of Calicut in Thrissur, as well as in private theatre centres.

She delivered a lecture on Relation Expressive dance movement therapy Dmt-ER® at St. Thomas College, organized by Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts in association with Centre for Media Studies, St. Thomas Collage, Thrissur.

In New Delhi, she delivered a talk on Dmt-ER® at the National School of Drama, World Theatre Forum 2020 – 21st Bharat Rang Mahotsav International Theatre Festival of India, and led dancetherapy sessions for well-being with adults at Istituto Italiano di Cultura, Embassy Cultural Centre.

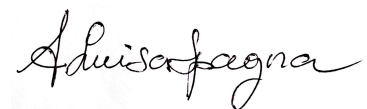
As independent researcher she is the author of two monographs: La danza segreta delle Yogini. Il tempio di Hirapur (Venexia, 2014); La gioia e il Potere. Musica e Danza in India (co-authored with P.Pacciolla, BesaEdizioni 2008) and articles on dance.

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Signed