

RINA MEHTA, PRINCIPAL ARTIST and CO-FOUNDER

Rina Mehta, founder of The Leela Institute for the arts, is one of the leading Kathak artists of her generation. She is a senior disciple of the late Kathak icon, Pandit Chitresh Das and has performed to great acclaim across the United States and India, both as a soloist and principal dancer with the Chitresh Das Dance Company. She received a Fulbright Award for Dance, an Alliance for California Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Grant and twice been nominated for an Isodara Duncan Dance Award as a part of CDDC. She is a pioneer and strong leader amongst her generation, taking Kathak forward and carving a place for the ancient art form in modern times.