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## FORUM FOR LABORATORY THEATRES OF MANIPUR

SAGOLBAND MEINO LANE, IMPHAL - 795001 (INDIA)

Regd No. 2253 of 1991

Ref. No. ....

Date 23/02/2008

To

The Executive Director Indian Foundation of the Arts Bangalore

Subject

Interlocutor with the Rhythm Divine Project of Mr.

Astad Deboo with the Drummers of Manipur.

Sir,

This is to intimate to you my apologies regarding the formal and technical fulfillments with regard to my being asked to be Interlocutor with the Rhythm Divine Project of Mr. Astad Deboo.

I have been very keenly following his activities with the Manipur Drummers, and also looking into all the aspects of his creative encounter with a highly ritualized and codified patterns of a traditional artistic form of Manipur. I had interviewed with him twice, one on general issue of artistic works he had engaged in contemporary times, along with how he approached the deeply tradition bound form from Sankirtana tradition with regard to the present project of the Rhythm Divine.

I am in in-depth relationship with his creative work in Dance as I requested his services for a week's encounter with my young female dancers, during his stay at Imphal, and I also saw rehearsals at Guru Satyaban's place in the midst of our workshop.

I shall be able to write a full account of how he experienced the problematique of artistic entry into a long established ritual form, the issues of the artistic encounter, the aesthetic problems that arose when one from an outside tradition works out a creative engagement in fusion with the other tradition, and the resultant product thereby raising questions on issues of creativity, and its moral and aesthetic implications in an environment of conflict and tension.

Allow me to give you a full report in April, and kindly provide a full CD of the Rhythm Divine performance at Bangalore through Guru Satyaban.

With Warm regards.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. Cokerdon A

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