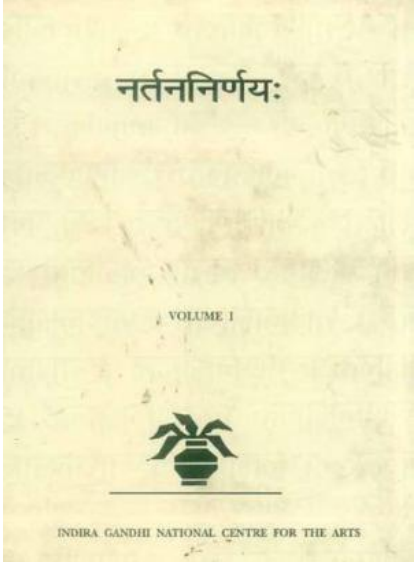

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Nartananirnaya of Sri Pandarika Vitthala, Vol. I

By R. Sathyanarayanan

Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts/MLBD, New Delhi, India, 1994. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Dust Jacket Condition: New. The Nartananirnaya is one of the most influential, original Sanskrit treatises on Indian Music and dance, appearing after the Sangitaratnakara of Sarngadeva. Its author is Pandarika Vitthala, a profound and versatile scholar who has also written Sadragacandrodaya, Ragamala, Ragamanjari, Dutikarmaprakasa and Sighrabodhini-namamala in the late 16th cent. A.D. The Nartananirnaya is a primary, authoritative source for the theory and practice of these Arts of its Times and reflects the major changes which ushered in the modern era for them. It has both range and depth and is illuminated with flashes of originality in every chapter. It is written in a simple, limpid literary Style but with vivid imaginativeness in its reificatory descriptions. With a unique methodical plan, the Nartananirnaya progresses through stepwise contributions of the Cymbal Player, the Mrdanga Player and the Singer to dancing in the first three chapters before culminating into its longest and fourth chapter on the Dancer. This chapter contains many Novel features not only in the alphabet, vocabulary, grammar and Idiom of the art, but in the performance conventions and repertoire including some Dance forms of...

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