

Gone in a Breath: A Visual Ode to Unnoticed Dance Devotion (Photo Essay)

Asif Musaddeque

“Gone in a Breath” ventures beyond the spotlight, delving into the world of artists whose dedication often remains unnoticed amidst society’s fixation on grandeur. This photo essay is a tribute to artists whose passion and commitment endure in the face of neglect and hardship, shedding light on the raw beauty and perseverance that thrive beyond the proscenium arch. In a culture that glorifies visible success, this initiative serves as a poignant reminder of the challenges faced by artists deemed inconsequential by societal norms. The unrecognized dancers within our midst embody this struggle, navigating a path often devoid of recognition and support. Through their resilience, they exemplify the profound beauty and complexity of human existence, fostering connections that transcend the boundaries of acclaim. As a retired Bharatanatyam dancer turned photographer, this endeavor holds personal significance. It merges my lifelong dedication to movement with a profound understanding of the trials endured by artists in their pursuit of true expression. “Gone in a Breath” not only captures moments of artistic finesse but also offers a glimpse into the challenges and triumphs that define the dance community. Through a delicate balance between rehearsal authenticity and performance grace, this project aims to portray the art form while honoring the indomitable spirit of artists.



Photo 1: Freedom of Movement | Anandita Khan



Photo 2: Caught between society's grip and the weight of the dance floor | Sabbir Ahmed Khan



Photo 3: The myth of the artist vs. the reality | Arohye Islam



Photo 4: Dancers embodying the intricate ties between them | Anandita Khan, Arohye Islam, Mofassal Alif, Era



Photo 5: The way society is classified mirrors the dance scene — but only society gets the conversation | Mofassal Alif, Shakib Salehin



Photo 6: Veiled Vision | Madhurima Roy



Photo 7:

The Dancer within a Dream |
Mofassal Alif



Photo 8:

Tug of Forces | Mofassal Alif,
Shakib Salehin



Photo 9: Questions! | Anandita Khan



Photo 10: A feeling not invited | Md Hanif



Photo 11: Peril of Life | Era



Photo 12: Hierarchy | Arohye Islam, Shabbir Ahmed Khan, Ariyana Nitra