**Interview with Fenella Kelly on Kathikali. September 2013**

1.    Do the actors apply their make up on stage/in front of the audience?

Why do they do this? No they do not. They apply it in the Green room and

this is part of the workshop. A candle is lit in the green room and they

do not speak when putting on the make-up. You will only see make-up

applied on stage when it is for tourists.

2.    Do the actors believe that their make up can improve the quality of

the performance? Yes, because applying the make-up enables them to become

the character. They would not be the other worldly figure without the

costume and make-up.

3.    Do you believe that the make up has an impact on the audience? Yes,

the colours all have powerful messages about their traits - good, evil,

spiritual, wise etc. The eyes are made red to have an impact that is not

of this world, not human.

4.    Why is the use of facial expressions so significant in Kathakali? It

links to the 9 emotions of the entire world. There are no more than 9,

and as there are no words the facial expressions are crucial to

communicate meaning and feeling.

5.    How can an actor playing the role of Nala use facial expressions to

convey an emotion to the audience? By using the appropriate facial

expression required for the mudras used or the emotion of the scene.