

An Esplanade Co-Production

SHIKHANDI

THE WARRIOR WITHIN

By SIFAS Productions Ltd

28 – 30 Nov 2025
Fri & Sat, 8pm | Sun, 3pm
Esplanade Theatre Studio

Masculine and feminine, divine and human—a powerful *kathak* presentation celebrating courage, fluidity, and self-assertion.

About Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay

Esplanade is Singapore's national performing arts centre. It hosts a year-round line-up of about 4,000 live performances and activities presented by Esplanade, its partners and hirers. As an arts centre for everyone, Esplanade also creates opportunities for seniors, youth, children and underserved communities to experience the arts. More than 70% of the shows that take place each year at the centre are free for all to enjoy.

Esplanade also brings the arts virtually to audiences in Singapore and beyond, through its diverse range of digital programmes on *Esplanade Offstage*, an all-access backstage pass to the performing arts and guide to Singapore and Asian arts and culture, with videos, podcasts, articles, quizzes and resources.

The centre works in close partnership with local, regional and international artists to develop artistic capabilities and content, push artistic boundaries and engage audiences. Esplanade supports the creation of artistic content by commissioning and producing new Singapore and Asian work for the international stage. It also develops technical capabilities for the industry nationally.

Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay is operated by The Esplanade Co Ltd (TECL), which is a not-for-profit organisation, a registered Charity and an Institution of a Public Character. TECL received the Charity Governance Award – Special Commendation for Clarity of Strategy in 2016 and 2022, the Charity Transparency Award from 2016 – 2023, and the Charity Transparency Dedication Award in 2024. Esplanade is Singapore's first Dementia-Friendly Arts Venue and a certified Dementia Go-To Point, as well as a guide/assistance dog friendly centre.

TECL receives funding support from Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth and its Community Programmes are supported by Tote Board Family, comprising Tote Board, Singapore Pools and Singapore Turf Club.

Visit [Esplanade.com](https://www.esplanade.com) for more information.

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FESTIVAL PRODUCER'S MESSAGE

Each November, *Kalaa Utsavam – Indian Festival of Arts* by Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay brings together artists and audiences in a spirit of celebration, discovery, and connection. As we enter the 24th edition of the festival, from 21 – 30 Nov 2025, we are reminded of its role as a home for Indian arts in Singapore. It is a space where tradition meets innovation, where stories are shared, and where communities come together.

Guided by four key objectives—to celebrate the excellence of Indian arts and culture, present a festival that balances excitement with artistic merit, foster a stronger youth presence, and develop the next generation of Singapore artists—*Kalaa Utsavam* continues to honour its roots while embracing the future. This year's festival reflects these ideals through a vibrant mix of tradition, innovation, and cross-cultural collaboration.

The festival continues to champion new creations by Singapore artists, with six new works in the line-up this year, including four Esplanade co-productions and one Esplanade commission. *Mission Malligapoo* by inventive theatre-makers **AGAM Theatre Lab** is a playful and heartwarming production, while dynamic music group **SwaRhythm** brings *Samudra*, a captivating new production inspired by the ebb and flow of the ocean. In a bold meeting of genres, trailblazing metal band **RUDRA** joins forces with the refined musicianship of **Resound Collective** for an unforgettable orchestral experience. Acclaimed Singapore poet **Pooja Nansi** explores love and belonging in the lyrical *We Make Spaces Divine ft. Dey*, and the powerful *Shikhandi* by **SIFAS Productions Ltd** blends the grace of *kathak* with the dynamism of *bharatanatyam*. The genre-bending local Latin jazz fusion band **Project RA** teams up with virtuoso vocalist **Varijashree Venugopal** to weave intricate Carnatic melodies with vibrant jazz improvisation in a performance bursting with rhythmic vitality and soulful depth.

From further afield, legendary poet and lyricist **Javed Akhtar** is set to enchant with *Main Koi Aisa Geet Gaoon*, an intimate evening of words and melodies, while beloved stand-up star **Zakir Khan** returns to Singapore with his trademark warmth, wit, and relatable humour.

Also not to be missed are the visually arresting *Kintsugi* by Canada's renowned **Sampradaya Dance Creations**, multi-instrumentalist **Soumik Datta's** poignant, music-driven reflection on memory and Alzheimer's disease, *Mone Rekho*, and Malaysian hip-hop powerhouse **Rabbit Mac's** high-energy showcase with his friends. Families can delight in the charming *Circle of Life* by **Ranga Shankara's AHA! Theatre for Children**, specially created for children as young as five.

Throughout the festival, we are also delighted to offer many free programmes at Esplanade's public spaces, where audiences can enjoy live music, dance and storytelling. These free programmes not only make the arts more accessible but also allow families, friends, and curious passersby to come together and experience the joy of *Kalaa Utsavam* together.

We express our heartfelt thanks to our Principal Sponsor, **Malabar Gold & Diamonds**, for their support of *Kalaa Utsavam 2025*.

For over two decades, *Kalaa Utsavam* has been a space for connection, creativity, and cultural celebration. We invite you to join us once again to discover, to be inspired, and to celebrate the evolving spirit of Indian arts in Singapore.

V M Sai Akileshwar

Producer

The Esplanade Co Ltd

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & CHOREOGRAPHER'S NOTE

Shikhandi has always fascinated me—a character born of conflict, driven by destiny, and defined by an unrelenting search for identity. Neither bound by gender nor by circumstance, she stands as one of the *Mahabharata*'s most layered figures, embodying both vengeance and vulnerability, strength and silence.

As a *kathak* dancer, interpreting Shikhandi was both a creative and emotional challenge. The story demanded that I look beyond the obvious to explore the inner turbulence of being caught between two worlds: dharma and personal truth. The dance became not just a retelling but a rediscovery of fluidity, transformation, and purpose.

This production is also an exploration of *samanvay*, a confluence of two classical traditions, *kathak* and *bharatanatyam*. One is fluid and circular like time; the other, rooted and angular like destiny. Together, they converse, collide, and complete each other, much like Shikhandi's own being. Each step, gesture, and *abhinaya* (expression) attempts to breathe life into paradox: grace within rage, strength within sorrow, balance within chaos.

Working with the SIFAS dancers on this production has been a journey of discovery. I sought to draw out not only their technique but their emotional depth, to help them feel Shikhandi's pain, power, and transcendence. Every gesture, every *chakkar* (spin), every *adavu* (rhythmic sequence) had to speak from within.

Through *Shikhandi*, we hope to offer a glimpse into the spaces between—the quiet thresholds between man and woman, war and peace, duty and desire. For it is within these liminal moments that we truly find ourselves.

Gauri Diwakar

Artistic Director & Choreographer

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Shikhandi has been a profoundly moving journey, one that invites us to look beyond the binaries of gender, identity, and destiny, and into the very heart of what it means to be human. Through the classical vocabularies of *bharatanatyam* and *kathak*, we have sought to honour tradition while reimagining it, creating a dialogue between past and present, the mortal and the divine.

For me, Shikhandi is more than a performance; it is a meditation on courage, transformation, and truth. It speaks to the silent struggles and quiet strengths within each of us, reminding us that we carry both the masculine and the feminine, the light and the shadow. Through each movement and rhythm, we explore not only Shikhandi's journey but also our own—one of self-discovery, purpose, and empathy.

At SIFAS Productions Limited, we are committed to creating works that celebrate classical arts while engaging with contemporary themes. With *Shikhandi*, we aim to spark reflection, dialogue, and connection, demonstrating how timeless stories continue to resonate in today's world.

This production would not have been possible without the incredible support of our co-producers, Esplanade's Sai Akileshwar and the *Kalaa Utsavam* team, whose vision and belief in this project have been invaluable. My heartfelt gratitude also goes to our extraordinary Artistic Director, Gauri Diwakar, whose brilliance, insight, and dedication have shaped this production at every level. I am equally grateful to our talented artistic team, musicians, lighting designer, and dancers, including our SIFAS teachers, students, and alumni, whose passion and artistry have brought this vision to life.

A special thank you to our entire production team and volunteers for their commitment and countless hours behind the scenes, which were instrumental in bringing this work to the stage.

Shikhandi is a testament to the transformative power of the arts: to heal, to question, and to unite. It is my hope that this performance touches your heart as profoundly as it has touched ours.

Menaka Gopalan

Executive Director, SIFAS Productions Limited

SYNOPSIS

Shikhandi, a prominent character in the Indian epic, the *Mahabharata*, embodies nonconformity, resilience and determination. Born a princess and raised as a warrior, her transformation from female to male reflects the complexities of gender, destiny, and selfhood.

This powerful *kathak* presentation reimagines the enigmatic icon as both a legend and a living metaphor. Combining the dynamic footwork, nuanced expressions and rich narrative textures of *kathak* with the sculptural precision, rhythmic complexity and emotive depth of *bharatanatyam*, the production charts Shikhandi's journey from pain to power and from silence to expression. Masculine and feminine, divine and human—dichotomies blur and intertwine, challenging binaries and revealing deeper truths.

This is not just a retelling; it is a reckoning. Who defines identity? What makes a warrior? Where does dharma lie when the world refuses to see your truth?

In *Shikhandi – The Warrior Within*, the mythic figure emerges as a timeless symbol of courage, fluidity, and self-assertion—a beacon for all who reclaim agency against rigid norms and social erasure.

(1hr 30mins, no intermission)

ABOUT GAURI DIWAKAR

Gauri Diwakar is an acclaimed *kathak* dancer and choreographer based in New Delhi, India. She was trained by eminent gurus Ms. Sumita Chowdhary, Pandit Birju Maharaj, Shri Jai Kishan Maharaj, and Ms. Aditi Mangaldas.

Gauri's production *Hari Ho....Gati Meri* (Let my Salvation be in You) was showcased at Sadler Wells as part of Darbar Festival, Sydney Dance Festival, and Edinburgh Fringe Festival, along with numerous performances across India. Her major productions include *Samratri – The Night of Divine Union*, *Dancing Emptiness*, and *Mugdha – Celebration of Beauty & Womanhood*. Her contributions as a *kathak* expert in the theatrical adaptation of *Mughal-E-Azam* and one of the segments in *Civilisation to Nation* have also been widely acclaimed. Gauri is part of the teaching faculty for the Akram Khan Company's intensive program, where she imparts *kathak* techniques to dancers.

In recognition of her artistic excellence, she was awarded Amaltas Kala Samman in 2023, Senior Fellowship from the Kalavaahini Trust, Chennai, in 2019, and Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar from India's premier cultural body, Sangeet Natak Akademi, in 2008.

She currently serves as a *kathak* guru at Kathak Kendra, an autonomous body of the Sangeet Natak Akademi under India's Ministry of Culture.



ABOUT SIFAS PRODUCTIONS LIMITED

SIFAS Productions Limited (SPL) is an innovative arts company dedicated to creating original world-class productions in dance, music, and theatre. SPL serves as a critical platform for nurturing and showcasing artistic talent, with a specific focus on celebrating cross-cultural and multi-ethnic art forms. The company's work is presented on national, regional, and international stages, driven by a mission to promote social integration, racial harmony, and cultural exchange, thereby enriching Singapore's vibrant arts ecosystem.

Through strategic collaborations with leading local and international artists, directors, producers, and arts organisations, SPL is steadily building a recognised centre of excellence. By commissioning, producing, and touring high-quality performances, they provide opportunities for both emerging and established talents to innovate, experiment, and reach diverse audiences worldwide.

Their acclaimed productions include notable works like *Human|Nature*, *Hari Hara* (premiered in *Kalakshetra, Chennai*), *Anurakti*, *Sangeetha Sagaram*, *Jewels of Jaipur*, *Trichur Brothers concert*, and *Swardhara*.

MEET THE DANCERS



Guru Jyotika Joshi as Amba

Guru Jyotika Joshi, from New Delhi, is a dedicated exponent of *kathak*. She received her training at Kathak Kendra, New Delhi (National Institute of Kathak Dance), where she began her journey under Smt. Malti Shyam (Lucknow Gharana). She completed her Diploma (Hons.) in Kathak under the guidance of Guru Rajendra Kumar Gangani, a leading exponent of the Jaipur style.

Guru Joshi is also a recipient of a merit scholarship from Kathak Kendra. She has performed extensively as a soloist and as part of group performances at major festivals across India and abroad. She is a graded artist of Doordarshan.

Guru Minhaz Khan as Shikhandi

Minhaz Khan is a distinguished *kathak* artist currently teaching at SIFAS. He holds a Visharad in *kathak* and a Diploma (Hons.) from Kathak Kendra, New Delhi. Trained by eminent gurus Pt. Rajendra Gangani and Vidushi Aditi Mangaldas, he has mastered all three major gharanas: Banaras, Jaipur, and Lucknow. From 2013 to 2022, he was the senior-most repertory member of the Aditi Mangaldas Dance Company, performing globally at prestigious venues such as Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay.





Guru P. K. Geethanadhan as Shalva

Guru P. K. Geethanadhan started learning dance at the age of five and went on to complete a First Class Diploma and Postgraduate Diploma in Bharatanatyam from The Kalakshetra Foundation, Chennai. He has performed on several prestigious international stages, including the 2009 Commonwealth Games, and in countries such as China, Japan, Singapore, and Malaysia. In India, his notable performances include The National Games, Soorya Festival, and the 125th birth anniversary celebrations of Nehru in Delhi.

Guru P. N. Vikas as Bhishma

Guru P. N. Vikas, from Kerala, is a distinguished graduate of Kalakshetra Foundation, where he received the Best Outgoing Student Award in 2004. Before joining SIFAS in 2015, he served as a principal dancer and guest faculty member at the Kalakshetra Repertory Company. He is currently the Bharatanatyam Master Tutor at SIFAS, guiding students through performances and *arangetrams* (debuts). He is a graded artist with Doordarshan and a recipient of a Central Government scholarship. His recent accolades include the Bharatha Kala Mani (2025) and the prestigious Dance Guru Award.





Guru K. H. Haritha as Amba

Guru K. H. Haritha is a highly accomplished artist who completed her training and postgraduate studies at the prestigious Kalakshetra Foundation. She performed as a principal artiste for Kalakshetra before founding her own production company, Nrittaratna. A recipient of major scholarships from the Ministry of Culture, India, she began her international teaching career in 2007. She served at SIFAS from 2015–2017 and returned in February 2022. Guru Haritha is a passionate advocate for using dance to explore contemporary themes and inspire meaningful social change.

Guru Aastha Chattaraj

Guru Aastha Chattaraj is a *kathak* dancer from Kolkata. She completed the Sangeet Visharad Final and is currently under the tutelage of Guru Vidushi Madhumita Roy. She has also studied under Padma Vibhushan Birju Maharaj. She was a Gold medalist at the state level *kathak* competition held by the government office of West Bengal in 2020, and has performed in numerous cultural shows organised by the Ministry of Culture, India.





Guru Sreeliji Sreedharan

Guru Sreeliji Sreedharan started learning *bharatanatyam* at the age of four. She holds a First Class Diploma and Post-Graduate Diploma from the Rukmini Devi College of Fine Arts, Kalakshetra, Chennai. As part of the Kalakshetra Repertory Company, Sreeliji has performed internationally in countries such as Malaysia, Japan, and Singapore, and in prestigious platforms including The National Games. She joined SIFAS in July 2015 as a *bharatanatyam* tutor and is a sought-after guru, having guided more than 10 students through their *arangetrams*.

Anjali Easwaran

Anjali Easwaran has been learning *bharatanatyam* since the age of eight, beginning under Guru Minal Merai at SIFAS. She attained her Diploma in Bharatanatyam in 2020 under Guru Shalini and continues her training under Guru K. H. Haritha. Anjali has performed in numerous SIFAS showcases and cultural productions, displaying strong technique and expressive *abhinaya*. Professionally, she holds a Bachelor's degree in Business from Nanyang Technological University (2021) and a Professional Diploma in Software Engineering (2023), balancing her artistic passion with her career as a marketer-turned-software engineer.





Anuja Varaprasad

Anuja has studied *bharatanatyam* at SIFAS for over 30 years, completing her Diploma and *arangetram* (2005/2006) under Shri V. Balagurunathan. She continues her advanced training with Guru P. N. Vikas. A prolific performer, she was featured in *Human Nature* (as part of Esplanade's *Raga* series in 2023) and presented her solo performance *Prayatna* during the SIFAS Festival of the Arts in 2024. Anuja is a medical speech therapist and mother of two, delicately balancing between her artistic passion with her professional and family life.

Ananya Nallapuraju

Ananya has been learning *bharatanatyam* under Guru Sitaravamma Sandrasegaran (Kalapeetham and SIFAS) since the age of five, and completed her *arangetram* under Guru Sita in July 2025. She has participated in numerous temple performances and SIFAS events, including the SIFAS Festival of Arts 2023, NUS Arts Festival 2025, and the SIFAS 75th Anniversary Jubilee Dinner in March 2025. Ananya is currently a second-year medical student at the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, NUS.





Arundhathi Vijayakrishnan

Arundhathi began her *kathak* journey in 2013 under Guru Jyotika Joshi at SIFAS. She trained under Guru Mulla Afsar Khan for over nine years and currently trains under Guru Minhaz Khan. She completed Grade 8 and graduated with a Diploma in Kathak in 2023. On June 15, 2025, she accomplished her Manch Pravesh (debut solo performance). Arundhathi has also been learning ballet since 2012, enriching her understanding of diverse dance forms.

Dhivya Rajaram

Dhivya Rajaram began her *kathak* journey at SIFAS in 2018 under Guru Nivedieta Joshii, later continuing under Guru Minhaz Khan. She recently completed her Diploma in Kathak and was awarded the Natya Visharad title in 2025, alongside the Best Student award in her sixth year. Dhivya has performed in numerous SIFAS productions, including *Students' Night and Academy Day 2024*, and was featured in *Kalaa Utsavam 2024* in *Katha Kahe So Kathak*. She also holds a Diploma in Bharatanatyam from SIFAS.





Eashaa Pillai

Eashaa has been learning *bharatanatyam* for 11 years, eight of which were spent at SIFAS under the tutelage of Guru Sreeliji Sreedharan and Guru P. N. Vikas. She successfully completed her Bharatanatyam Diploma in 2024, and the prestigious Natya Visharad title that same year. She also received the Best Student Award in 2021. Her performance credits include appearances at the Indian Heritage Centre, various award festivals, SIFAS student night events, and television broadcasts on Vasantham. Most recently, she performed for Navarathri and Deepavali celebrations, including SINDA's Project Give. She is currently preparing for her *arangetram* under Guru P N Vikas.

Gopikka N L

Gopikka N. L. embarked on her *bharatanatyam* journey at the age of six under Guru Minal Merai at the SIFAS. She continued her training under Guru Sakitha Jinoranjana and is currently studying under Guru Sreeliji Sreedharan. In 2018, she completed her Diploma and was awarded the prestigious Natya Visharadh title. She completed her *arangetram* in 2023 under Guru Sreeliji and recently performed with SIFAS Productions in Chennai in the production *HariHara*.





Kashish Singhal

Kashish began her *kathak* journey at SIFAS in 2015, earning the prestigious Natya Visharad award in 2023 at the age of 14. She has performed on esteemed stages such as the Esplanade and has been recognised in the Singapore Book of Records. In 2024, she conceptualised her debut solo production, *Ashtanayika – The Eight Heroines*, and currently leads the youth initiative Bandish Beats Productions.

Samala D/O Selva Ram

Samala started learning *kathak* at SIFAS in 2018 under Guru Nivedita Joshi, and currently trains under Guru Minhaz Khan. She completed her Diploma in Kathak, earning the Natya Visharad title in 2025, and Best Student title in 2023. Samala has performed in various SIFAS productions including their performance at *Kalaa Utsavam 2024*. She also studies *bharathanatyam* under Guru Sreeliji Sreedharan and *tabla* under Guru Mihir Kundu, and is Co-director and Choreographer of Sha'z School Of Dance Pte. Ltd.





Vismaya Dinesh

Vismaya Dinesh has been immersed in *bharatanatyam* for over 15 years. She began at SIFAS under Guru Roopika Julian, later training under Guru Ramya Verangat Krishnan and Guru K. H. Haritha, and currently studies with Guru Sreeliji Arun. She completed her Diploma in 2021 and performed her arangetram in 2023 at the Melpathoor Auditorium, Guruvayoor Temple. Vismaya was in *HariHara*, an international SIFAS production in Chennai. While pursuing an Honours degree in Economics and Finance, she continues to perform widely across Singapore, including at the Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay.

MEET THE CREATIVES



Dr. Sridhar Vasudevan: Dancer, Musician, and Scholar

Dr. Sridhar Vasudevan is a distinguished artist and scholar celebrated for his mastery of dance and music. An accomplished *bharatanatyam* dancer, he trained for over a decade under the legendary Guru Dr. Vyjayantimala Bali. He also holds a Doctorate (PhD) in Karnatak Music. Known for his ability to sing while performing *abhinaya* (emotive expression), he seamlessly blends his deep music scholarship with expressive dance. Trained additionally in *kathakali* and *chhau*, Dr. Vasudevan is the founder of the HAMSINI Center, where he actively mentors dancers and musicians from across the globe. He is a Top Grade Artist with Doordarshan and an Empanelled Artist with ICCR. His numerous accolades include the prestigious Narthaka Award 2025.

Sami Ullah Khan

Sami Ullah Khan hails from the illustrious Kirana Gharana and represents its ninth generation. Trained under his father and guru, the late Ustad Hafizullah Khan Sahab, he continues the rich legacy of his forefathers, including the legendary Ustad Abdul Waheed Khan Sahab and Ustad Abdul Karim Khan Sahab. He has accompanied many artists all over the globe.



THE PRODUCTION TEAM



Menaka Gopalan
Executive Director

Menaka Gopalan is the Executive Director of SIFAS Productions Ltd (SPL) and a renowned international artist, curator, and creative director. Her extensive multidisciplinary background spans visual arts, theatre, film, graphic design, and interior design. She holds a BA from Ursinus College and an MFA from the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. Before returning to Singapore, she exhibited across the US and worked at the University of Pennsylvania. In Singapore, she oversaw the establishment of the Indian Heritage Centre and other major initiatives for the National Heritage Board.

Since joining SIFAS in 2018 and SPL in 2025, Menaka has led its artistic vision and programming, creating original, large-scale multidisciplinary productions such as *Human | Nature and Harihara*. These innovative works blend tradition with contemporary themes, enhancing cross-cultural dialogue and expanding the appreciation of Indian classical arts in Singapore.

Guru is a dynamic, results-oriented professional with over 12 years of extensive experience in event and production management, operations, and high-level client services. He has proven expertise in orchestrating high-impact events, managing all technical, logistical, and operational aspects from concept design to flawless execution. Adept at enhancing client relations and managing complex projects, he demonstrates exceptional organisational and team management skills. Guru is committed to maintaining the highest standards of professionalism and integrity. He joined SIFAS Productions Ltd in April 2024, bringing his considerable mastery in production and operations to world-class artistic ventures.



Guruparan Rountan
Production Manager



Dhaveena Guna Segar
Artist Manager

Trained in Materials Science Engineering, Dhaveena joined SIFAS in 2024 and SIFAS Productions Limited (SPL) in 2025 as part of the Programmes team, where she discovered her creative voice. Working in a collaborative and nurturing environment among talented creatives, she has developed expertise in marketing, branding and programme management. From coordinating logistics and marketing for a three-week arts festival to overseeing SIFAS communications and digital platforms, she brings precision and purpose to every project. With a keen eye for detail, she ensures that visual assets for major events such as the SIFAS Gala Dinner and Academy Day remain on-brand and reflective of the organisation's artistic identity.

Radhika Venkatramani is a Programmes and Productions Executive at SIFAS, known for her professionalism and creativity in managing diverse responsibilities. After interning with SIFAS in 2023, she joined them full-time a year later and has since contributed significantly to major events and productions.

Her key milestones this year include delivering SIFAS' Diamond Jubilee Commemorative and Fundraising Dinner and their premiere international production, *The Universal Balance, HariHara*, staged at Kalakshetra, Chennai. With a Diploma in Communication Design and a Bachelor's in Web Communication, Radhika also specialises in design and video editing, contributing to impactful brand campaigns for SIFAS' key events.



Radhika Venkatramani
Artist Manager



**Prakash
Rajamanickam**
Production Crew

Prakash holds a Bachelor of Arts in Hospitality, Tourism Management and Events, along with a Diploma in Events Management. Actively involved in Singapore's arts scene since 2013, he has performed in numerous television shows, competitions, and wedding events. His achievements include entries in the 2017 Singapore Book of Records for the longest tamil dance theatre, *Hastinapuram*, with a four-hour runtime, and the 2021 Lincoln Book of Records for participating in over 90 arts and cultural events. Joining SIFAS as an admin executive in 2025, Prakash brings strong passion and professionalism to his work in production and programme management, contributing significantly to the organisation with dedication and enthusiasm.

PRODUCTION CREDITS

Lighting Designer

Kalaarasan K

Research

Gauri Diwakar

Ashwin Nagpal

Aazad

Accompanying Musicians

Tabla – Nishit Gangani

Pakahawaj – Ashish Gangani

Mridangam – Vignesh Jayraman

Sarangi – Amir Khan

Sitar – Umashankar Singh

Flute – Atul Shankar

Violin – G Uma

Padhant and voice over – Ridhima Bagga and Aryav Anand

Music Production & Recording Studio

Neelam recordings

Costume & Jewellery

Gauri Diwarkar

Sandhya Raman (Kathak)

Haritha Haridas (Bharatanatyam)

Volunteers & Production Team

Loggadeban Gobinathan

Thilagavani D/O Sugumaran

Karuneshwari D/O Ntthiyanandam

SIFAS Alumni Volunteers

esplanade

da:ns focus
Contemporary Dance

"If you see only one live performance
this year... NDT is the one to see."

- The New York Times



NDT 2

Nederlands Dans Theater in Singapore

29 & 30 Nov 2025
Sat, 8pm | Sun, 5pm
Esplanade Theatre

Nederlands Dans Theater (NDT 2) make their long-awaited Singapore return,
bringing the works of three exciting creative voices in contemporary dance.
2hrs 10mins, including 2 x 20mins intermission

\$50*, \$80*^, \$100^

*Limited concessions available

^Esplanade&Me specials available

Join for free at esplanade.com/membership

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FIT

by Alexander Ekman

Watch Ur Mouth

by Botis Seva

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"Be treated to a street dance extravaganza..."
– The Straits Times

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2025

featuring

CDK Company • JINJO Crew

kirameki☆glitter • KITA

(Various countries)

12 & 13 Dec 2025, Fri & Sat, 8pm
Esplanade Theatre

Go **FULL OUT!** in this electrifying street dance showcase, featuring trailblazing dance crews from The Netherlands, South Korea, Japan and Singapore!
(1hr 15mins, no intermission)

\$45, \$65^

Limited concessions available.

^Esplanade&Me specials available

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 **esplanade**

da:ns focus

FL/OW (The FULL OUT Weekend)

'Prepare to be amazed, prepare to be enthralled and prepare to never look at your bike or skates the same way again!'

— The Reviews Hub



by

ISH Dance Collective

(The Netherlands)

13 & 14 Dec 2025

Sat, 8pm | Sun, 4pm

Singtel Waterfront Theatre at Esplanade

Dance and extreme sports collide in this spectacularly thrilling production combining dance with breaking, skateboarding, inline skating, freestyle basketball, BMX Flatland and parkour.

1hr, no intermission

Advisory: This performance features loud music, strobe lighting effects and extreme sports stunts performed by trained professionals.

\$55^A

Limited concessions available

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ADAPTED BY TOM WELLS

With additional material by Jenny Worton

TM2025 RDSC

From 22 Apr 2026
Esplanade Theatre

From \$48

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TELL US

WHAT YOU THINK!

Help us make your next Esplanade experience even better by taking a moment to share your thoughts with us.

We look forward to creating more wonderful memories with you soon.

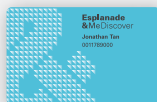
Scan and do the survey now!



The Arts & You

Your access to the arts starts with *Esplanade&Me*

- Up to 20% savings on tickets and priority bookings and early bird specials to festival and events at Esplanade
- Up to 20% savings on retail and dining specials at Esplanade Mall and partners
- Exclusive invitations to events, workshops and tours
- Member referral incentives, Birthday privileges and more!
- Check in at any of our free programmes, PIP's PLAYbox and Jendela for rewards



Free to join



Free upgrade when
you spend \$500



Free upgrade when
you spend \$1000



Free for kids
12 years & under



Free for ages
17 to 26 years



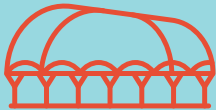
Free for ages
55 & above



Not a member yet? Join at
esplanade.com/membership

Esplanade gives our heartfelt thanks

*to our Esplanade partner, arts benefactor, donors and sponsors for believing in our vision to be a performing arts centre for everyone. They made all these possible!**



4.3K

activities took place at Esplanade.



70% Free



30% Paid



3.75M

people attended our live and online activities.



670
Activities

17.1K
Participants

We believe that everyone should be able to experience the joy of the arts, including children, youth, seniors, migrant workers and individuals with special needs. Our community engagement activities bring the arts to those in need.

Free

93%

of surveyed audiences were satisfied with their Esplanade experience.

Paid

66%

reported a positive impact on quality of life and wellbeing.

*Figures for Esplanade's activities from Apr 2024 to Mar 2025.



Your contribution* will make a difference.

On behalf of the communities we serve, thank you!

Find out how you too can make a difference through the arts at Esplanade.

Donate at www.esplanade.com/donate

To find out more, email us at donations@esplanade.com or speak with us at 6828 8321.

Esplanade is a charity and an Institution of a Public Character. Your donation to us is matched dollar-for-dollar by the Cultural Matching Fund. Please note that the prevailing tax exemption scheme for donors and sponsors of Arts-Related Businesses will depend on the qualifying criteria imposed by IRAS.

With Gratitude

Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay is a charity, a not-for-profit organisation and Singapore's national performing arts centre.

We seek to entertain, engage, educate and inspire through the arts. We thank everyone who has helped us bring positive impact to Singaporeans by supporting the arts and Esplanade.

Our heartfelt appreciation goes especially to our Donors and Sponsors, for their steadfast belief in our mission and for their generous contributions.

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The above are donors and sponsors who contributed \$1000 and above from April 2024 – March 2025.

Join us in sharing the joy of the arts and help us reach more communities in need.

We believe that an experience with the arts is special and that with your generous support, more people will get a chance to enjoy the arts. Join us in sharing the joy of the arts and help us reach more communities in need.



Esplanade also receives grants from the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, as well as support for our Community Programmes from the Tote Board Family, comprising Tote Board, Singapore Pools and Singapore Turf Club.



Gift

Imagination, empathy, creativity—the arts both embody and inspire these human qualities that help us make a better society.

a

Your donation opens up opportunities for the young to experience and be inspired by the arts. It also supports the aspirations of emerging Singapore artists to create and express their vision for the future.



Seat

esplanade.com/giftaseat

In appreciation of your donation:

Seat plaque acknowledgement
for the next ten years

Exclusive E&Me
Black Card benefits

Acknowledgement on
donors' wall in Esplanade

Full tax deduction
of donation amount



“

I could just scroll through IG or TikTok but I thought why should I when I can do the same on Offstage? It makes me feel like I know more things. Great arts content, anytime, anywhere. Highly recommend.

”

Totally Anonymous Person
(who is not related to esplanade.com/offstage)





MALABAR
GOLD & DIAMONDS



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Chettyrnad, Andhra & Nthorh Cusine



#EsplanadeSG #WonderHere