

Looking for the Invisible – The ‘Abstract’ in South Asian Arts
Akademi Symposium
In collaboration with The Place
Saturday 25th February 2012, 2-6pm

2.00pm-2.30pm Registration, The Place foyer.

Refreshments are available in the bar area where there will be abstract artworks kindly donated by The Noble Sage gallery. The Theatre will open at 2.20pm.

2.30pm Setting the Scene

- *Welcome from Akademi Trustee Richard Blurton*
- *Sangeeta Bahadur (Director at the Nehru Centre) inaugurating on behalf of the Indian Council of Cultural Relations and Nehru Centre*
- *Chair Professor Chris Bannerman- Introduction*

- **Key Note speech**

3.10pm Inside looking Out

*With **Sadanand Menon, Anita Ratnam, Alaknanda Samarth, Sheba ChhaChhi***

4.10-4.25pm Break

Refreshments served at the bar

*Alaknanda Samarth’s film **KUNTI** will play in the break*

4.40pm Outside looking In

*With **Sonia Sabri, Shobana Jeyasingh, Tim Supple, Gautam Malkani***

5.45pm Summary

- *Close of events from the Chair*
- *Chitra Sundaram summary*

6.00pm End of Symposium

Bar/café open for networking/refreshments. Guests may choose to have dinner in café etc.

8.00pm Aakash Odedra ‘Rising’

Aakash Odedra performs in the Robin Howard Dance Theatre. Tickets available from The Place box office.

Akademi would like to extend special thanks to Director Eddie Nixon and the team at The Place for helping us make 'Looking for the Invisible' a reality.

We would also like to thank Sangeeta Bahadur and her team at the Nehru Centre, Surina Narula and the Gainsborough Hotel for their sponsorship of this event.

With special thanks to Jana P. Manuelpillai, Director of The Noble Sage Art Gallery www.thenoblesage.com for kindly lending us the artwork you see here today.

Akademi would also like to thank The Indian Centre for Cultural Relations, the Indian High Commission and the Arts Council of England for their continued support.

Akademi would like to thank the following individuals and organisations for their support in promoting 'Looking for the Invisible':

Amy Briggs and Tara Arts, Willow Williams and The National Portrait Gallery, Beth O'Connor and Rich Mix, Sumi Ghosh and Asia House, Divya Mathur and Neelum Singh at the Nehru centre, Dr Avanthi Meduri and Dr Stacey Prickett of Roehampton University, Bhavit Mehta and DSC South Asian Literature Festival, Cary Sawhney and the London Indian Film Festival, The Asian Performing Arts Foundation, The Society for Dance Research, Dr Daya Thussu from Westminster University, Nilima Devi and CICD, Rowena Price and South East Dance, Helena Miscioscia and Stratford Circus, Eleanor Sier and The Phoenix Cinema, The Sonia Sabri Company and Alexis Stevens from Dance UK.

