

# SOUTHBANK CENTRE

Sunday 29 September 2019, 6.30pm  
Purcell Room at Queen Elizabeth Hall

## Descendants

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### 1. Silhouette | The Borderline

**Gauri Sharma Tripathi and Ashley Lobo, ANKH Dance**  
*Silhouette – The Borderline* explores the multiple challenges women face in reaching and crossing borders. The language of Kathak lends itself to a contemporary mindset, exploring both the limitations we find installed around us, and those we impose on ourselves.

#### Credits

**Choreography:** Gauri Sharma Tripathi and Ashley Lobo

**Dancers:** Shivani Sethia, Seema Patel, Jesal Patel, Tarini Tripathi and Saloni Saraf

**Dramaturg:** Lou Cope

**Musicians:** Niraj Chag

**Special thanks to:** Hiren Raghunath Chate

*Supported by Arts Council England, Navdhara and New Dimension Arts*

#### Gauri Sharma Tripathi

Gauri Sharma Tripathi trained in Kathak, under the guidance of her Guru and mother, Padma Sharma. With her company, Amara Nritya Kala Hansa and ANKH Dance UK, she produces events like *Dancing under the skies*, *Kathak Stanzas* and *Kathak Collective*. The repertory of ANKH strives to bridge traditional and new.

#### Ashley Lobo

Ashley Lobo has over 35 years of performing, choreographing, and teaching. He is the Founder and Artistic Director of *The Danceworx*, and Artistic Director of *Navdhara India Dance Theatre*. Ashley is renowned for his *Prana Paint™* technique, a sensitising approach that explores movement through yoga, breath, connectivity and touch.

### 2. Spill

**Sonia Sabri, Sonia Sabri Dance Company**

*Spill* is a determination to break free from one's psychological imprisonment built through conforming to society's idealistic and narrow perception of existence. Inspired by Sufi philosophy and religious ritual, Sonia Sabri extended the intricate language of Kathak dance creating her unique stamp to express the yearnings of the soul. Celebrating the human body as a visual and aural instrument, she pushes forward the capacity of its physical and emotional expression.

#### Credits

**Choreography and performance:** Sonia Sabri

**Composer and Musical Director:** Sarvar Sabri

**Original Lighting Design:** Prema Mehta

**Costume Design:** Sonia Sabri

**Costume Maker:** Harpreet Kundi

**Recorded musicians:**

**Vocals:** Berty Dormay, Adama Khouma and Sarvar Sabri

**Nay:** E. Imam

**Artistic Consultant:** Nikky Smedley

#### Sonia Sabri

Sonia Sabri is a multi award-winning dance artist and choreographer. She is the UK's leading Kathak dancer, amongst the brightest and most inspirational of British born dancer-choreographers working in the twenty-first century. Creating work that spans from the presentation of classical roots of Kathak to explorations of contemporary approaches, her productions reflect an appreciation of Western and Eastern cultures. She has created a fresh, unique style of Kathak by reinventing it from within, by pushing boundaries and generating work that is original in concept and exciting and relevant to today's audiences. As a dance artist, she is acclaimed for her enchanting stage presence, grace and musicality that enthrall audiences both nationally and globally.

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## 3. Eve Rising

**Mayuri Booham, ATMA Dance**

Eve Rising, a solo choreographed by Mayuri Boonham, is a tribute to the courage and power of women. Understated dance pairs with sublime post-minimalist music to shine a new creative light on the expressive vocabulary of Bharatanatyam.

### Credits

**Choreography:** Mayuri Boonham

**Dancer:** Archana Ballal

**Musicians:** Apple Blossom, Peter Garland, Simon Arriola, Aidan Hammond, Alex Henshaw and Andrew Woolcock, from the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire.

**Music Rehearsal Director:** Jason Huxtable

Eve Rising was originally commissioned for BBC Young Dancer Grand Finals 2019.

### Mayuri Boonham

ATMA Dance is a South Asian company founded in 2009. It is led by Mayuri Boonham, a choreographer and Bharatanatyam dancer with 21 years professional experience. Boonham trained under Prakash Yadagudde, The Bhavan, London. She works with multi-skilled performers and artists to create cross-disciplinary work that has a truly omni-cultural appeal for a variety of settings and audiences. Organisations to commission her work include the Royal Ballet; Royal Opera; Channel 4; BBC; British Council India; GemArts; The Place and Pavilion Dance South West.

### About Akademi

Akademi is the UK's leading South Asian Dance organisation that exists to develop artists, inspire audiences and change lives by creating, commissioning and nurturing classical, contemporary, popular and participatory South Asian dance in the UK.

### Acknowledgements and staff

**Producer:** Nina Head

**Host trustee:** Adam Pushkin

**Lighting Designer:** Jai Morjaria

**Technical Manager:** Daniel Toorie

**Press and PR:** Martha Oakes and Sue Lancashire

**Special Thanks to:** Madani Younis, Jan De Schynkel, Rupert Thomson, Helen Keen, Sarah Clark, Alexandra Shaw.

### Akademi team

Mira Kaushik OBE, Kirsten Burrows, Antareepa Thakur, Christina Christou, Sydney Rae, Claire Farmer, Rohanne Udall, Apollonia Bauer, Catherine Ibbotson and Abanti Banerjee.

[www.akademi.co.uk](http://www.akademi.co.uk)

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