

SOUTHBANK CENTRE PRESENTS

CHOREOGATA

PART OF ALCHEMY 2011

Purcell Room at Queen Elizabeth Hall
7pm, Sunday 24 April

Programme

Akademi presents a brand new platform *Choreogata* which has supported the development of four emerging choreographers: Ankur Bahl, Kamala Devam, Anusha Kedhar and Revanta Sarabhai, who have been mentored by Shobana Jeyasingh. During their involvement on this programme, the choreographers have received workshop training, rehearsal and technical resources, sharing opportunities and feedback sessions. This evening we present their fresh and provocative choreography.

Choreogata Production Team

Project Manager Lydia Fraser-Ward

Lighting Design and Production Management
Azusa Ono

Stage Manager Sam Bennellick Jones

Programme Mentor Shobana Jeyasingh

Akademi would like to thank Watermans, Rich Mix and Barclays Wealth for their kind support of this programme.

Credits

The Dancer in Me

Choreographed and performed by Revanta Sarabhai

Music composition & arrangement Stanley Stephen and Revanta Sarabhai

Razor's Edge

Choreographed and performed by Anusha Kedhar

Music composition and performance
Dushyant Viswanathan (veena), Seth Michaels (drums)

Costume design Montserrat Fabregas

Sound Engineering Les Mommsen

Thanks Gwyn Emberton, Johanna Devi, Robin Storey, Kamala Devam, Subathra Subramaniam

The Writer

Choreographed and performed by Ankur Bahl

The Search Within

Choreographed and performed by Revanta Sarabhai with guidance from D. Padmakumar
Music composition Nehal Roy

Fretless

Choreographed and performed by Kamala Devam

The Dancer in Me

Based on a poem by legendary dancer Mrinalini Sarabhai, *The Dancer in Me* attempts to juxtapose movement and poetry to celebrate the exuberance of dance itself. Revanta is an independent performer, choreographer, multimedia designer and filmmaker, currently pursuing an MA at Roehampton University. Having made his solo classical dance debut at age 8, he has been performing professionally and touring internationally with the Darpana Performance Group since 1999. Revanta has been showcased at venues and festivals across Asia, Europe, and North America.

Razor's Edge

Razor's Edge takes the notion of balance in our everyday lives, both physical and psychological, as its starting point and the cost at which that perfect balance is achieved. Combining text and dance, the work is an exploration of the way in which movement speaks and words move us. Anusha trained in Bharatanatyam. She was an artist-in-residence at University of California in 2007 and a Fulbright Scholar to India in 2008. Anusha has performed for Angika, Sadhana and Atma and is finishing a PhD in Critical Dance Studies.

The Writer

The Writer is a piece of dance theatre that incorporates text, dance and fruit. A coming-of-age romantic relationship explored through the eyes of an inexperienced lover using love letters received during a break-up. The affair is marked by phases of searching, indulgence and anxious regret. Through this process Ankur has overcome his insecurity about creating work that is slightly autobiographical - at least, he thinks he has... Ankur Bahl grew up studying Bharatanatyam and later trained in Contemporary dance at CAFEDANSE, The London Contemporary Dance School and the Ailey School. Ankur has performed for DV8, Shobana Jeyasingh Dance Company, National Dance Company Wales, Rifco Arts and Tara Arts. He has been the recipient of the Fulbright and Marshall Scholarships and *The Writer* is Ankur's first choreography.

INTERVAL

The Search Within

This fast and energetic piece follows the personal journey of a self motivated individual. A personal tribute to the story of Eklavya from the Mahabharata, *The Search Within* uses movements derived from the ancient South Indian martial-arts form Kalaripayattu and explores being lonely and the source of energy that keeps us going.

FretLess -

FretLess is dedicated to the memory of Rashpal Singh Bansal, Kamala's friend and a talented choreographer who died in August 2009. Raised in San Francisco, Kamala trained in Bharatanatyam for 12 years under Kalakshetra graduates Katherine and K.P. Kunhiraman and received a degree in Contemporary dance at San Francisco State University. She has performed professionally in Malaysia, India, USA and Mexico. In the UK, Kamala has performed with Shobana Jeyasingh Dance Company, Sankalpam, Sadhana and ENO.

Movement in final section: 'Anything But Exotic', choreography by Rashpal Singh Bansal, 2007

3rd track original music composition Benjamin Henry Edwards, assisted by Kamala Devam

Original Lighting Design Angela Anson, Re-light: Azusa Ono

Vocal Recording/Sound Engineering Les Mommsen, *Vocals*: Kamala Devam

Thanks Bernie Grant Arts Centre, The Place and Daniel Hernandez for space and support