



**Prakriti  
Foundation**

**The Park's New Festival  
(2015)**

## **About The Park's New Festival 2015**

The Prakriti Foundation and The Park Hotels, have creativity and innovation ingrained in our collective DNA and we draw from myriad cultural and global influences to create a landscape that is illustrative of contemporary India. The Park's New Festival, curated by Prakriti Foundation, is a platform to showcase Indian and International artistes of both classical and experimental art genres. The festival presents a, exemplary line-up of artists and an amalgamation of classical and contemporary dance, music, theatre, literature and more! A pioneer in this space, The Park's New Festival is India's only private national performing arts festival.

The artists performing in the festival present their art pieces in 6 cities around the country – at Chennai, Bangalore, Mumbai, Kolkata, Delhi and Hyderabad. The festival is a means of looking at the performing arts from a fresh perspective and understanding their very essence. The meticulously curated list of artists are great ambassadors of their respective arts forms and present resplendent performances, enthralling audiences across all 6 cities.

In the last eight years, we have presented stellar performances by artists of global repute, such as Shankar Tucker, D'Lo, Maya Krishna Rao, Dr. Mallika Sarabhai, Vayu Naidu Company (U.K.), Preethi Athreya, Dr. Rekha Tandon (Bhubaneswar), Ramu Ramanathan, Probal Gupta, H.R. Britton (U.S.A), Ben Riepe (Germany), Padmini Chettur, Zuleikha Allana, Jaimini Pathak, Anusha Lall, Vidur Kapur, Park Hong Ki (Korea), Avant Garde Dance Company (U.K.), Azeem Banatwalla, Filter Coffee and Jyoti Dogra, among others.

This year, we continue to unveil artists who have carved a niche for themselves and their respective art forms across the globe. Our powerful line-up for the ninth edition of the festival encompasses – a Kathak and Flamenco fusion in 'TOROBAKA', by renowned dancers Akram Khan and Israel Galvan; 'EnFlightenment', a devised piece of physical comedy by Rupesh Tillu; 'The Colliding World's Project', a 90-minute musical journey by Aditya Prakash Ensemble, the Los Angeles based music group and the book launch of 'Until the Lions', written by Karthika Nair.

The festival also featured workshops and lectures conducted by Akram Khan in all 6 cities where he is performing. These workshops were conducted in collaboration with Kalakshetra, Rhythmosaic, The Danceworx, Annapurna Studios, Attakkalari Centre and Terence Lewis Inc.



## **Schedule**

### **Chennai:**

#### ***Until the Lions – Book Launch***

Synopsis: Book Launch of author Karthika Nair’s latest work, ‘Until The Lions: Echoes from the Mahabharata’, a retelling of the Indian epic, Mahabharata, through multiple voices. This collection of poems captures the epic through the lenses of nameless soldiers, outcast warriors and handmaidens and also abducted princesses, tribal queens and a gender-shifting God. As peripheral figures and silent catalysts take center stage, we get a glimpse of the lives and stories that get buried beneath the edifices of God and nation, heroes and victory - of the price paid for myth and history, all too often interchangeable. The launch at Chennai featured an engaging conversation regarding the book between Karthika and noted Indian writer, Sharanya Manivannan.

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2015

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Alliance Francaise of Madras, Library

#### ***AP Ensemble – The Colliding Worlds Project***

Synopsis: Performance by an ensemble of artists – Aditya Prakash on vocals; Julian Le on Piano; Jonah Levine on Trombone and Piano; Jake Jamieson on Drums; Mahesh Swamy on Flute, Morsing and *Kannakol*; and Praveen Kumar on Percussion.

The Colliding Worlds Project is a 90-minute musical journey, which engages the viewer in an exciting musical dialogue between Indian classical and folk, jazz and hip-hop. AP Ensemble features refreshingly contemporary arrangements of classical compositions, bhajans and Bollywood classics, along with original compositions interwoven with thrilling improvisational exchanges. With the increasing cross-cultural influences between the South Asian (particularly Bollywood music) and American (particularly jazz and hip-hop) diaspora, there has been a growing interest in audiences of both countries to witness an amalgamation of both types of music. However, the exposure to authentic jazz and hip-hop musicians, who have been trained by master artists is quite minimal in India. This performance was a wonderful opportunity for audiences to witness the distinct, dynamic and unified soundscape of the ensemble, ushering in of a new era of musical collaboration between the East and the West.

Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2015

Time: 8.00 pm

Venue: Sansara Hall, The Park Chennai

### ***EnFlightenment by Rupesh Tillu***

Synopsis: A one-man show with twenty characters, taking viewers on a roller coaster ride of cathartic moments, in a duration of seventy-five minutes. The viewers followed Mr. R on a journey around the world, in search of himself. Questions such as 'what is a 'self?', 'Are you in control of your own life?', 'Or are you just a building block in a system?', 'who is really running the world?', 'Are the Gods capable of giving Mr. R an answer?' are dealt with in the performance. Based on performer Rupesh Tillu's self-experienced stories, viewers follow Mr. R crossing borders, into the most inner space of a prison cell, deep down under water to meet the world of the subconscious and out in space to defy the gravity of patterns. A allegoric physical comedy comprising miming, magic, movement and music, inspired from the true events of Tillu's flight odyssey in the past 10 years of four continents; the performance induces the viewers to draw their own conclusions to the aforementioned questions.

Performed by Rupesh Tillu, directed by Ulf Evren, Music by Karthik Ramaswamy (Onstage musician), Devised by Rupesh Tillu & Ulf Evren and Light design by Asmit Pathare.

Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2015

Time: 8.00 pm

Venue: Sansara Hall, The Park Chennai

### ***Torobaka***

Synopsis: A duet performance by Akram Khan and Israel Galvan, Torobaka is a beautifully put together fusion between two seemingly different dance forms – the Indian Kathak and the Spanish Flamenco – which has crossed all frontiers to merge together and bring out the best of two cultures, geographically far apart. Akram and Israel blend their respective dancing styles to deliver a performance meant to serve as a means of understanding dance. Inspired by Toto-cava, a Maori based phonetic poem by Trista Tzara, Torokaba literally stands for the bull (*toro*) and cow (*vaca*), sacred animals in the dancers' respective traditions, both united in an unconstrained Dadaist poem. For



Akram and Israel, the essence of Torobaka is dancing without compromise, where every part of the body is expressive, movements are read and they have a function. This seamless amalgamation of functional movements is meant to be simultaneously perceived by the audience as art.

Created and Performed by Israel Galvan and Akram Khan, Music Arranged and Performed by David Azurza, B C Manjunath, Bernhard Schimpelsberger, Bobote and Christine Leboutte, Lighting Designer - Michael Hulls, Costume Designer - Kimie Nakano, Sound by Pedro Leon, Rehearsal Director - Jose Agudo, Production Coordinator - Amapola Lopez, Production Manager - Sander Loonen, Technical Coordinator - Pablo Pujol, Lighting by Stephane Dejourns, Tour Manager - Amapola Lopez, Produced by Farooq Chaudhry & Bia Oliveira (Khan Chaudhry Productions) and Chema Blanco & Cisco Casado (A Negro Producciones).

Date: 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2015

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Sir Muthu Venkata Subbarao Auditorium, Chennai

### **Hyderabad:**

#### ***AP Ensemble – The Colliding Worlds Project***

Synopsis: Performance by an ensemble of artists – Aditya Prakash on vocals; Julian Le on Piano; Jonah Levine on Trombone and Piano; Jake Jamieson on Drums; Mahesh Swamy on Flute, Morsing and *Kannakol*; and Praveen Kumar on Percussion.

The Colliding Worlds Project is a 90-minute musical journey, which engages the viewer in an exciting musical dialogue between Indian classical and folk, jazz and hip-hop. AP Ensemble features refreshingly contemporary arrangements of classical compositions, bhajans and Bollywood classics, along with original compositions interwoven with thrilling improvisational exchanges. With the increasing cross-cultural influences between the South Asian (particularly Bollywood music) and American (particularly jazz and hip-hop) diaspora, there has been a growing interest in audiences of both countries to witness an amalgamation of both types of music. However, the exposure to authentic jazz and hip-hop musicians, who have been trained by master artists is quite minimal in India. This performance was a wonderful opportunity for audiences to witness the distinct, dynamic and unified soundscape of the ensemble, ushering in of a new era of musical collaboration between the East and the West.

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2015

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: ODC, The Park Hyderabad

### ***EnFlightenment by Rupesh Tillu***

Synopsis: A one-man show with twenty characters, taking viewers on a roller coaster ride of cathartic moments, in a duration of seventy-five minutes. The viewers followed Mr. R on a journey around the world, in search of himself. Questions such as 'what is a 'self?', 'Are you in control of your own life?', 'Or are you just a building block in a system?', 'who is really running the world?', 'Are the Gods capable of giving Mr. R an answer?' are dealt with in the performance. Based on performer Rupesh Tillu's self-experienced stories, viewers follow Mr. R crossing borders, into the most inner space of a prison cell, deep down under water to meet the world of the subconscious and out in space to defy the gravity of patterns. A allegoric physical comedy comprising miming, magic, movement and music, inspired from the true events of Tillu's flight odyssey in the past 10 years of four continents; the performance induces the viewers to draw their own conclusions to the aforementioned questions.

Performed by Rupesh Tillu, directed by Ulf Evren, Music by Karthik Ramaswamy (Onstage musician), Devised by Rupesh Tillu & Ulf Evren and Light design by Asmit Pathare.

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2015

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: ODC, The Park Hyderabad

### ***Torobaka***

Synopsis: A duet performance by Akram Khan and Israel Galvan, Torobaka is a beautifully put together fusion between two seemingly different dance forms – the Indian Kathak and the Spanish Flamenco – which has crossed all frontiers to merge together and bring out the best of two cultures, geographically far apart. Akram and Israel blend their respective dancing styles to deliver a performance meant to serve as a means of understanding dance. Inspired by Toto-cava, a Maori based phonetic poem by Trista Tzara, Torokaba literally stands for the bull (*toro*) and cow (*vaca*), sacred animals in the dancers' respective traditions, both united in an unconstrained Dadaist poem. For Akram and Israel, the essence of Torobaka is dancing without compromise, where every



part of the body is expressive, movements are read and they have a function. This seamless amalgamation of functional movements is meant to be simultaneously perceived by the audience as art.

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Date: 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2015

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Shilpa Kala Vedika, Hyderabad

### ***Until the Lions – Book Launch***

Synopsis: Book Launch of author Karthika Nair's latest work, 'Until The Lions: Echoes from the Mahabharata', a retelling of the Indian epic, Mahabharata, through multiple voices. This collection of poems captures the epic through the lenses of nameless soldiers, outcast warriors and handmaidens and also abducted princesses, tribal queens and a gender-shifting God. As peripheral figures and silent catalysts take center stage, we get a glimpse of the lives and stories that get buried beneath the edifices of God and nation, heroes and victory - of the price paid for myth and history, all too often interchangeable. The launch at Hyderabad featured a conversation regarding the book between Karthika and popular poet, essayist and photographer, Sridala Swami.

Date: 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2015

Time: 4.30 pm

Venue: School of Humanities Auditorium, Central University Campus, Hyderabad

### **Bangalore:**

### ***Until the Lions – Book Launch***

Synopsis: Book Launch of author Karthika Nair's latest work, 'Until The Lions: Echoes from the Mahabharata', a retelling of the Indian epic, Mahabharata, through multiple



voices. This collection of poems captures the epic through the lenses of nameless soldiers, outcast warriors and handmaidens and also abducted princesses, tribal queens and a gender-shifting God. As peripheral figures and silent catalysts take center stage, we get a glimpse of the lives and stories that get buried beneath the edifices of God and nation, heroes and victory - of the price paid for myth and history, all too often interchangeable. The launch at Bangalore featured a conversation regarding the book between Karthika and renowned translator, facilitator, author and director, Arshia Sattar.

Date: 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2015

Time: 6.30 pm

Venue: Oxford Book Store, Bangalore

### ***Torobaka***

Synopsis: Synopsis: A duet performance by Akram Khan and Israel Galvan, Torobaka is a beautifully put together fusion between two seemingly different dance forms – the Indian Kathak and the Spanish Flamenco – which has crossed all frontiers to merge together and bring out the best of two cultures, geographically far apart. Akram and Israel blend their respective dancing styles to deliver a performance meant to serve as a means of understanding dance. Inspired by Toto-cava, a Maori based phonetic poem by Trista Tzara, Torokaba literally stands for the bull (*toro*) and cow (*vaca*), sacred animals in the dancers' respective traditions, both united in an unconstrained Dadaist poem. For Akram and Israel, the essence of Torobaka is dancing without compromise, where every part of the body is expressive, movements are read and they have a function. This seamless amalgamation of functional movements is meant to be simultaneously perceived by the audience as art.

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Date: 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2015

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Chowdiah Memorial Hall, Bangalore

### ***EnFlightenment by Rupesh Tillu***

Synopsis: A one-man show with twenty characters, taking viewers on a roller coaster ride of cathartic moments, in a duration of seventy-five minutes. The viewers followed Mr. R on a journey around the world, in search of himself. Questions such as 'what is a 'self?', 'Are you in control of your own life?', 'Or are you just a building block in a system?', 'who is really running the world?', 'Are the Gods capable of giving Mr. R an answer?' are dealt with in the performance. Based on performer Rupesh Tillu's self-experienced stories, viewers follow Mr. R crossing borders, into the most inner space of a prison cell, deep down under water to meet the world of the subconscious and out in space to defy the gravity of patterns. A allegoric physical comedy comprising miming, magic, movement and music, inspired from the true events of Tillu's flight odyssey in the past 10 years of four continents; the performance induces the viewers to draw their own conclusions to the aforementioned questions.

Performed by Rupesh Tillu, directed by Ulf Evren, Music by Karthik Ramaswamy (Onstage musician), Devised by Rupesh Tillu & Ulf Evren and Light design by Asmit Pathare.

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2015

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Oak Room, The Park Bangalore

### ***AP Ensemble – The Colliding Worlds Project***

Synopsis: Performance by an ensemble of artists – Aditya Prakash on vocals; Julian Le on Piano; Jonah Levine on Trombone and Piano; Jake Jamieson on Drums; Mahesh Swamy on Flute, Morsing and *Kannakol*; and Praveen Kumar on Percussion.

The Colliding Worlds Project is a 90-minute musical journey, which engages the viewer in an exciting musical dialogue between Indian classical and folk, jazz and hip-hop. AP Ensemble features refreshingly contemporary arrangements of classical compositions, bhajans and Bollywood classics, along with original compositions interwoven with thrilling improvisational exchanges. With the increasing cross-cultural influences



between the South Asian (particularly Bollywood music) and American (particularly jazz and hip-hop) diaspora, there has been a growing interest in audiences of both countries to witness an amalgamation of both types of music. However, the exposure to authentic jazz and hip-hop musicians, who have been trained by master artists is quite minimal in India. This performance was a wonderful opportunity for audiences to witness the distinct, dynamic and unified soundscape of the ensemble, ushering in of a new era of musical collaboration between the East and the West.

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2015

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Oak Room, The Park Bangalore

### **Kolkata:**

#### ***EnFlightenment by Rupesh Tillu***

Synopsis: A one-man show with twenty characters, taking viewers on a roller coaster ride of cathartic moments, in a duration of seventy-five minutes. The viewers followed Mr. R on a journey around the world, in search of himself. Questions such as 'what is a 'self?', 'Are you in control of your own life?', 'Or are you just a building block in a system?', 'who is really running the world?', 'Are the Gods capable of giving Mr. R an answer?' are dealt with in the performance. Based on performer Rupesh Tillu's self-experienced stories, viewers follow Mr. R crossing borders, into the most inner space of a prison cell, deep down under water to meet the world of the subconscious and out in space to defy the gravity of patterns. A allegoric physical comedy comprising miming, magic, movement and music, inspired from the true events of Tillu's flight odyssey in the past 10 years of four continents; the performance induces the viewers to draw their own conclusions to the aforementioned questions.

Performed by Rupesh Tillu, directed by Ulf Evren, Music by Karthik Ramaswamy (Onstage musician), Devised by Rupesh Tillu & Ulf Evren and Light design by Asmit Pathare.

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2015

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Galaxy, The Park Kolkata

## ***Torobaka***

Synopsis: Synopsis: A duet performance by Akram Khan and Israel Galvan, Torobaka is a beautifully put together fusion between two seemingly different dance forms – the Indian Kathak and the Spanish Flamenco – which has crossed all frontiers to merge together and bring out the best of two cultures, geographically far apart. Akram and Israel blend their respective dancing styles to deliver a performance meant to serve as a means of understanding dance. Inspired by Toto-cava, a Maori based phonetic poem by Trista Tzara, Torokaba literally stands for the bull (*toro*) and cow (*vaca*), sacred animals in the dancers' respective traditions, both united in an unconstrained Dadaist poem. For Akram and Israel, the essence of Torobaka is dancing without compromise, where every part of the body is expressive, movements are read and they have a function. This seamless amalgamation of functional movements is meant to be simultaneously perceived by the audience as art.

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Date: 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2015

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Kala Mandir Auditorium, Kolkata

## ***AP Ensemble – The Colliding Worlds Project***

Synopsis: Performance by an ensemble of artists – Aditya Prakash on vocals; Julian Le on Piano; Jonah Levine on Trombone and Piano; Jake Jamieson on Drums; Mahesh Swamy on Flute, Morsing and *Kannakol*; and Praveen Kumar on Percussion.

The Colliding Worlds Project is a 90-minute musical journey, which engages the viewer in an exciting musical dialogue between Indian classical and folk, jazz and hip-hop. AP Ensemble features refreshingly contemporary arrangements of classical compositions, bhajans and Bollywood classics, along with original compositions interwoven with thrilling improvisational exchanges. With the increasing cross-cultural influences between the South Asian (particularly Bollywood music) and American (particularly



jazz and hip-hop) diaspora, there has been a growing interest in audiences of both countries to witness an amalgamation of both types of music. However, the exposure to authentic jazz and hip-hop musicians, who have been trained by master artists is quite minimal in India. This performance was a wonderful opportunity for audiences to witness the distinct, dynamic and unified soundscape of the ensemble, ushering in of a new era of musical collaboration between the East and the West.

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2015

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Galaxy, The Park Kolkata

### ***Until the Lions – Book Launch***

Synopsis: Book Launch of author Karthika Nair's latest work, 'Until the Lions: Echoes from the Mahabharata', a retelling of the Indian epic, Mahabharata, through multiple voices. This collection of poems captures the epic through the lenses of nameless soldiers, outcast warriors and handmaidens and also abducted princesses, tribal queens and a gender-shifting God. As peripheral figures and silent catalysts take center stage, we get a glimpse of the lives and stories that get buried beneath the edifices of God and nation, heroes and victory - of the price paid for myth and history, all too often interchangeable. The launch at Kolkata featured a conversation regarding the book between Karthika and Aveek Sen, associate editor (editorial pages) of The Telegraph (Calcutta).

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> October, 2015

Time: 6.30 pm

Venue: Oxford Book Store, Kolkata

### **Mumbai:**

### ***Until the Lions – Book Launch***

Synopsis: Book Launch of author Karthika Nair's latest work, 'Until the Lions: Echoes from the Mahabharata', a retelling of the Indian epic, Mahabharata, through multiple voices. This collection of poems captures the epic through the lenses of nameless soldiers, outcast warriors and handmaidens and also abducted princesses, tribal queens and a gender-shifting God. As peripheral figures and silent catalysts take center stage, we get a glimpse of the lives and stories that get buried beneath the edifices of God and



nation, heroes and victory - of the price paid for myth and history, all too often interchangeable.

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2015

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Oxford Book Store, Mumbai

### ***EnFlightenment by Rupesh Tillu***

Synopsis: A one-man show with twenty characters, taking viewers on a roller coaster ride of cathartic moments, in a duration of seventy-five minutes. The viewers followed Mr. R on a journey around the world, in search of himself. Questions such as 'what is a 'self?', 'Are you in control of your own life?', 'Or are you just a building block in a system?', 'who is really running the world?', 'Are the Gods capable of giving Mr. R an answer?' are dealt with in the performance. Based on performer Rupesh Tillu's self-experienced stories, viewers follow Mr. R crossing borders, into the most inner space of a prison cell, deep down under water to meet the world of the subconscious and out in space to defy the gravity of patterns. A allegoric physical comedy comprising miming, magic, movement and music, inspired from the true events of Tillu's flight odyssey in the past 10 years of four continents; the performance induces the viewers to draw their own conclusions to the aforementioned questions.

Performed by Rupesh Tillu, directed by Ulf Evren, Music by Karthik Ramaswamy (Onstage musician), Devised by Rupesh Tillu & Ulf Evren and Light design by Asmit Pathare.

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2015

Time: 8.30 pm

Venue: Rosewood, The Park Mumbai

### ***AP Ensemble – The Colliding Worlds Project***

Synopsis: Performance by an ensemble of artists – Aditya Prakash on vocals; Julian Le on Piano; Jonah Levine on Trombone and Piano; Jake Jamieson on Drums; Mahesh Swamy on Flute, Morsing and *Kannakol*; and Praveen Kumar on Percussion.

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Date: 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2015

Time: 9.30 pm

Venue: Blue Frog, Mumbai

### ***Torobaka***

Synopsis: Synopsis: A duet performance by Akram Khan and Israel Galvan, Torobaka is a beautifully put together fusion between two seemingly different dance forms – the Indian Kathak and the Spanish Flamenco – which has crossed all frontiers to merge together and bring out the best of two cultures, geographically far apart. Akram and Israel blend their respective dancing styles to deliver a performance meant to serve as a means of understanding dance. Inspired by Toto-cava, a Maori based phonetic poem by Trista Tzara, Torokaba literally stands for the bull (*toro*) and cow (*vaca*), sacred animals in the dancers' respective traditions, both united in an unconstrained Dadaist poem. For Akram and Israel, the essence of Torobaka is dancing without compromise, where every part of the body is expressive, movements are read and they have a function. This seamless amalgamation of functional movements is meant to be simultaneously perceived by the audience as art.

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Date: 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2015

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Jamshed Bhaba Theatre – NCPA Mumbai

### ***EnFlightenment by Rupesh Tillu***

Synopsis: A one-man show with twenty characters, taking viewers on a roller coaster ride of cathartic moments, in a duration of seventy-five minutes. The viewers followed Mr. R on a journey around the world, in search of himself. Questions such as 'what is a 'self?', 'Are you in control of your own life?', 'Or are you just a building block in a system?', 'who is really running the world?', 'Are the Gods capable of giving Mr. R an answer?' are dealt with in the performance. Based on performer Rupesh Tillu's self-experienced stories, viewers follow Mr. R crossing borders, into the most inner space of a prison cell, deep down under water to meet the world of the subconscious and out in space to defy the gravity of patterns. A allegoric physical comedy comprising miming, magic, movement and music, inspired from the true events of Tillu's flight odyssey in the past 10 years of four continents; the performance induces the viewers to draw their own conclusions to the aforementioned questions.

Performed by Rupesh Tillu, directed by Ulf Evren, Music by Karthik Ramaswamy (Onstage musician), Devised by Rupesh Tillu & Ulf Evren and Light design by Asmit Pathare.

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2015

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Rangsharda Natya Mandir, Mumbai

### **Delhi:**

### ***EnFlightenment by Rupesh Tillu***

Synopsis: A one-man show with twenty characters, taking viewers on a roller coaster ride of cathartic moments, in a duration of seventy-five minutes. The viewers followed Mr. R on a journey around the world, in search of himself. Questions such as 'what is a 'self?', 'Are you in control of your own life?', 'Or are you just a building block in a system?', 'who is really running the world?', 'Are the Gods capable of giving Mr. R an answer?' are dealt with in the performance. Based on performer Rupesh Tillu's self-experienced stories, viewers follow Mr. R crossing borders, into the most inner space of



a prison cell, deep down under water to meet the world of the subconscious and out in space to defy the gravity of patterns. A allegoric physical comedy comprising miming, magic, movement and music, inspired from the true events of Tillu's flight odyssey in the past 10 years of four continents; the performance induces the viewers to draw their own conclusions to the aforementioned questions.

Performed by Rupesh Tillu, directed by Ulf Evren, Music by Karthik Ramaswamy (Onstage musician), Devised by Rupesh Tillu & Ulf Evren and Light design by Asmit Pathare.

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2015

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Mantra, The Park New Delhi

### ***AP Ensemble – The Colliding Worlds Project***

Synopsis: Performance by an ensemble of artists – Aditya Prakash on vocals; Julian Le on Piano; Jonah Levine on Trombone and Piano; Jake Jamieson on Drums; Mahesh Swamy on Flute, Morsing and *Kannakol*; and Praveen Kumar on Percussion.

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Date: 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2015

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Mantra, The Park New Delhi



## ***Torobaka***

Synopsis: Synopsis: A duet performance by Akram Khan and Israel Galvan, Torobaka is a beautifully put together fusion between two seemingly different dance forms – the Indian Kathak and the Spanish Flamenco – which has crossed all frontiers to merge together and bring out the best of two cultures, geographically far apart. Akram and Israel blend their respective dancing styles to deliver a performance meant to serve as a means of understanding dance. Inspired by Toto-cava, a Maori based phonetic poem by Trista Tzara, Torokaba literally stands for the bull (*toro*) and cow (*vaca*), sacred animals in the dancers' respective traditions, both united in an unconstrained Dadaist poem. For Akram and Israel, the essence of Torobaka is dancing without compromise, where every part of the body is expressive, movements are read and they have a function. This seamless amalgamation of functional movements is meant to be simultaneously perceived by the audience as art.

Created and Performed by Israel Galvan and Akram Khan, Music Arranged and Performed by David Azurza, B C Manjunath, Bernhard Schimpelsberger, Bobote and Christine Leboutte, Lighting Designer - Michael Hulls, Costume Designer - Kimie Nakano, Sound by Pedro Leon, Rehearsal Director - Jose Agudo, Production Coordinator - Amapola Lopez, Production Manager - Sander Loonen, Technical Coordinator - Pablo Pujol, Lighting by Stephane Dejours, Tour Manager - Amapola Lopez, Produced by Farooq Chaudhry & Bia Oliveira (Khan Chaudhry Productions) and Chema Blanco & Cisco Casado (A Negro Producciones).

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2015

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi

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Date: 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2015

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Kamani Auditorium, New Delhi

### ***Until the Lions – Book Launch***

Synopsis: Book Launch of author Karthika Nair's latest work, 'Until The Lions: Echoes from the Mahabharata', a retelling of the Indian epic, Mahabharata, through multiple voices. This collection of poems captures the epic through the lenses of nameless soldiers, outcast warriors and handmaidens and also abducted princesses, tribal queens and a gender-shifting God. As peripheral figures and silent catalysts take center stage, we get a glimpse of the lives and stories that get buried beneath the edifices of God and nation, heroes and victory - of the price paid for myth and history, all too often interchangeable. The launch at Delhi featured a conversation regarding the book between Karthika, fellow author Nilanjana S Roy and independent writer, critic and Mahabharata-obsessive, Jai Arjun Singh.

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2015

Time: 6.30 pm

Venue: Oxford Book Store, New Delhi

### **Artiste Profile**



## ▪ **Karthika Nair**

Karthika Nair is the author of *Bearings* (Harper Collins India, 2009), a poetry collection and *The Honey Hunter/ Le Tigre de Miel* (Young Zubaan, India/ Editions Helium, France, 2013), a children's book illustrated by Joelle Jolivet. She was also the principal scriptwriter of *DESH*, choreographer Akram Khan's award-winning dance production. In Karthika's resume as an enabler, one finds mention of Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, Damien Jalet, Kafig/Mourad Merzouki, two Olivier awards, Auditorium Musica per Roma, the Louvre, the Cite de la musique, the Centre national de la danse, the Villette, the Shaolin Temple in Henan, misadventures with ninja swords and pachyderms, among others, many of which make their way willy-nilly into her poetry.

## ▪ **AP ENSEMBLE**

### **1. Aditya Prakash**

Aditya Prakash, the creator of the AP Ensemble, is an award-winning, American-born Carnatic vocalist, known for his emotive and powerful voice. He has trained in Carnatic vocals under venerated Gurus - Sri P.S. Narayanaswami and Sri Palai Ramachandran - in India for 15 years. Aditya gained great exposure as one of the youngest musicians at the age of 16 to tour as lead vocalist with the Sitar Maestro Ravi Shankar, who took him to prestigious venues such as Carnegie Hall, Disney Hall and Hollywood Bowl, to name a few. He continues to perform in solo Carnatic vocal concerts as well as in group concerts, in collaboration with leading names such as Karsh Kale, Salim Merchant and Anoushka Shankar. Aditya, an Ethnomusicology graduate at UCLA, has studied Jazz composition under esteemed jazz pianist, Tamir Hendelman.

### **2. Julian Le**

Julian Le started playing classical piano at the age of 3 under the guidance of his parents, both of whom are graduates from Indiana's Music Program. He graduated on a full jazz scholarship at UCLA under James Newton and Kenny Burrell and has received numerous awards for his musicianship. Julian has a very good understanding of many genres of music due to his vast performance and recording experience with some of the top musicians and upcoming pop and hip-hop artists in Los Angeles.

### **3. Jonah Levine**

Jonah has performed at leading jazz festivals worldwide including the Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland and the Monterey Jazz Festival in California, as well as at venues throughout France, Italy, the Balkans, Mexico, and South America. Known as "Funky Lips", Jonah has a versatile style that allows him to work in various types of situations such as big bands, world fusion groups, hip-hop/ pop producers, and more. In addition

to leading the Jonah Levine Collective, he regularly performs with Mr. Bun, the Late-Night Jazz Orchestra, the Katalyst, and his own group, the Jonah Levine Collective. Jonah has worked with Leonard Cohen, The Game, Ed Sheeran, Ryan Leslie, Bennie Maupin, Rudimental UK, George Watsky, Dumbfoundead, and Shafiq Husayn, among many others. He has studied with Kenny Burrell, James Newton, James Miller, George Bohanon, Robin Eubanks, Steve Turre, Hal Crook, Andre Hayward, Wayne Wallace, and Marty Wehner. Jonah has a passion for teaching and works at Fusion Academy Miracle Mile and also gives private lessons on the piano and trombone. He is a graduate of the University of California, Los Angeles Ethnomusicology Jazz Composition program.

#### **4. Jake Jamieson**

Jake Jamieson is a freelance performer, educator, and producer in Los Angeles, specializing in drum set and percussion. He has been called to play a variety of musical styles ranging from Jazz to Indian Classical to Hip-Hop to Opera. He gained his versatility at UCLA where he received his B.A. and M.A. in Ethnomusicology, world music, and he later returned to his alma mater to teach a course on World Music Education. Jake has toured the world with artists such as Rhye, Banks, Alice Russell, Mr. Little Jeans, and more.

#### **5. Mahesh Swamy**

A leading disciple of Guru Sreenivas Murthy, Mahesh Swamy is a renowned flautist, music composer, percussionist, and vocalist, and also plays the veena. A native of the state of Karnataka in India, Mahesh has been on several tours in America, Europe and Asia performing his original compositions with the acclaimed dance group, Shakti Dance Company in Los Angeles.

#### **6. Praveen Kumar**

Praveen started learning the art of percussion at the age of 5, from *Mridangam* Maestro Sri Guruvayur Dorai. He is one of the most sought-after young *mridangam* artists in the field of Carnatic music and has accompanied many stalwarts. He has also won several awards from various prestigious institutions including 'Spirit of Youth' award from the Music Academy Madras, 'Yuva Kala Bharathi' from Bharath Kalachar and 'Best Performer' award from Sri Parthasarathy Swami Sabha, to name a few. He has toured Europe and Singapore extensively. Praveen started exploring Global Percussion instruments like Darbuka, Cajon, Djembe and Pandeiro as he reached the depths of rhythm through his strong classical music foundation. He runs his own band called SPARSH and has performed several gigs making contemporary Indian Classical music.

### ▪ ***Rupesh Tillu***

Rupesh Tillu is an actor, director and independent film-maker born in Mumbai, India. He has received several International theatre awards such as Outstanding Artist/ Act - Stockholm Fringe Festival 2012, A Special Jury Award - Best of Prague Fringe Festival 2013 and many more. He played the character of *Ajay* in a feature film *Ship of Theseus* and also line produced the Swedish schedule for the film, which received several National and International awards. He has worked with several theatre companies such as Avikal Theatre Company (India), Urban Theatre Company (Sweden), Teater Slava (Sweden), Bananteatern (Sweden). Rupesh has done expeditions with Clowns without Borders to Moldova, Palestine, Israel, India, Jordan and Egypt. He is a part of Flugo - A clown trio - which toured nationally in all renowned theatres of Sweden in 2013; the show has been touring internationally since 2014. His vocational training includes one year of Physical Theatre at Fhsk Vardinge By and Professional Clown training with Clowns without Borders Sweden. He has also worked for UNESCO Centre for Peace, Frederick M.D, USA. His debut documentary feature film 'The Living Gods', is co-produced by the Swedish National Television which premiered at FIFA, Canada in March 2014. He is the founder and artistic director of 'Theatreact'.

### ▪ ***Ulf Evren***

Ulf Evren is a playwright, choreographer, actor and director, born in 1960 in Stockholm, Sweden. He is an alumnus of Stockholm University of the Arts, Mime program. From 1996 -2013, he has written and directed 30 plays for children, youth and adults. Ulf was a part of a mime group 'Panopticon', which toured nationally in Sweden and enjoyed great success at the Royal Opera house of Stockholm. From 1983-1995, he worked professionally as a mime, choreographer and actor. Credits include SVT (Swedish National Television), The Royal Dramatic Theatre (directed by Ingmar Bergman) and several of Stockholm's independent theatres. In 2003, Ulf co-founded 'Teater Barbara', an independent theatre group in Stockholm, where he served as a director, writer and artistic director from 2003-2013. After leaving the group in 2013, he wrote and directed 'The Opinion Machine' for Teater Barbara, among other projects. He also directed 'Here I stand Before You Naked', by Joyce Carol Oates, for Boulevard Teatern in Stockholm, and was a movement instructor for the television series 'Real People' at Swedish Television. In 2014, he adapted for the stage and directed 'The Odyssey' for Teater Barbara. In 2015, he directed the musical 'Frankenstein 2.0' and 'We who are a hundred'; both plays performed at Boulevard Teatern in Stockholm. He has also produced and performed the lecture series 'Brain Science' for corporates and theatres.

## ▪ **TOROBAKA**

### **1. Akram Khan**

Akram Khan is one of the most celebrated and respected dance artists today. In just over fifteen years he has created a body of work that has contributed significantly to the arts in the UK and abroad. His reputation has been built on the success of imaginative, highly accessible and relevant productions such as DESH, iTMOi, Vertical Road, Gnosis, zero degrees and Kaash. An instinctive and natural collaborator, Khan has been a magnet to world-class artists from other cultures and disciplines. His previous collaborators include the National Ballet of China, actress Juliette Binoche, ballerina Sylvie Guillem, choreographer/dancer Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, singer Kylie Minogue, visual artists Anish Kapoor, Antony Gormley and Tim Yip, writer Hanif Kureishi and composers Steve Reich, Nitin Sawhney, Jocelyn Pook and Ben Frost. Another highlight of Khan's career was the creation of a section of the London 2012 Olympic Games Opening Ceremony, that was received with unanimous acclaim. Khan has been the recipient of numerous awards throughout his career including the Laurence Olivier Award, the Bessie Award (New York Dance and Performance Award), the prestigious ISPA (International Society for the Performing Arts) Distinguished Artist Award, and six Critics Circle National Dance Awards. Khan is an Associate Artist of the Sadler's Wells Theatre, London.

### **2. Israel Galvan**

Israel Galvan de los Reyes was awarded the National Dance Prize 2005, "Creation" section, by the Culture Department of the Spanish Government, for "his capacity to generate a new creation in an art such as flamenco without forgetting the real roots that have sustained it to the present day and that make of it a universal genre". In 2012, he was honoured with the New York Bessie Performance Award for an Outstanding Production and the Fine Arts Medal awarded by the Council of Ministers of Spanish Government. Galvan has done many different collaborations with various artists such as Enrique Morente, Manuel Soler, Pat Metheny, Vicente Amigo and Lagartija Nick. In 1998, Israel premiered ¡Mira! / Los Zapatos Rojos, his first creation. Praised by all the critics as a stroke of genius, it was effectively a revolution in the entire conception of flamenco shows. Since then he has presented numerous acclaimed productions and received 3 Premios Max de Teatro (awards) in May 2014 – best dance production, best choreography and best dancer. He has also created La Francesa and Pastora for his sister, Pastora Galvan. Galvan is an Associate Artist of Theatre de la Ville Paris and Mercat de les Flors Barcelona.

### **3. David Azurza**

Born in Tolosa (Gipuzkoa) in 1968, David Azurza began singing as a countertenor, with Isabel Alvarez Sebastian. He studied singing in the Royal Conservatory of Madrid where he finished with honours in the singing speciality and received the extraordinary prize, Lucrecia Arana. David is a member of several vocal groups and he has vast experience as a solo singer in different contemporary operas, and in the symphonic repertoire. He is a teacher of choral vocal technique and singing, lecturer and article writer of voice in many stages and has participated in several activities organised by Conservatories, Universities, Choral Federations and choral groups all over Spain as well as abroad in countries such as Argentina, France, Mexico, European countries and so on. He has received several prizes in different national composition contests.

### **4. Bobote**

Born in Seville on 28 May, 1962, Bobote took part in flamenco tablaos' shows since very young. He is currently one of the most in-demand palmeros (rhythm-clappers) in the flamenco scene and is considered a wizard of compas (flamenco rhythm). Daring and committed, he jumps from accompanying Israel Galvan in theatres and dance festivals all over the world to teaching compas in workshops in Las Tres Mil, his neighbourhood in Sevilla, where Bobote created a band under the same name and a percussion school. As a dancer and a palmero, he has collaborated with famous artistic names of the stature of Manuela Carrasco, Canales and Farruco, Miguel Poveda, Arcangel, La Argentina, Aurora Vargas and Rocio Molina. He has also performed in such outstanding films as Flamenco (Carlos Saura, 1995), Vengo (Toni Gatlif, 2000) and Poligono Sur (Dominique Abel, 2003). In the Biennial Flamenco Festival of Seville, in 2012, he directed his first creation, De Triana alas Tres mil. Boboterias, with great success.

### **5. Christine Leboutte**

Christine has been working with Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui since 2003 in four different productions – Foi, Tempus fugit, Myth and Babel/ words. She was trained in classical singing by Paule Daloze in Brussels and met Giovanna Marini (Italian singer and composer) in 1991, with whom she studied the different aesthetics of Italian country and folk singing. She is also involved in several artistic and pedagogic projects in Belgium, teaching dancers and actors with or without disabilities. One can hear her sometimes in duet with her daughter Luliette Van Peteghem.

### **6. B C Manjunath**

B.C. Manjunath was born in 1976 and studied with Karnataka *Kalasree* K.N. Krishna Murthy and *Sangeetha Kalanidhi* Dr T.K. Murthy. He has accompanied and collaborated with numerous leading musicians from a wide range of genres, including the Turkish Sufi singer Kani Karaka, the Italian pop star Lucio Dalla, the trombonist Robin Eubanks,



the Bibiena Quintet, the choreographer Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, the Ictus Ensemble, the composers Rafael Reina and Riccardo Nova, and numerous Indian classical music virtuosos. He has performed in the major cultural centres of south India and has toured almost 40 countries. Manjunath has taught at the Amsterdam Conservatory, the Rotterdam Conservatory, the International Dance Festival (Vienna) and the Sydney Festival and was granted the title *Asthana Vidwan* in 2012. He was awarded the 2012 Ustad Bismillah Khan *Yuva Puraskar* Award by the *Sangeet Natak Akademi*.

### **7. Bernard Schimpelsberger**

Bernhard Schimpelsberger is a drummer & percussionist bridging the rhythmical worlds of India and the West. Raised with Western drumming in Austria, he has studied the Indian rhythm tradition with *Tabla* guru Suresh Talwalkar, as well as percussion master Trilok Gurtu and combines these influences to an organic percussion drumming style. He is a progressive rhythm visionary right at the forefront of modern Indian music, working with artists such as Nitin Sawhney, Talvin Singh, Susheela Raman and Niladri Kumar among others.

### **8. Michael Hulls**

Over the last 20 years, Michael Hulls has worked exclusively in dance, particularly with choreographer Russell Maliphant. Their collaborations have won international critical acclaim and many awards. He has recently worked with Russell on commissions for English National Ballet, Lyon Opera Ballet and Ballet Munchen. Michael has also worked with BalletBoyz on various productions, with Javier De Frutos, and Jonathan Burrows. He has also worked over many years with Akram Khan on his pieces *Fix*, *Rush*, *In-I*, *DESH*, *Torobaka* and *Until the Lions*. In 2009, Michael became an Associate Artist of Sadler's Wells Theatre and in 2010, his contribution to dance was recognised with his entry into the Oxford Dictionary of Dance. In 2014, Michael received the Olivier Award for Outstanding Achievement in Dance.

### **9. Kimie Nakano**

Kimie Nakano strives to create intercultural projects for the stage, workshops and films, to promote different world cultures. Her designs for dance productions include Akram Khan Company's *Vertical Road*, *DUST* (English National Ballet's, *Lest We Forget*), *iTMOi*, *Torobaka*, *Gnosis*, *Kaash*, *The Rashomon Effect* (National Youth Dance Company), *techne* for Sylvie Guillem (*Life in Progress*). Other set and costume design for dance include productions of The Lithuanian National Opera and Ballet Theatre, Les Grands Ballets Canadiens de Montreal, Rambert Dance Company, Aditi Mangaldas Dance Company, Van Huynh Dance Company, Longborough Festival Opera. In film, Kimie was assistant costume designer on '8 and a half Women' by Peter Greenaway and she was in charge of production and costumes for the short film *Basho* starring Yoshi Oida. Kimie's

directorial credits include Snow (a workshop with three blind singers at the ENO studio). Kimie is currently working for Three dancers for Rambert Dance Company, The Moon Opera by Yabin Wang, Macbeth film, Part choreography Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui for Ballet Vlaanderen, 4 seasons choreography Didy Veldman for Luzerner Theatre and She Said for English National Ballet choreography Yabin Wang.

### **10. *Pedro Leon***

Pedro Leon holds a degree in audio-visual communications and has also studied sound design. But his training mainly comes from his experiences on tours, both in theatres and outdoor spaces, live television broadcasts and studio recordings. He has specialized in flamenco, working with artists such as Miguel Poveda, Rocio Molina and Pastora Galvan. Always restless, Pedro combines Israel Galvan's tours with managing his own concert hall in Seville.

### **11. *Jose Agudo***

Jose started his career in Andalusia, where he began performing as a Flamenco dancer and then studied at CAD in Seville and at the Choreographic Centre of Valencia. During this time, Jose received awards both as a dancer and a choreographer for his work. Since his departure from Spain, Jose has performed with Charleroi/ Danses, Ballet de Marseille, T.R.A.S.H, SJDC, and Akram Khan Company. Recent choreographic commissions include Qi for Phoenix Dance Company; Time/ Dropper for Edinburgh Festival, and Arctic for LCDS. Jose has worked for Akram Khan Company since 2011 as a rehearsal director for DESH and Torobaka, as a movement assistant for the London 2012 Olympic Games opening ceremony, and as a choreographic assistant for iTMOi and Until the Lions.

### **12. *Sander Loonen***

Sander Loonen started working in theatre as a lamp-cleaner in 1991 and ever since then has been working as a Technician and Lighting Designer. In 1997, he was a trainee in the Rotterdamse Schouwburg in the Netherlands, leaving six years later as one of the in-house Lighting Designers. After two years of working in Brazil, he returned to Holland to be one of the founding members of DENZO, a company that provides technical support for art related projects. He has worked with Meg Stuart/ damaged goods, Emio Greco, PC, Waterhuis, Peter Sonneveld, and many other companies. He joined Akram Khan Company in 2007 and is currently Technical Producer for the company.

### **13. *Pablo Pujol***

Pablo Pujol began to study engineering, while simultaneously debuting in the European championship of motorcycling. Leaving motor racing, Pablo found in the performance world the continuation of the wandering life of the circuits. He's been the tireless technical director of Israel Galvan's company for 10 years.

#### **14. *Stephane Dejours***

Stephane was born in France and has been doing Theatre/ Dance/ Concert lighting for 15 years, first as a lighting technician for various venues, then touring with many music bands, theatre and dance companies. After a few years as a technical director for two venues in Nantes, France, he is now back to doing what he likes most – lighting. His international tours as a freelance lighting manager in the past two years include Southern Bound Comfort by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui/ Gregory Maqoma, Venus by Robyn Orlin, Temps by Wajdi Mouawad, Tezuka by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, Circle of sound by Soumik Datta, Vertical Road, DESH and TOROBAKA by Akram Khan Company.

#### **15. *Amapola Lopez***

Amapola Lopez graduated in Translation, and is specialized in Roman languages. She initially worked in the rock music scene with Spanish bands. Living in Sevilla, Amapola's transition to the flamenco scene was quite natural. She has been touring with Israel Galvan since 2011.

#### **16. *Farooq Chaudhry***

Born in Pakistan, Farooq Chaudhry enjoyed an international professional dance career in the eighties and nineties. He was awarded an Asian Achievement Award for his work as a dancer in 1988. After retiring from dancing in 1999, he completed an MA in Arts Management from City University. A year later, Farooq teamed up with Akram Khan and co-founded Akram Khan Company. As the company producer, Chaudhry puts creativity at the heart of his leadership style, forming innovative business models to support the artistic ambitions of Khan. Their partnership has made the company one of the foremost and most successful dance companies of the world. In addition to his work for Akram Khan Company, he became the Producer for English National Ballet in October 2013. Chaudhry is a member of the GREAT Culture & Sport Advisory Board and of the Strategic Advisory Committee for Clore Leadership Programme, and a witness of the School for Social Entrepreneurs. The French Ministry of Foreign Affairs acknowledged him in a list of the world's top hundred cultural actors and entrepreneurs. Chaudhry is a regular guest speaker in cultural entrepreneurship including the Advanced Cultural Leadership Programme at Hong Kong University and the London Business School.

#### **17. *Bia Oliveira***

Originally from Brazil, Bia Oliveira joined Akram Khan Company on behalf as an Associate Producer through a Creative Leadership Award. She was previously a Producer at London-based Arts admin, where she worked for five years, with a seven-month stint as Theatre Officer at Arts Council, England. Bia has been involved with performing for over twenty years as a performer, producer and director, and in the last eight years has focused on producing, touring, management and administration of arts

projects, working across the spectrum of theatre, visual arts, dance and live art. She has a Master's degree in Contemporary Performing Arts from Middlesex University and a Post-graduate Diploma in Arts Management and Policy from Birkbeck University, London.

## **Press**

The Hindu Metro Plus, Chennai, 17 September, 2015 - An amalgam of art

<http://www.thehindu.com/features/metroplus/events/an-amalgam-of-art/article7662423.ece>

Business Standard, New Delhi, 9 October, 2015 - The Park's New Festival to begin in Delhi on Saturday

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/the-park-s-new-festival-to-begin-in-delhi-on-saturday-115100900206\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/the-park-s-new-festival-to-begin-in-delhi-on-saturday-115100900206_1.html)