



**Prakriti  
Foundation**

**The Park's New Festival  
(2016)**

## **About The Park's New Festival 2016**

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 ten years, the festival has presented stellar performances by artists of global repute such as, Akram Khan Dance Company, Shankar Tucker, Aditya Prakash Ensemble, Israel Galvan, D'Lo, Maya Krishna Rao, Dr. Mallika Sarabhai, Vayu Naidu Company (U.K.), Preethi Athreya, Rupesh Tillu, Dr.Rekha Tandon (Bhubaneshwar), Ramu Ramanathan, Probal Gupta, H.R. Britton (U.S.A), Ben Riepe (Germany), Padmini Chettur, Zuleikha Allana, Jaimini Pathak, Anusha Lall, Vidur Kapur and Park Hong Ki (Korea).

In keeping with tradition, several noted artists from India and around the world perform in the Tenth Edition of the Park's New Festival. The festival comprises compelling acts by celebrated artists – 'Nerves', a Contemporary Dance Performance by Surjit Nongmeikapam, 'Elephant in the Room', by Yuki Ellias and and interplay of Scandinavian, European and Indian music by Shashank Subramanyam, the Lelo Nika Trio and Ojas Adhiya.

## **Schedule**

### **Chennai:**

#### ***Nerves by Surjit Nongmeikapam***

Synopsis: Nerves is a performance art piece, rooted in the expressions of the voiceless people from Manipur, a state nestled in the Northeast corner of India. Through the medium of contemporary dance performance, the artistes are trying to explore the lives that have been exhausted by the constant questioning of one's world, without any

answers. Rather than focusing on dance technique, the idea of the performance is to focus on shedding light on the disturbed senses from the inner self. Therefore, the movements in Nerves are raw and strong. All performers are first timers in the contemporary dance field.

Choreographed by Surjit Nongmeikapam (Bonbon) and performed by Purnima Yengkokpam, Senjam Hemjit Meitei, Laiphangbam Suraj Roy, Sumeet Sagolsem, Suresh Kiran Singh Khundrakpam and Surjit himself, this piece was the winner of PECDA 2014. Other credits include Ryoya Fudetani for Light Design, Premananda Nongthombam for Light Assistance, R.K. Roseen for Sound Design, Sunil Loitongbam for Sound Mix, Wangkhei Phee Mantri for Costumes, Renuka Soraisam for Project Management and Suresh Kiran Singh Khundrakpam for Production and Stage Management.

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2016

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Kalakshetra, Chennai

### ***Shashank meets Lelo Nika***

Synopsis: Performed by Shashank Subramanyam on Bamboo Flute, Ojas Adhiya on Mridangam and The Lelo Nika Trio – Lelo Nika on Serbian Accordion, Thommy Andersson on Swedish Bass and George Mihalache on Romanian Cimbalom – this is a piece by five musicians from four different countries who won't let any boundaries hinder them. When the Lelo Trio make music, Romanian and North Scandinavian folklore blend together easily, creating a folklore melody with a touch of European Jazz rhythms. Add to this Shashank and Ojas' flair for Indian style melodies, and the result is a new, breaking sound, never heard before on the music scene. The whole concert leaves the impression of musical togetherness.

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2016

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Sansara Hall, The Park

### ***Elephant in the Room – Yuki Ellias***

Synopsis: Elephant in the Room is a solo theatre performance about the whimsical adventures of a young boy in search of his missing head. It's a coming of age story, with eccentric characters, whose destinies intertwine in a plot that twists and thrills. Master Tusk is a young boy, whose been given a new head - an elephant's head. Confused and



bewildered, he finds himself lost in the forest. But dangers lurk at every turn. He encounters a motley couple - they're Makadi (spider) and Moork (poacher), a clumsy duo in search of a big-ticket ransom. Things don't go as planned when a prophecy that is revealed changes everything. Amidst a cursed love affair, an encounter with the eccentric old elephant and the hunt for a missing head, Master Tusks sets off on an adventure that changes his life. But will he be able to carry his head on his shoulders?

This performance is specially commissioned and premiering at The Park's New Festival 2016 - Edition X. Created & Performed by - Yuki Ellias, written by - Sneh Sapru, Set & Costume design - Sumaiya Merchant, Music composed by - Seemingly That, Light Design - Asmit Pathare, Sound - Yael Crishna, Rehearsal partners - Roshan Mathew and Rushab Kamdar.

Date: 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2016

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Sansara Hall, The Park

### **Bangalore:**

#### ***Nerves by Surjit Nongmeikapam***

Synopsis: Nerves is a performance art piece, rooted in the expressions of the voiceless people from Manipur, a state nestled in the Northeast corner of India. Through the medium of contemporary dance performance, the artistes are trying to explore the lives that have been exhausted by the constant questioning of one's world, without any answers. Rather than focusing on dance technique, the idea of the performance is to focus on shedding light on the disturbed senses from the inner self. Therefore, the movements in Nerves are raw and strong. All performers are first timers in the contemporary dance field.

Choreographed by Surjit Nongmeikapam (Bonbon) and performed by Purnima Yengkokpam, Senjam Hemjit Meitei, Laiphangbam Suraj Roy, Sumeet Sagolsem, Suresh Kiran Singh Khundrakpam and Surjit himself, this piece was the winner of PECDA 2014. Other credits include Ryoya Fudetani for Light Design, Premananda Nongthombam for Light Assistance, R.K. Roseen for Sound Design, Sunil Loitongbam for Sound Mix, Wangkhei Phee Mantri for Costumes, Renuka Soraisam for Project Management and Suresh Kiran Singh Khundrakpam for Production and Stage Management.

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2016

Time: 7.00 pm



Venue: ADA Rangamandira

### ***Shashank meets Lelo Nika***

Synopsis: Performed by Shashank Subramanyam on Bamboo Flute, Ojas Adhiya on Mridangam and The Lelo Nika Trio – Lelo Nika on Serbian Accordion, Thommy Andersson on Swedish Bass and George Mihalache on Romanian Cimbalom – this is a piece by five musicians from four different countries who won't let any boundaries hinder them. When the Lelo Trio make music, Romanian and North Scandinavian folklore blend together easily, creating a folklore melody with a touch of European Jazz rhythms. Add to this Shashank and Ojas' flair for Indian style melodies, and the result is a new, breaking sound, never heard before on the music scene. The whole concert leaves the impression of musical togetherness.

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2016

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: The Oak Room, The Park Bangalore

### ***Elephant in the Room – Yuki Ellias***

Synopsis: Elephant in the Room is a solo theatre performance about the whimsical adventures of a young boy in search of his missing head. It's a coming of age story, with eccentric characters, whose destinies intertwine in a plot that twists and thrills. Master Tusk is a young boy, whose been given a new head - an elephant's head. Confused and bewildered, he finds himself lost in the forest. But dangers lurk at every turn. He encounters a motley couple - they're Makadi (spider) and Moork (poacher), a clumsy duo in search of a big-ticket ransom. Things don't go as planned when a prophecy that is revealed changes everything. Amidst a cursed love affair, an encounter with the eccentric old elephant and the hunt for a missing head, Master Tusks sets off on an adventure that changes his life. But will he be able to carry his head on his shoulders?

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Date: 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2016

Time: 7.00 pm



Venue: The Oak Room, The Park Bangalore

### **Hyderabad:**

#### ***Shashank meets Lelo Nika***

Synopsis: Performed by Shashank Subramanyam on Bamboo Flute, Ojas Adhiya on Mridangam and The Lelo Nika Trio – Lelo Nika on Serbian Accordion, Thommy Andersson on Swedish Bass and George Mihalache on Romanian Cimbalom – this is a piece by five musicians from four different countries who won't let any boundaries hinder them. When the Lelo Trio make music, Romanian and North Scandinavian folklore blend together easily, creating a folklore melody with a touch of European Jazz rhythms. Add to this Shashank and Ojas' flair for Indian style melodies, and the result is a new, breaking sound, never heard before on the music scene. The whole concert leaves the impression of musical togetherness.

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2016

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Kismet, The Park

#### ***Nerves by Surjit Nongmeikapam***

Synopsis: Nerves is a performance art piece, rooted in the expressions of the voiceless people from Manipur, a state nestled in the Northeast corner of India. Through the medium of contemporary dance performance, the artistes are trying to explore the lives that have been exhausted by the constant questioning of one's world, without any answers. Rather than focusing on dance technique, the idea of the performance is to focus on shedding light on the disturbed senses from the inner self. Therefore, the movements in Nerves are raw and strong. All performers are first timers in the contemporary dance field.

Choreographed by Surjit Nongmeikapam (Bonbon) and performed by Purnima Yengkokpam, Senjam Hemjit Meitei, Laiphangbam Suraj Roy, Sumeet Sagolsem, Suresh Kiran Singh Khundrakpam and Surjit himself, this piece was the winner of PECDA 2014. Other credits include Ryoya Fudetani for Light Design, Premananda Nongthombam for Light Assistance, R.K. Roseen for Sound Design, Sunil Loitongbam for Sound Mix,

Wangkhei Phee Mantri for Costumes, Renuka Soraisam for Project Management and Suresh Kiran Singh Khundrakpam for Production and Stage Management.



Date: 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2016

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Ravindra Bharathi, Hyderabad

### ***Elephant in the Room - Yuki Ellias***

Synopsis: Elephant in the Room is a solo theatre performance about the whimsical adventures of a young boy in search of his missing head. It's a coming of age story, with eccentric characters, whose destinies intertwine in a plot that twists and thrills. Master Tusk is a young boy, whose been given a new head - an elephant's head. Confused and bewildered, he finds himself lost in the forest. But dangers lurk at every turn. He encounters a motley couple - they're Makadi (spider) and Moork (poacher), a clumsy duo in search of a big-ticket ransom. Things don't go as planned when a prophecy that is revealed changes everything. Amidst a cursed love affair, an encounter with the eccentric old elephant and the hunt for a missing head, Master Tusks sets off on an adventure that changes his life. But will he be able to carry his head on his shoulders?

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Date: 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2016

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Trillion Ball Room, The Park Hyderabad

### **Kolkata:**

### ***Nerves by Surjit Nongmeikapam***

Synopsis: Nerves is a performance art piece, rooted in the expressions of the voiceless people from Manipur, a state nestled in the Northeast corner of India. Through the medium of contemporary dance performance, the artistes are trying to explore the lives that have been exhausted by the constant questioning of one's world, without any answers. Rather than focusing on dance technique, the idea of the performance is to focus on shedding light on the disturbed senses from the inner self. Therefore, the movements in Nerves are raw and strong. All performers are first timers in the



contemporary dance field.

Choreographed by Surjit Nongmeikapam (Bonbon) and performed by Purnima Yengkokpam, Senjam Hemjit Meitei, Laiphangbam Suraj Roy, Sumeet Sagolsem, Suresh Kiran Singh Khundrakpam and Surjit himself, this piece was the winner of PECDA 2014. Other credits include Ryoya Fudetani for Light Design, Premananda Nongthombam for Light Assistance, R.K. Roseen for Sound Design, Sunil Loitongbam for Sound Mix, Wangkhei Phee Mantri for Costumes, Renuka Soraisam for Project Management and Suresh Kiran Singh Khundrakpam for Production and Stage Management.

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2016

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: ICCR Auditorium, Kolkata

### ***Shashank meets Lelo Nika***

Synopsis: Performed by Shashank Subramanyam on Bamboo Flute, Ojas Adhiya on Mridangam and The Lelo Nika Trio – Lelo Nika on Serbian Accordion, Thommy Andersson on Swedish Bass and George Mihalache on Romanian Cimbalom – this is a piece by five musicians from four different countries who won't let any boundaries hinder them. When the Lelo Trio make music, Romanian and North Scandinavian folklore blend together easily, creating a folklore melody with a touch of European Jazz rhythms. Add to this Shashank and Ojas' flair for Indian style melodies, and the result is a new, breaking sound, never heard before on the music scene. The whole concert leaves the impression of musical togetherness.

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2016

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Galaxy, The Park Kolkata

### ***Elephant in the Room – Yuki Ellias***

Synopsis: Elephant in the Room is a solo theatre performance about the whimsical adventures of a young boy in search of his missing head. It's a coming of age story, with eccentric characters, whose destinies intertwine in a plot that twists and thrills. Master Tusk is a young boy, whose been given a new head - an elephant's head. Confused and bewildered, he finds himself lost in the forest. But dangers lurk at every turn. He encounters a motley couple - they're Makadi (spider) and Moork (poacher), a clumsy duo in search of a big-ticket ransom. Things don't go as planned when a prophecy that is



revealed changes everything. Amidst a cursed love affair, an encounter with the eccentric old elephant and the hunt for a missing head, Master Tusks sets off on an adventure that changes his life. But will he be able to carry his head on his shoulders?

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Date: 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2016

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Rosewood, The Park Kolkata

### **Mumbai:**

#### ***Nerves by Surjit Nongmeikapam***

Synopsis: Nerves is a performance art piece, rooted in the expressions of the voiceless people from Manipur, a state nestled in the Northeast corner of India. Through the medium of contemporary dance performance, the artistes are trying to explore the lives that have been exhausted by the constant questioning of one's world, without any answers. Rather than focusing on dance technique, the idea of the performance is to focus on shedding light on the disturbed senses from the inner self. Therefore, the movements in Nerves are raw and strong. All performers are first timers in the contemporary dance field.

Choreographed by Surjit Nongmeikapam (Bonbon) and performed by Purnima Yengkokpam, Senjam Hemjit Meitei, Laiphangbam Suraj Roy, Sumeet Sagolsem, Suresh Kiran Singh Khundrakpam and Surjit himself, this piece was the winner of PECDA 2014. Other credits include Ryoya Fudetani for Light Design, Premananda Nongthombam for Light Assistance, R.K. Roseen for Sound Design, Sunil Loitongbam for Sound Mix, Wangkhei Phee Mantri for Costumes, Renuka Soraisam for Project Management and Suresh Kiran Singh Khundrakpam for Production and Stage Management.

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2016

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: NCPA Experimental Theatre, Mumbai



## ***Shashank meets Lelo Nika***

Synopsis: Performed by Shashank Subramanyam on Bamboo Flute, Ojas Adhiya on Mridangam and The Lelo Nika Trio – Lelo Nika on Serbian Accordion, Thommy Andersson on Swedish Bass and George Mihalache on Romanian Cimbalom – this is a piece by five musicians from four different countries who won't let any boundaries hinder them. When the Lelo Trio make music, Romanian and North Scandinavian folklore blend together easily, creating a folklore melody with a touch of European Jazz rhythms. Add to this Shashank and Ojas' flair for Indian style melodies, and the result is a new, breaking sound, never heard before on the music scene. The whole concert leaves the impression of musical togetherness.

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2016

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: G5A Foundation for Contemporary Culture, Mumbai

## ***Elephant in the Room – Yuki Ellias***

Synopsis: Elephant in the Room is a solo theatre performance about the whimsical adventures of a young boy in search of his missing head. It's a coming of age story, with eccentric characters, whose destinies intertwine in a plot that twists and thrills. Master Tusk is a young boy, whose been given a new head - an elephant's head. Confused and bewildered, he finds himself lost in the forest. But dangers lurk at every turn. He encounters a motley couple - they're Makadi (spider) and Moork (poacher), a clumsy duo in search of a big-ticket ransom. Things don't go as planned when a prophecy that is revealed changes everything. Amidst a cursed love affair, an encounter with the eccentric old elephant and the hunt for a missing head, Master Tusks sets off on an adventure that changes his life. But will he be able to carry his head on his shoulders?

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Date: 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2016

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Sitara Studio, Mumbai



## **Delhi:**

### ***Shashank meets Lelo Nika***

Synopsis: Performed by Shashank Subramanyam on Bamboo Flute, Ojas Adhiya on Mridangam and The Lelo Nika Trio – Lelo Nika on Serbian Accordion, Thommy Andersson on Swedish Bass and George Mihalache on Romanian Cimbalom – this is a piece by five musicians from four different countries who won't let any boundaries hinder them. When the Lelo Trio make music, Romanian and North Scandinavian folklore blend together easily, creating a folklore melody with a touch of European Jazz rhythms. Add to this Shashank and Ojas' flair for Indian style melodies, and the result is a new, breaking sound, never heard before on the music scene. The whole concert leaves the impression of musical togetherness.

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2016

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Aqua, The Park New Delhi

### ***Nerves by Surjit Nongmeikapam***

Synopsis: Nerves is a performance art piece, rooted in the expressions of the voiceless people from Manipur, a state nestled in the Northeast corner of India. Through the medium of contemporary dance performance, the artistes are trying to explore the lives that have been exhausted by the constant questioning of one's world, without any answers. Rather than focusing on dance technique, the idea of the performance is to focus on shedding light on the disturbed senses from the inner self. Therefore, the movements in Nerves are raw and strong. All performers are first timers in the contemporary dance field.

Choreographed by Surjit Nongmeikapam (Bonbon) and performed by Purnima Yengkokpam, Senjam Hemjit Meitei, Laiphangbam Suraj Roy, Sumeet Sagolsem, Suresh Kiran Singh Khundrakpam and Surjit himself, this piece was the winner of PECDA 2014. Other credits include Ryoya Fudetani for Light Design, Premananda Nongthombam for Light Assistance, R.K. Roseen for Sound Design, Sunil Loitongbam for Sound Mix, Wangkhei Phee Mantri for Costumes, Renuka Soraisam for Project Management and Suresh Kiran Singh Khundrakpam for Production and Stage Management.

Date: 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2016

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Shri Ram Centre Auditorium, New Delhi

### ***Elephant in the Room - Yuki Ellias***

Synopsis: Elephant in the Room is a solo theatre performance about the whimsical adventures of a young boy in search of his missing head. It's a coming of age story, with eccentric characters, whose destinies intertwine in a plot that twists and thrills. Master Tusk is a young boy, whose been given a new head - an elephant's head. Confused and bewildered, he finds himself lost in the forest. But dangers lurk at every turn. He encounters a motley couple - they're Makadi (spider) and Moork (poacher), a clumsy duo in search of a big-ticket ransom. Things don't go as planned when a prophecy that is revealed changes everything. Amidst a cursed love affair, an encounter with the eccentric old elephant and the hunt for a missing head, Master Tusks sets off on an adventure that changes his life. But will he be able to carry his head on his shoulders?

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Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2016

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Mantra, The Park New Delhi

### **Artiste Profile**

#### **▪ SHASHANK MEETS LELO NIKA**

#### **1. Shashank Subramanyam**

Maestro Shashank Subramanyam, a Grammy nominated exponent of the Flute, began performing for the general public in 1984, at the age of six. He was the youngest musician to have been invited by The Music Academy, Chennai, to perform the senior-most slot of the Academy (often performed by Legends of Indian Classical Music), at the

age of 12 - a record yet to be broken in the history of South Indian Music.

Now, with successful career spanning over 30 years in the field of Indian Classical Music, Shashank has performed all across the globe and his landmark concerts include those at Rashtrapathi Bhavan in 1992, Skopje Jazz Festival – Macedonia, Copenhagen Jazz Festival – Denmark, The Smithsonian, Kennedy Center and National Academy of Sciences in Washington D.C., J. Paul Getty Hall – Hollywood and a host of other prestigious institutions.

Trained by his own father Subramanyam and vocal maestros R.K. Srikantan and Palghat K.V. Narayanaswami, Shashank is presently considered one of the best Bamboo Flute artists and is hailed so by the Indian and international media alike. The BBC World TV has telecast a documentary on Shashank titled 'Destination Music'. Shashank is one of the youngest recipients of the 'A Top' ranking in the All India Radio and TV. A recipient of the *Kalaimamani* from the Tamil Nadu Govt, *Kuzhal Arasar* from the prestigious Kellogg School of Management, Chicago and a host of other awards over the years, Shashank has over 65 CDs and several DVDs to his credit.

## **2. Lelo Nika**

Lelo Nika, was born in the village of Nikolinci and spent his early childhood in Denmark. Lelo started playing the accordion at the age of five. Lelo's father, also an accordionist, was his first accordion teacher. Their family was well known for its gypsy music traditions passed down through generations. Lelo moved to Yugoslavia when he was ten years old and from the very first day he became active in a folklore orchestra led by lonel Corneanu. First violinist of the orchestra, Corneanu introduced Lelo to music in the best of ways – how to play as a soloist, the orchestral structure, and the history of the music. Lelo also studied under the Serbian accordionist Branimir Dokic for three years, going deeply into Slavic and Romanian culture. He then went back to Denmark, to study under Mogens Ellegaard and got a classical education for five years. After that he studied at the Danish Harmonica academy for Jeanette Dyremose and later at Malmo Academy of Music with Lars Holm.

Through the years, Lelo has performed and played with several jazz celebrities and has toured with Joe Zawinul (Weather Report) and Randy Brecker. With time, his musical horizon grew versatile and broad. Today he places great importance on the mission of both preserving and developing the musical traditions that he derives from, as well as on composing new music. He has won the title 'Accordion World Champion' twice.

## **3. George Mihalache**

George Mihalache was born in Bucharest, Romania in 1971. He grew up in a musical family with deep roots in folklore music. His family has a history of musicians dating back to more than a hundred years. In 1994, he moved to Copenhagen, Denmark where

he still lives. George has worked with many great musicians in many styles and has been touring all over the world with his personal and outstanding Cimbalom playing.

#### **4. *Thommy Andersson***

Thommy Andersson is, besides a bass & cello player, also educator, composer for rhythmic and classical ensembles, arranger for orchestras and soloists. He has established himself with a warm & “woody” personal playstyle from the Swedish folk music tradition. He currently plays with Pierre Dorge’s New Jungle Orchestra touring the globe frequently. Besides collaborating with Scandinavian musicians such as Josefine Cronholm, Lelo Nika and Jesper Zeuthen, Thommy has been a part of collaborations with highly acclaimed musicians such as Yussef Lateef, Kenny Werner, Bob Gulotti, Paul Bley, Adam Nussbaum, Jonathan Blake, Randy Brecker, Han Bennik, Jerry Bergonzi, David Kikoski, Alex Riel, Hamid Drake, Daniel Humair, Kirk Knuffke, Chris Cheek, Manolo Badrena, Harry Becket, Raoul Bjorkenheim, Rune Gustavsson, Ray Anderson, Herb Robertson, John Tchicai, Marc Ducret, John Tchicai and so on. He has recorded 4 solo albums & 9 albums as a co-leader. He has participated in more than 200 albums.

#### **5. *Ojas Adhiya***

Ojas Adhiya, a child prodigy in music, is mentioned in Limca Book of World Records as the youngest *Tabla* player of India. He is a prominent upcoming name in the field of Indian Classical Music. Ojas started learning *Tabla* from Shri Mridangraj Ji when he was five years old. Ojas was fortunate to travel and perform in ‘Little Wonders’ programs of Shri Kalyanji – Anandji’s *Kalavir* Academy for almost 500 stage shows globally, with many distinctions to his credit. He has performed as an accompanist to stalwarts and also as a soloist in India and around the world. A recipient of numerous awards, including the Bismillah Khan *Yuva Puraskar* in 2015, Ojas’s name features in scores of CDs from Indian Classical Music.

##### **▪ *Yuki Ellias***

Yuki Ellias is a performer, director and a corporate coach. She trained at the Jacques Lecoq International School of Theatre in Paris and is a trained pedagogue from the London International School of Performing Arts. As an actress she has performed in the UK, US, Canada, Australia, Italy and India. She played the role of ‘Hermia’ in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* directed by Tim Supple and has performed at the Royal Shakespeare Company festival in Stratford-upon-Avon, at The Roundhouse in London, Theatre Romano in Verona and at the Sydney Theatre Company. She was the movement director for UK’s leading opera company, Opera North’s and handled the production of Mozart’s *Magic Flute* in 2007. Her debut feature film ‘Love You To Death’, as co-writer and actress won an Audience Choice Award at the Anchorage International Film Festival

and the Royal Reel Award at the Canada International Film Festival in 2012.

She made her directorial debut in 2015 with a sci-fi comedy called 'Charge'. This year she has created three shows: 'Dying to Succeed', a one-woman solo comedy show on Shakespeare's characters in today's corporate world; 'Yatagarasu', a dance and theatre show on growing up stories; and 'Elephant in the Room' a solo on a boy with the head of a pachyderm.

She is the founder of DUR SE BROTHERS – which produced 'Charge', 'Dying to Succeed', and co-produced of 'Yatagarasu' & 'It's Not What You Think'. Yuki is also a convenor and instructor at Drama School, Mumbai.

- **NERVES**

### **1. Surjit Nongmeikapam (Bonbon)**

Surjit Nongmeikapam (Bonbon) was born in Manipur, India. Bonbon has a B.A. in Choreography and has worked with the Natya Stem Dance Kampni and Natya Maya, Bangalore as a contemporary and traditional dancer. He is trained in Kathak, *Kalaripayattu*, Manipuri dance, contemporary dance and Thang-Ta, a form of martial arts. He continues to learn many other movement styles from various gurus/ mentors. In 2010, Bonbon trained under Kolkata Sanved in their 3-month course, Dance and Movement Therapy. He was also a dance therapist at H2H, Human to Humane, Imphal, during 2009-2013. He has given awareness and dance workshops to several trauma victims in Manipur.

Bonbon is now exploring an interdisciplinary experimental performance art with the physical and emotional content in his pieces. He also works with visual artists and filmmakers as collaborator. Some notable dance films he has worked in include, Black Pot and Movement and Underline. Bonbon has toured and participated in major dance festivals in Switzerland, France, Singapore, Belgium, Japan, USA, Germany, Spain, Portugal, UK and more. He is the Managing Director of Nachom Arts of Contemporary Movement, Manipur.

### **2. Purnima Yengkokpam**

Purnima is a versatile theatre artist who graduated from the National School of Drama, New Delhi, having specialized in Acting. She has previously been involved with theatre groups such as Ocean and Khenjonlang. After graduating from NSD in 2013, she has been working as a freelance theatre artist and a collaborator in different aspects such as actor training, costume design and stage management, on both national and international platforms. Some of her solo performances include Voice of the Silence, Unheard Voice, Jaiva and more. She participated and performed in the 8th Asia Pacific

Bureau Theatre Schools Festivals and Directors Conference, Singapore (2015) and the Asia Theatre Educations Centre Festival, Beijing (2012). She has worked with eminent theatre personalities such as Dr. Anuradha Kapur, Robin Das, Venu G. Nayyar, H. Kanhailal, Abhilash Pillai, David Zindar, Michael Moritz and many more. Her other skills comprise of Circus Performances and Clowning, *Kallaripayatu*, Manipuri Martial Arts (Thang-ta), Manipuri Folk Dance, Voice and Speech, Advanced Make-up and Prosthetic Make-up.

### **3. *Senjam Hemjit Meitei (Tombi)***

Tombi has had the pleasure of being a part of several national and international level artists residencies focusing on dance and movement. He is a co-founder of a locally well-known dance crew '*Ardac the Sayon*'. He has participated in important international dance festivals, touring Thailand, Spain, Portugal and London. He is currently working with Nachom Arts Foundastion, under the guidance and supervision of Surjit Nongmeikapam (Bonbon). He specializes in Thang-ta, Manipuri folk dance and music, modern dance, hip-hop and contemporary dance.

### **4. *Laiphangbam Suraj Roy (Yaima)***

A young contemporary dancer, Yaima has been learning and working under the guidance of Surjit Singh Nongmeikapam since 2013. He is also a practitioner of the Manipur folk instrument, Pena, under Guru Mayanglambam Mangansana at Laihui. He has travelled with Surjit Nongmeikapam Company to Delhi, Bangalore, Chennai, Barcelona, Portugal and London. His interest in exploring the body through movement led him to the platform of contemporary dance.

### **5. *Sumeet Sagolsem***

Sumeet is a dancer who has been pursuing a dance career since 2015. He specializes in hip-hop and is a founding member of locally well-known dance crew '*Ardac the Sayon*'. He worked as a choreographer at several colleges, institutions and camps. He has choreographed different styles of dance in various events held in Bangalore. Some of his achievements include several prizes won at Manfeete, a college event in Manipur during 2010-2014.

### **6. *Suresh Kiran Singh Khundrakpam (Tomba)***

Suresh studied psychology from Pune University but he quit, as he began to believe more in experiential knowledge rather than formal education. So, he started to learn performing from Surjit, as well as working with the management of Nachom Arts



Foundation. He has worked on many projects with Imasi Foundation. He is a trained mountaineer and participated in many local expeditions. He is versatile, free spirited and nature loving and believes in working at a basic level.

## **Press**

The Wire, 11 September, 2016 The Scent of Danger When Art Comes Alive: Four Voices on 'Nerves'

<https://thewire.in/65303/the-scent-of-danger-nerves/>

The Hindu, Mumbai, 15 September, 2016 – The thin edge

<http://www.thehindu.com/entertainment/dance/The-thin-edge/article14376404.ece>

The Hindu, New Delhi, 8 October, 2016 - The artful decade

<http://www.thehindu.com/features/magazine/The-artful-decade/article15474378.ece>

What's Up Life, 2 September, 2016 – The Park's New Festival 2016

<https://www.whatsuplife.in/the-parks-new-festival-park-hotels-india/>