

THE LOST WAX PROJECT

We are delighted to support The Lost Wax Project, conceptualised and choreographed by Chennai-based dancer, Preethi Athreya. Korean lighting designer, Jeonghee Kang's unobtrusive yet compelling lighting plot complements Preethi and her dancers' contemporary movement vocabulary to create a presentation that is provocatively abstract, evocative and disruptive.

There is no space and time before movement. The body does not move into space and time – it creates space and time. Every time the body moves, it is reaching out towards something, constantly creating different worlds. Constantly reaching for a relation that will re-invent itself.

To think of the body as that which is constantly sensing and changing, is to shift the question from what our bodies are to what they can do. Without a commitment to how we move, our bodies are no more than types – normalised within pre-decided categories – like citizen, anarchist, refugee, wife, homeless, believer, atheist, man, lesbian, etc. The moving body may be the only recourse where we attempt to touch what is not yet. When we engage in the potential of an individual – to become beyond identity.

This potentiality is what exposes difference in systems that appear to be organised and unchanging. Potentiality appears every time language exceeds its syntax, every time an other exceeds my reach, every time I sense more than I comprehend. This potentiality is necessary for the times we live in.

- Preethi Athreya (Choreographer).

The Lost Wax Project - Artistic team:

Preethi Athreya (Choreographer)

A Chennai-based contemporary dancer, Preethi Athreya trained in Bharatanatyam and later went on to do a postgraduate degree in Dance Studies (Laban Centre, London, 2001). Between 1999 and 2011, she worked with Padmini Chettur from where she inherited the evolving legacy of Chandralekha and a strong commitment to constantly redefine the Indian body.

Working within the Indian contemporary dance scene as a performer, choreographer and facilitator, Preethi belongs to a league of dance-makers in India today who use dance as an agent of change. Her initial training in Bharatanatyam and her subsequent training to unlearn the strictures that this classical form placed on the body can be traced across many of her works. Her art is process-driven in a manner that makes it evident within the structure of the works she creates.

This also leads to a demystification of the choreographic work – something that Preethi consciously aims for.

She regards her own oeuvre as 'an attempt to reclaim the body from numerous kinds of anaesthetization that it is constantly subjected to.'

Avantika Bahl Goyal (Performer)

Avantika Bahl is a dance practitioner based in Mumbai where she makes her own work and teaches. She studied at the London Contemporary Dance School and has previously made a full-length work *wonkot* and two short solos, *11048*, *M81* and *Here* at the Gati residency and Facets residency respectively. She also helps run Dance Dialogues, an initiative that connects dance makers and dance lovers to provocative and diverse ideas, individuals and institutions. *Say, What?* is her current work.

Dipna Daryanani (Performer)

Dipna is a dancer, educator and clothing designer. She is deeply interested in understanding the body, and communication of the body through the arts. She works extensively with preschoolers, primary school students and teachers to help take movement and

theatre to the classroom. She also runs a sustainable and ethical clothing line for children - 'Love the World Today' in the capacity of designer and co-founder.

Kamakshi Saxena (Performer)

Kamakshi Saxena is a dance practitioner with 15 years of dance, performance and teaching experience. She received her education in ballet, jazz and contemporary dance styles with The Danceworx Performing Arts Academy in New Delhi and performed extensively with The Danceworx Company. She further trained in modern dance techniques at the Alvin Ailey School, New York City and got the opportunity to work and perform with several dance companies in New York. She continues to explore further into the realms of movement and divides her time between teaching dance, performing and choreographing.

Sanchita Sharma (Performer)

Sanchita is a Delhi-based dancer trained in Jazz, Contemporary, Modern and Classical ballet. She holds a Masters in Performance studies from Ambedkar University. She has worked with The Danceworx Company from 2002-2013, and was part of the MASA dance Intensive with the Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company, in Israel in 2013-14. She has performed at The Fringe Festival, The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo (UK), Colors of India Festival (China), Release 4.0 with Maya Dance Theater (Singapore), Delhi International

Arts Festival, Salaam India (USA) and has been an artist-in-residence in The Chrysalis Project and at the Gati Dance Forum.

Jeonghee Kang (Lighting Designer)

Kang Jeong-hee is a lighting designer based in Seoul, Korea. After completing a Bachelor of Arts in Stage Design from the prestigious Korea National University of Arts in 2002, Kang was a Teaching assistant in Lighting design at the Korea National University of Arts from 2005 to 2007, a Lighting Director in a Martial arts company 'Yeagam' in 2008 and a Lecturer in Lighting Design at the Seoul Arts College in 2015. She has been part of several landmark performing arts projects such as - Creative Group Tuida's 'Hamlet Cantabile', and 'Bahucharamata-Beyond Binary' in Korea and in India which was commissioned by InKo Centre, Creative Group Noni's 'Kokdu', at the Puppet Theater Festival in Germany; Pansori Musical Group TAROO's 'The Tiger with White eyebrows'; Martial Arts Group 'Jump', at Bangkok; the Musical 'Agatha', the play 'Cherry Orchard'; the Musical 'Brooklyn'; Dance company Trust's 'Third turn', Guerrilla theater and several other noteworthy productions. Kang's lighting is strong yet unobtrusive and always remains an intriguing, integral presence, a counterpoint that balances and complements the actors, dancers and musicians on stage.



CHENNAI

Feb 23, 24, 2018

Time: 7 pm. Open to all.

(Cholamandal Artist Village)

www.cholamandalartistvillage.com

MUMBAI

Feb 26, 27, 2018

(G5a gallery)

www.g5a.org

KOLKATA

March 8 and 9, 2018

(Pickle Factory Festival Season I
at GEM Cinema)

www.picklefactory.in

This production is co-produced by Goethe Institute Mumbai and Alliance Francaise of Madras.