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SHABANA AZMI

Shabana Azmi will be making a special appearance at the Royal Albert Hall as a part of Chingari - a celebration of Asian popular culture.

In a career span of just twelve years Shabana has emerged as one of the great actresses of the Indian scene by the sheer quality and range of her performance.

She has succeeded in breaking the barriers of the conventional glamour, demystifying the myth of the larger-than-life film star and expressing her talent to explore the changing realities of women on screen.

Her debut in 'Ankur' as the Harjan mistress of a Nawab, superstar Azmi won her the National Award for the Best Actress. Following this, for 'Arth' in 1983, for 'Khandar' in 1984 and for 'Paar' in 1985.

Shabana Azmi will appear exclusively in this GLC Farewell Celebration programme to sing and recite a selection of Urdu Ghazals and poetry. Urdu poetry is Shabana's other main love, her father being the distinguished poet Kaifi Azmi. Her new found love of Urdu culture has been to some extent inspired by Javed Akhtar, her husband, a distinguished script-writer.



SULTAN KHAN

Representing Indore Gharana, Sultan Khan hails from a well known lineage of musicians. His grandfather, Ustad Azim Khan, a renowned Sarangi player of his time, trained his father Ustad Gulab Khan, who is both an acknowledged Sarangi player and vocalist. For his acknowledged command over the instruments and for the delicate artistry with which he performs, Sultan Khan is constantly sought after, and today has become the star attraction in concerts and soirees throughout the world.

J.G. LAYA

Madras, the Indian city where the J.G. LAYA ensemble comes from, is at least in one way comparable with New York in that the city sucks talent from the surroundings and that talent can be found on every street corner. Bombay may be the film centre of India where every day new films are made, but when it comes to music, classical or popular, Madras calls the tune. The Music Festival of Madras is famous throughout India.

Tamil Nadu State, like its neighbouring State of Karnataka, is famous all over for its strong rhythmic music. J.G. LAYA is unlike anything you have ever heard, a rare opportunity to experience the most spectacular group and foremost exponents of percussion music who have already taken India and other major capitals by storm. Featuring famous Vikku Vinayakram of SHAKTI fame playing Ghatam (Claypot) with immense dexterity and great passion. Subhash Chandran, the great exponent of 'KONNAKOL' - a form of vocal percussion that beats 'scatting'. With additional drummers the group will perform in a tradition dominated by three thousand year old CARNATIC RHYTHMS.

ZAKIR HUSSAIN

The son of the renowned tabla virtuoso Alla Rakha, Zakir Hussain studied the tabla at a very young age under his illustrious father. His performing career was already under way when he was seven years old: in his mid-teens Zakir was a favourite accompanist for many great musicians.

Zakir Hussain also teaches, and is currently tabla master at the Ali Akbar College of Music in California. He has recorded at least 45 albums, and also scored music for films.

A versatile artist, he plays with India's top soloists, and as a complete contrast, has also made appearances with such diverse groups as the New Orleans Symphony and the London String Quartet besides his own East-West fusion, 'Shakti', 'Shanti' and 'The Diga Band'.

ALLAN FAKIR

Allan Fakir
Ali Mohammed
Ghaus Bux Brohi
Mitha Khan

Of all Sindh folk musicians, Allan Fakir is probably the best known and best loved, outside as well as in his native land. His success in communicating Sindh music to a wide audience, including several appearances abroad, won him the President's Prize of Performance Award.

Born in Amri, the village at the site of the prehistoric ruins near Khairpur, Allan is the son of Dayim Ali, who was also known as Dhammal Fakir, a renowned Dhol player who studied with Diwan Mulchand Mehraj of Saur. Allan was first introduced to the public at Bhit Shah in 1967.

Allan Fakir also owes his prominence as an artist to his rendering of the 'Wa' of Shah Abdul Latif in his own particular style, now recognised as being one of its kind.

The 'Wa' is a typical form of poetry which was introduced by Shah Inayat in the 17th century.

Allan's arrangements of 'Wa' poetry are so graceful and delicate yet powerful that they have become one of the most popular parts of his repertoire.

He has managed to popularise the form without cheapening it, making a major contribution to Sindh folk music.



Outline programme of events - more performances and workshops to be finalised. For further information telephone 01-633 1275 / 1535.

Tuesday 4 March

NUMAISH - Exhibition by Asian Women Artists at the Peoples Gallery, 73 Prince of Wales Road, London NW5 3LT. Tel: 01-267 0433. Tues. 4th March - Sat. 22nd March.

Thursday 6 March

BATIK WORKSHOP 9am - 4.30pm at Villiers High School, Boyd Avenue, Southall, Middlesex. Tel: 01-843 9281.

Friday 7 March

DISHARI SHILPI GHOSHI at Tara Arts Centre, 356 Garratt Lane, London SW18 4ES. Tel: 01-871 145890.

Saturday 8 March

FILM THEATRE AND DANCE: Workshops and Performances at Tara Arts Centre, 356 Garratt Lane, London SW18 4ES. Tel: 01-871-145890

Friday 7 March

BATIK WORKSHOP 1.30 - 4.30pm at Fetherstone High School, Western Road, Southall, Middlesex. Tel: 01-843 9281.

Saturday 8 March

HARROW DISCO DANDIA 6 - 11pm at Harrow Leisure Centre, Christchurch Avenue, Harrow, Middlesex. Tel: 01-848 9281. Featuring Mohamed Kassam and Gujarat Arts.

Sunday 9 March

SOUTHALL MELA 6 - 11pm at Lancaster Hall, Lancaster Road, Southall, Middlesex. **Punjab Dancers, Awaara, Hounslow Arts Co-op & Hansraj Hans**. Exhibitions by Southall Arts and Southall Black Sisters. Tel: 01-848 9281.

MUSHAIRA 5 - 9pm at Mahatma Gandhi Hall, Indian YMCA, Fitzroy Square, London W1.

INTERNATIONAL GOAN CULTURAL EXTRAVAGANZA - **GEOMCARAMCHEM VODLEM FUNCAO** 2 - 10pm at Harrow Leisure Centre, Christchurch Avenue, Harrow, Middlesex. The event will also utilise local talents with a 'Theatre' performed by a Goan group, traditional Konkani songs, kundi dance, local Goan bands, Konkani films including 'Amchem Noshio' and exhibitions and displays by local artists.

Monday 10 March

CHINGARI CONCERT 8pm at Brent Town Hall, Forty Lane, Wembley, Middlesex.

ASIAN THEATRE at Croydon Warehouse Theatre, **THE FOOL** by Khalid Tyabji and **SALT OF THE EARTH** by Tara Arts Group (to be confirmed).

BATIK WORKSHOP Elderly Day Centre, 20 Western Road, Southall, Middlesex. Tel: 01-843 9281.

Tuesday 11 March

PRINT MAKING WORKSHOP 9am - 4.30pm at Villiers High School, Boyd Avenue, Southall, Middlesex. Tel: 01-843 9281.

Wednesday 12 March

PRINT MAKING WORKSHOP 1.30 - 4.30pm at Fetherstone High School, Western Road, Southall, Middlesex. Tel: 01-843 9281.

Thursday 13 March

HOUNSLOW CHINGARI CONCERT: Hounslow Civic Centre (to be confirmed)

HARROW CHINGARI CONCERT: Harrow Leisure Centre (to be confirmed)

EELAM: THE TAMIL NATION FIGHTS FOR SURVIVAL 6pm. Exhibition opens at the Institute of Education, Bedford Way, London WC1. Tel: 01-769 5340.

PRINT MAKING WORKSHOP: Elderly Day Centre, 20 Western Road, Southall, Middlesex. Tel: 01-843 9281.

For final details of the local Chingari programme telephone: 01-633 1275 / 1588

BOOKING INFORMATION

ROYAL ALBERT HALL
KENSINGTON GORE S.W.7 2AP
TEL: Box Office 01-589 8212
Credit Card 01-589 9465

Personal Bookings: Monday to Saturday: 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. or until the interval of evening concert performances. Sundays: 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. Bookings are accepted for the performance on that day only. The Box Office, therefore, is not open on Sundays when there is no performance.

Postal Bookings: Orders should be sent to the Box Office, Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AP and should be accompanied by a stamped, addressed return envelope at first class letter rate for events which are imminent. Where tickets are not available at price requested, lower price tickets will be sent with refund unless notified to the contrary. Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to the 'Royal Albert Hall'. Tickets will be held at the Box Office for collection if postal applications are received too late for them to be returned.

Telephone Bookings: Monday to Saturday: 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. Telephone 01-589 8212. Tickets will be reserved and must be claimed personally or by post within 48 hours. Reservations will be by price area and not by detailed row and seat numbers. Sundays: 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. Depending on availability, tickets for the evening may be reserved by telephone for collection by 6.30 p.m.

Ticket Prices: The coding under ticket prices refers to seating areas shown on the general plan. Restricted view seating is marked *

Admission: Doors open 45 minutes before the time of commencement of functions, unless otherwise stated.

CHINGARI: THE SPARK: A CELEBRATION OF ASIAN POPULAR CULTURE
ADVANCE BOOKING FORM

Please make all cheques payable to: **ROYAL ALBERT HALL**, Royal Albert Hall, Box Office: 01-589 8212. Credit Cards: 01-589 9465.

Ticket prices: £2.50 £3.50 £5.00 £6.50 £8.00 £10.00

DAY	DATE	TIME	ARTISTE	NO OF TICKETS	PRICE	TOTAL
Tues	4 March	7.30 pm	RUNA LAILA and others			
Wed	5 March	7.30 pm	BAULS FROM BENGAL			
Thurs	6 March	7.30 pm	SHABANA AZMI			

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED:

Please send your remittance with first class SAE stamped, addressed envelope to: Box Office, Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AP

Name (Mr, Mrs, Ms, etc)

Address

Tel: (Work)

(Home)

Doors of entry shown on tickets are indicated on the general plan.

General information is obtained on 01-589 3203.

Disabled patrons wishing to take advantage of special services should telephone 01-589 3203 ext. 24 well in advance of their visit. There is a wheelchair ramp at door 13/14.

Transport

Underground (Nearest Stations)
Kensington High Street (Circle and District Lines)
Knightsbridge (Piccadilly Line)

South Kensington (Piccadilly, Circle and District Lines)
KEY TO THEATRE

a - Arena £10.00 £8.00

b - Stalls £10.00 £8.00 £6.50

c - Boxes £10.00 £8.00 £6.50

d - Balcony £3.50 £2.50

e - Orchestra £5.00

Ticket Prices: £2.50 £3.50 £5.00

£6.50 £8.00 £10.00

