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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1985



the centre  
for  
contemporary  
ASIAN ARTS  
in Britain

GLC  
funded

Financially assisted by  
The London  
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Art, Culture, Video, Black & Ethnic Arts Archive  
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# TARA ARTS CENTRE

Britain's first **Contemporary Asian Arts Centre** was opened in September 1983 to provide a focus for Asian Arts activity in the U.K.

Now after eighteen months of extensive renovation the **Centre** re-opens in September with a full season of contemporary Asian performing arts featuring international and U.K. based artists.

**The Centre** is now fully operational with a 50-seat studio theatre, workshop space, meeting rooms and coffee bar. It is also the base for **Tara Arts touring** and **Theatre in Education** companies.

A full year's events will present a wide-ranging programme of the best Asian arts activity from Britain and abroad as well as lecture-demonstrations, workshops, illustrated talks and forums. To keep in regular touch with all the **Centre's** activities join our one year free mailing list by filling in the form on this leaflet and you will receive a full calendar of events every two months. Better still, receive the calendar and enjoy substantial discounts on tickets for all events by becoming a member for just £5.00 per annum (or £7.50 for family membership). Fill in the form attached and **join Britain's newest, vibrant Asian Arts Centre.**

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## SOUTH ASIA FORUM:

*'The Dalit Struggle in India'*  
talk and discussion led by  
*Amarjeet Singh*

Thursday September 5, 7.30pm  
**DONATION**

The Forum provides a regular platform for talks and discussions focussing on political issues of South Asia. Amarjeet Singh talks this evening on the victims of the caste system.

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## SOUTH ASIAN ARTS FORUM

*'South Asian Music – Funding and its Future'*

Saturday September 7, 2-6pm  
**ALL WELCOME**

A comprehensive forum discussing **South Asian**

**music in Britain** in the light of the Arts Council's recent enquiry and Greater London Arts Association's South Asian Music Research Project.

Representatives of Funding Bodies, Arts Organisations, the ILEA and Professional musicians will lead discussions on Funding and Education towards developing a strategy for the provision of South Asian Music in the U.K.

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**ANUP BISWAS** – cello  
with Ghulam Sarwar – percussion

Saturday September 14, 7.30pm  
£3.00, reduction £2.25



ANUP BISWAS

A recital in two parts: firstly pieces for solo cello written for Anup by sitarist Imrat Khan and composer Naresh Sohal; and secondly a percussion solo and an improvisation based on an Indian raga between cello and Indian percussion.

*"His mellow tone, technical control, and relish of the importance of punctuation, mark him out as an exceptionally gifted player".* Music and Musicians.

**(ANUP BISWAS MASTERCLASS** - see workshops panel for details).

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**ASTAD DEBOO and FERROZA SYAL**

Friday and Saturday, September 20 & 21,  
7.30pm £3.00, reductions £2.25

**Astad Deboo**, whose unique dance style draws on





FEROZA SYAL

an enormous range of movement forms from Kathakali to Pina Bausch, in a collaboration with the stunning comic and vivid characterisation skill of **Feroza Syal**. The piece, specially devised for Tara Arts Centre will run for just two evenings only.

Astad Deboo *"a stunning display of strength, agility, stamina and grace"*. Financial Express, India.

Feroza Syal *"an astonishing comic range"*. Times Higher Education Supplement.

## TELLERS OF TIME

Flora Gatha and Tuup Amin

Friday September 27, 7.30pm

£3.00, reductions £2.25

*Children's Matinee*

Saturday September 28, 2.00pm

50p (adults £1.00)

Traditional myths and legends from India, Africa, and the Caribbean retold through dance, mime and African drumming.

**Flora**, trained in the Odissi style of Indian dance,

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GARMINDER VIR OBE BLACK & ETHNIC ARTS ARCHIVE

has since worked with mime theatre companies in Paris and London. **Tuup**, an accomplished percussionist with several groups including Fusion and Turning Point, has also developed a vibrant style of story-telling.



THE TELLERS OF TIME

## GILLES PETIT

### 'The Sound of the Body'

Saturday September 28, 7.30pm  
£3.00, reductions £2.25

A vocal instrumental recital by **Gilles Petit** based on his personal research into Indian music. His study has explored the oral teaching tradition, as well as the effects of sound generation on the body. Through his research he has evolved an integrated oral vocabulary based on sound, harmony, rhythm, time and body language.

A unique evening of powerful music and movement.

*"a remarkable musician... Petit is equally at home in Western and Indian vocal traditions, and his compositions were the undoubted gold". Times of India.*

Vir OBE BLACK & ETHNIC ARTS ARCHIVE  
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GILLES PETIT



## THIS STORY'S NOT FOR TELLING

a new production by  
Tara Arts

Monday Sept 30-2 Oct 7.30pm

Thursday Oct 3-5 Oct 8.00pm

£2.80, reductions £2.00

**Tara's** autumn production focuses on the theme of communalism amongst the Asian communities in Britain. The play has been devised by the company in collaboration with **Dr Anuradha Kapur**, a specialist in Indian Folk Theatre of the National School of Drama in Delhi.

An event not to be missed, the production, drawing on the folk theatre traditions, incorporates dance, mime and song in a powerful and entertaining combination which is Tara's trademark.

Critics on past productions:

*"This is Tara at its best: probing, exploring, experimenting, pioneering"* – The Scotsman

*"Bertolt Brecht would have approved"* – Times Educational Supplement



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# POETRY IN PERFORMANCE

*a three day celebration of poetry  
and its connection with the  
performing arts*

Thursday Oct 10 to Saturday Oct 12  
£3.00, reductions £2.25 per evening

Thursday October 10, 7.30pm

Sung and recited works by poets from  
**URDU MARKAZ**  
**GUJARATI LITERARY ACADEMY**  
plus other regional language poets.

Friday October 11, 7.30pm

**HOUNSLOW ARTS CO-OPERATIVE**  
new work in English performed by members of  
the co-operative with music and slides.

**PUNJABI PROGRESSIVE WRITERS**

new work read by several poets from the group.

**ASIAN WOMEN'S WRITERS WORKSHOP**

poems and short stories in English performed by  
members of the collective.



VALLI SUBBIAH

Saturday October 12, 7.30pm

**Mahmood Jamal and Valli Subbiah**

A collaboration between a contemporary poet  
and an Indian dancer, specially devised for **Tara  
Arts Centre**. The piece draws on the traditional  
verse interpretation techniques of Indian dance to  
produce an evocative contemporary perform-  
ance.

(**Writers Clinic** – see Workshop Panel for details).



## SOUTH ASIA FORUM

'The Liberation Struggle in South Africa' – Ron Moodly

Sunday October 13, 3.00pm DONATION

A talk and discussion on one of the most emotive of contemporary political issues.

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## Journeywomen's 'LA MALINCHE'

JOURNEYWOMEN



devised and performed by

**Mala Sikka, Debbie Green and Sue Weston**

Saturday October 19, 7.30pm

£3.00, reductions £2.25

A powerful evocation of the role of Malinche in the conquering of Mexico by the Spanish. She was sold into slavery, became the lover of Cortes, and thereby commanded great power, and the fate of a nation.

A new piece of Music-Theatre featuring songs, dance and mime from several cultural traditions, highly praised at this years Edinburgh Festival.

*"Together they create some moments of great beauty"* – The Scotsman

**(JOURNEYWOMEN MOVEMENT WORKSHOP – see panel for details).**

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## YOUTH DANCE DAY

Saturday October 26

*A day of classes, workshops, performance and dancing for all*

## KATHAK AND BREAKDANCE

**Kathak** 2.00 to 4.00pm £1.50, reductions £1.00.

An introduction for the under 25's to this lively rhythmic dance from North India, by a young dancer trained by **Alpana Sengupta**.

**Bodypopping and Robotics** 4.30 to 6.00pm £1.50, reduction £1.00.

Pick up some expert tips from members of **Phoenix** for your 'locking' 'cracking' and 'flowing'.

## **Students of Alpana Sengupta plus Phoenix**

7.30pm £3.00, reductions and under 25's £2.25

Two of London's most exciting groups of young dancers. **Alpana's Students** perform the rhythmic and dynamic Kathak dance from North India, and **Phoenix** draw on their Burmese origins to produce stunningly original 'Popping' and 'Electric boogie'. **Get on down!**



## **WORKSHOPS, CLASSES**

### **EXPRESSIVE MOVEMENT**

by **ASTAD DEBOO**

Friday September 13, 6.30-8.30pm

£2.50, reductions £1.75

A workshop for dancers, actors and performers, and those interested in extending their range of



expressive facial and body language.

## IMPROVISATION MASTERCLASS

by ANUP BISWAS

Saturday September 14, 3-5pm

£2.50, reductions £1.75

A class by this excellent cellist for musicians or music students of the Indian or Western classical traditions, to work on particular structures and methods of improvising, based on the Indian tradition.

## INDIAN FOLK THEATRE TRADITIONS IN CONTEMPORARY THEATRE

by TARA ARTS

Saturday October 12, 10.30am-2.00pm

£2.50, reductions £1.75

Devised for performers of all disciplines to sample some of the Indian folk theatre traditions, the workshop, based on the groups' work for the latest production, explores story-telling techniques, stylised movement, and expressive mime.

## POETS CLINIC

Saturday October 12, 3-6pm

Free

An informal opportunity for writers and poets to discuss their work, writing techniques, and Asian poetry in Britain, with several poets featured in the season, including members of the **Asian Womens Writers Workshop**, the **Urdu Markaz**, and **Mahmood Jamal**.

## INDIAN DANCE-DRAMA TECHNIQUES

by Journeywomen's MALA SIKKA

Friday October 18, 6.30-8.30pm

£2.50, reductions £1.75

An introduction to the powerful and dramatic body language of traditional Indian dance. The workshop is designed as a practical introduction for performers from all disciplines. The techniques and movements develop body control as well as creating direct and dynamic methods of conveying ideas and emotions in performance.



**BOOKING**

Advance booking is advisable to avoid queuing and disappointment. Telephone bookings can be made from Monday to Friday, 10.30am-5.30pm on 01-871 1459, and the box-office will tell you how and when to pay. Postal bookings can be made by filling in the Booking Form on this leaflet and sending it with a stamped, self addressed envelope with a cheque or postal order for the appropriate amount, made payable to 'Tara Arts Group'. Bookings made without an s.a.e. will be held at the box-office. Remaining tickets will be sold at the box-office 40 minutes before the show begins.

**REDUCTIONS**

Reduced price tickets are available to Members, Students, under 18's, O.A.P.'s, and the unemployed. Cards must be shown for proof of status when purchasing tickets.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Membership (£5.00 p.a. or £7.50 p.a. family membership) entitles you to substantial discounts for each event, regular mailing of all events at Tara Arts Centre, priority booking, invitations to special previews and open rehearsals, and opportunities to meet the theatre company and visiting artists.

Fill in the membership section of the 'Booking Form' attached, or just send your remittance with your full name and address, and you will receive your membership card by return.

**COFFEE BAR**

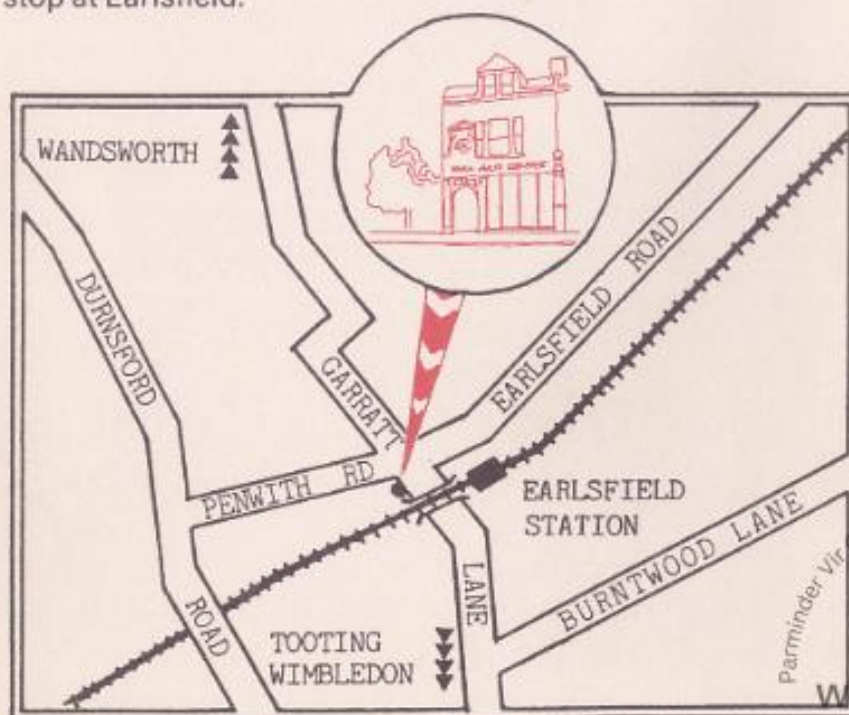
Light refreshments, tea and coffee are available at the Centre 40 minutes before each performance, and during each interval.

**VOLUNTEERS**

Tara Arts Centre always needs voluntary help to assist in the Box-Office, Coffee Bar, back-stage, Front-of-House, and with marketing and publicity. If you have a few hours to spare, regularly or intermittently, contact Rajni at the Centre on 01-871 1458.

**TRAVEL**

Tara Arts Centre is just opposite B.R. Earlsfield station, only 7 minutes from B.R. Waterloo, and 10 minutes from B.R. Victoria (change at Clapham Junction). Also Buses 77, 220, and 280 stop at Earlsfield.



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PARMINDER VIR OBE BLACK & ETHNIC ARTS ARCHIVE

TARA ARTS CENTRE

## BOOKING FORM

Complete and send with a stamped self addressed envelope to:  
TARA ARTS CENTRE, 356 GARRATT LANE, LONDON SW18 4ES

DATE	TIME	EVENT	QUANTITY	PRICE

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me the tickets indicated above. I enclose a cheque/postal order for £ .....  
made payable to 'TARA ARTS GROUP', and a stamped self addressed envelope.

### MEMBERSHIP

To become a member of Tara Arts Centre (£5.00 p.a. or £7.50 p.a. family membership) and enjoy substantial discounts on tickets, regular mailing and other benefits, simply fill in your name and address below, and send the form to Tara Arts Centre with a cheque/postal order for the appropriate amount payable to 'Tara Arts Group'.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

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Telephone .....

### FREE MAILING LIST

If you would like to be regularly informed of activities at the Centre, for our first year of operation we will send you a calendar of events every two months free of charge. Just fill in your name and address above and tick the 'Free Mailing List' box.