

**WORTHAM CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**

INDIAN INK

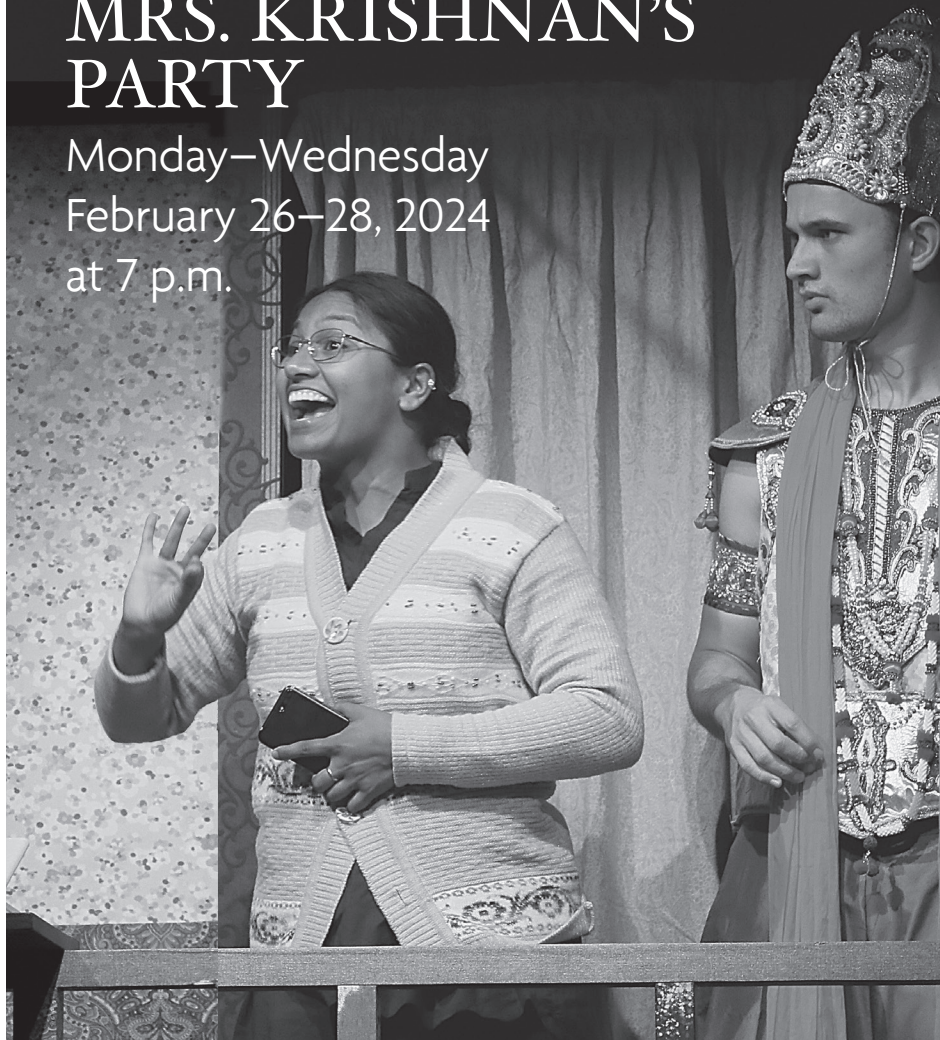
presents

# MRS. KRISHNAN'S PARTY

Monday–Wednesday

February 26–28, 2024

at 7 p.m.



**Sponsored by**

Craig Allen &  
Julie Cowden

John & Marsha  
Ellis

Richard & Francee  
Healy

Nancy  
Houha

Henry  
LaBrun

Amy  
Loether

Ronna & Rob  
Resnick

The Stewart/  
Meredith Trust

Dianne & David  
Worley

Media Sponsor

**wnc** MAGAZINE

# WORTHAM CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

## 2023/2024 SEASON

### INDIAN INK THEATRE COMPANY

The artistic partnership of Jacob Rajan and Justin Lewis is now comfortably in its second decade. Inspired by a love of mask and story, they continue to pursue their idea of the 'Serious Laugh' — opening mouths with laughter to slip serious ideas in. With a series of remarkable productions of intimate scale that blend western theatrical traditions with eastern flavours, they have become one of New Zealand's most successful theatre companies. They aim to leave an indelible imprint on your heart; that's why they're called Indian Ink.

### NOTES FROM THE WRITERS

#### Justin's Notes

Everyone loves a good party; endless laughter, catching up with friends, dancing on tables. But what if you don't know anyone and feel self-conscious about your dancing? What if you're not feeling a box of birds? Do you stay home or fake it till you make it? How do you set yourself free? Onam is such a great celebration because it shows there is more to happiness than just a smile, that to know joy you must also feel sorrow, without death there can be no rebirth. Maybe a party can change your life; you may meet someone who gives you the courage to set yourself free or shows you the resilience required to be truly happy. Thanks for coming out tonight.

#### Jacob's Notes

For the uninitiated Krishnan's Dairy was the name of our very first play. A love story set in a corner shop, the power of which caught everyone by surprise – including us. That shop has kept its doors open for 20 years, touring the length and breadth of New Zealand and throughout the world, becoming as loved and cherished as a child. The story you're taking part in tonight is somewhat of a sequel, but don't worry, you don't have to have seen Krishnan's Dairy to enjoy the party. All you need is here, in the strangers that surround you and the imagination that abounds within, and the wonder of what's going to happen next. That moment of not knowing, of being lost and confused, excited and a little scared is really what tonight is about: change. Something has to die in order for something to be renewed. It's a tough lesson but a constant, existing at every stage of life and extremely present for us in a world that seems to be spinning ever faster. Rather than bemoan how hard it is to get to grips with all this shifting sand we want to celebrate the new castles we will build from it. Party on!

### OUR PEOPLE

#### TOURING TEAM

#### KALYANI NAGARAJAN

*Actor*

This is Kalyani's second role with Indian Ink following 2017's *The Pickle King*. She is very passionate about her culture and representing her background in the arts industry. She practices bharatha natyam (Indian classical dance) and has a flair for accents. Kalyani is a graduate of Toi Whakaari: NZ Drama School and studied in France with Philippe Gaulier.

#### JUSTIN ROGERS

*Actor*

This is Justin's first role with Indian Ink. He loves musical theatre and has performed with Auckland Theatre Company, most recently in *Shortland Street – The Musical*. Justin is also a magician and magic consultant for theatre. He is a graduate of Toi Whakaari: NZ Drama School.

# WORTHAM CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

## 2023/2024 SEASON

### **D. ANDREW POTVIN**

*Production & Tour Manager*

Andrew toured extensively with Indian Ink for 2017's *The Pickle King* and was the logistics coordinator for the 2015 tour of *Kiss the Fish*. He is the Director of Andrew Potvin Designs Ltd which specializes in tour management, business development and lighting design.

### **CREATIVE TEAM**

### **JACOB RAJAN**

*Writer*

Jacob is a founding partner of Indian Ink and co-wrote all of Indian Ink's plays as well as performing in many of them. He is a graduate of Toi Whakaari: NZ Drama school, Otago University (B.Sc Microbiology) and Wellington Teacher's College. Jacob is an Arts Foundation Laureate and a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) for services to theatre.

### **JUSTIN LEWIS**

*Writer and Director*

Justin is a founding partner of Indian Ink. He has co-written and directed all of Indian Ink's plays. He was one of the founders of Auckland's Q Theatre and received a Kaupapa Oranga Award for his services to theatre. Justin is a graduate of the John Bolton Theatre School and the University of Auckland.

### **MURRAY EDMOND**

*Dramaturge*

Murray has been dramaturge on all of Indian Ink's productions. A poet and founder of Town and Country Players (NZ), Murray has recently retired from his role as Professor of Drama at The University of Auckland where he headed the drama programme.

### **JOHN VERRYT**

*Set and Props Designer*

John has worked on all of Indian Ink's productions. With over 30 years' experience John is a leading New Zealand stage designer with an extensive portfolio of work including NZ Opera, Auckland Theatre Company, The Large Group and many others.

### **JANE HAKARAIA**

*Lighting Designer*

This is Jane's third production with Indian Ink following on from *Welcome to the Murder House* and *The Elephant Thief*. Jane holds a degree in product design but her passion is lighting for theatre.

### **FIONA NICHOLS**

*Costume Design*

This is Fiona's second production for Indian Ink after her work on *The Pickle King*. She works mainly in film and television with credits including *Star Wars: Attack of the Clones* and *Revenge of the Sith*, and *Spartacus*.

### **LIAM KELLY**

*Sound Design*

This is Liam's first production with Indian Ink. He won an award for 'Most Innovative Work' at the 2018 Wellington Fringe Festival and is part of Playshop - a late night improv group. Liam recently completed his Masters in Fine Arts in Creative Practice at Victoria University.



**WORTHAM CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**  
2023/2024 SEASON

Anigiduwagi Land Acknowledgement

The Wortham Center acknowledges that we are on the ancestral land of the Anigiduwagi, more commonly known as the Cherokee (ᏍᏍᏅᏍᏏ).

2023  
2024  
SEASON

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

**MARK & MAGGIE O'CONNOR**

March 8 at 8 p.m.

**CATHY LADMAN**

March 16 at 8 p.m.

**PILOBOLUS**

*re:CREATION*

March 22 & 23 at 8 p.m.

**360 ALLSTARS**

March 27 at 7 p.m.

**DERVISH**

March 29 at 8 p.m.

**LIZZY &**

**THE TRIGGERMEN**

April 13 at 8 p.m.

**STEP AFRIKA!**

April 19 & 20 at 7 p.m.

**ROBERT DUBAC'S**

**STAND-UP JESUS**

May 3 & 4 at 8 p.m.

**STEWART/OWEN DANCE**

May 9–11 at 8 p.m.

May 11 & 12 at 2 p.m.

May 16–18 at 8 p.m.

May 18 & 19 at 2 p.m.

**Step Afrika!**  
April 19 & 20



worthamarts.org