

Sawan Short and Sweet: Program Notes

Sanjay Rajoura

Megh Malhaar / A story telling session / Comedy

A story telling session where the actor narrates monsoon stories from his growing up years in a non-descript suburb of Sahibabad. For Sanjay, the onset of the monsoon not only implies an end to the electric supply but also the dating season! His south Delhi girlfriend rubs salt on his sleepless, powerless wounds when she complains about the AC which needs to be turned down...

Duration of performance: 15 mins

The Tadpole Repertory

Rhapsody / Theatre

Tadpole presents two short pieces inspired by the work of the renowned artist SG Vasudev. Originally commissioned to accompany Vasudev's March exhibition at the Lalit Kala Gallery, *Rhapsody* is an interaction of text, space and movement built on motifs from his art work. This particular performance at the Monsoon Festival will feature two pieces inspired by the movement of rain.

Duration of performance: 15 mins

Peggy Mohan

The Jahaji Story / Narration with music

Accompanied by: Amit Mishra (Vocals)

An author's account of Jahajis – migrants from Indian villages who spread out far across the seven seas' to the Carribean. Their stories are connected with the monsoon at many levels – they decide to migrate when the monsoon fails in the hinterland of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh and there is a bad crop... They travel to Calcutta and West Bengal where the big ships come in and when the monsoon tides are at their fullest, they depart, carried by retreating monsoon winds...

Peggy narrates the Jahaji story, interspersed with music including her original contemporary versions of the folk forms of Bidesiya. Jahaji music!

Duration of performance: 15 mins

Sriparna Nandi & Vidhya Gopal
Monsoon Melodies/ Hindustani Music

Accompanied by: Sudev J Sheth (Tabla) & Paromita Mukherjee (Harmonium)

Duration of performance: 15 mins

Leena Malakar Vij
Kathak

Accompanied by Abdul Rahman (Tabla), Iqbal Hussein (Vocal) and Khyati Thapliyal (Padhant)

An exponent of the Jaipur gharana of Kathak trained under Guru Smt. Nandini Singh, Leena presents a composition set to Raag Megh Malhar (teentaal), with traditional shudha nritya (pure dance) including tihai, thaata, amad, tukada, paran and gaat nikash.

Duration of performance: 25 mins