

THE MATTERS



NEGOTIATING BORDERS THEATRE AT ITS BEST

Arts as a creative masterpiece... theatre has become a philosophy grounded in the existential... the present day. Art as a vessel... the present day. Art as a vessel... the present day. Art as a vessel...

the well-known theatre artist, Ramangit Kaur is innovative and... the role of art and creative... through knowledge and... to minimise parochial... and sheer political retreat to ill... need imagined pasts.

She has created the mosaic or more aptly... cultural landscapes from Panjab... her own experiences and that of her... and professionals. In doing... the powerful embodiment of... to entertain, enthral and most... to away critical thinking. It is... passion and a deep sense of... active role to make this a better... for the present generations.

She delineates the space between the... and the audience arousing a... and communicating messages... of refugees, women and all... and framed by the perceptions... resonant, irrespective of the... times.

She calls for debate of the real... borders and promotes... theatre that "museum drama... boundaries that humans create... Beyond Borders' interrogates... create and ponders whether... imagination, is it our insecurity... hunger for power, our pent up... ability to understand a point of... on our ears..." ... and questions... as are more important than...

Creativity as powerful means... Sustainable Development Goals 2015... be poorly addressed. It is seen... economic and environmental... that prevented the adequate de... Development Goals to their... How well the SDGs could... how well culture is integrated... principal vehicle for the delivery... An all women performance... us to the SDG 5 on Women and... erotyping and marginalisation... Gender in all its iterations is a... on the seventeen SDGs. Even... a compartmentalisation... Beyond Borders' at the 4th Inter-



"They say that woman has just arrived from across the border. Or was it just a dream..." (Gulzar)

NEXT WEEK will focus on the role of visual arts in opening up dormant museums in small towns of India.

national Congress of Society of South Asian Archaeology organised by the Indian Museum, Kolkata, in collaboration with the Society of South Asian Archaeology and All India Digumbar Jain Heritage Preservation Organization. The central quadrangle of the Museum, an awe-inspiring space that is being gradually populated with events of significance, provided the apt site for the performance of 'Beyond Borders'. Museums have often frozen in time our cultural systems in stone and cement. Museums have the potential to become civic spaces making them relevant in the 21st Century. Arts has a role to play. Reanimating heritage collections is a major concern. Arts and creativity provide the platform for liberating them, unravelling the perceptions of the past, layers and legacies of baggage from colonialism and ongoing vulgar nationalism and parochialism. Experiencing 'Beyond Borders' and then visiting the galleries of the oldest and largest Museum in South Asia removes hindlers, at least for the few, to understand the deeply located borders created in the very act of collecting and display. One concurs with the Governor of West Bengal when he said that 'Beyond Borders' is the best theatre he has ever seen.

Ramangit Kaur, artistic director, playwright and founder of 'The Creative Arts, Kolkata, an organization that offers theatre training and explores different theatre genres such as site-specific theatre, theatre science, theatre as therapy and theatre for development. She brings the importance of stagecraft into play, an essential and integral part of theatre that has been drowned in the cacophony of digital and boom boom sounds business sharks and their high tech sound systems. Elements of 'visual imagery, stills and light design extensively to bring forth the emotions

'Beyond Borders' is based on extensive research and documented personal accounts, oral stories and histories - much neglected intangible heritage in India. Excerpts from the works of different writers and poets like Neel Hall, Waman Shirs, Bertolt Brecht, Tasleema Nasreen, WH Auden, A. Revathi, Sujata Prasad, C.J. Casady, Om Prakash Valmiki, Benjamin Zephaniah, Lorraine O'Shea, Parvati Mani Kalia, Gulzar and others have informed the play and performance. Forever enduring Tansen Bose has created an original music soundscape. Ramangit works with a large cast of women actors. The paucity of scripts written for such a huge all female cast is challenging. She creates theatre that is always a reflection of the present times and the circumstances that we are living in. She says that there is no linear story, but a tapestry of short stories and contextual creativity. Emotional engagement with audiences is brought out through dialogues, visualisation and physicality of actors.

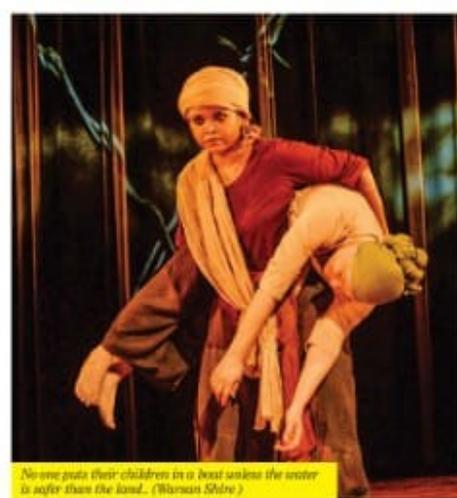
The criticality of creativity in our construction of culture in its various manifestations needs to be drawn deep into the so-called sustainability discourse. Internationally acclaimed and showcased at the 8th International Theatre Olympics 'Beyond Borders' breaks the lethargy in Indian theatre bringing forth a new genre that is at once contemporary but drawing deep in our cultural roots. Women are ingenious actors and mediators. Such creativity is indispensable to provide the human face to globalisation.



I love the way they flap... I feel that no one else...



I had warned her many times to keep her mouth shut. They had to kill her. She thought differently.



No one puts their children in a boat unless the water is safer than the land. (Waman Shirs)



I want to dance with four on the ground.



When there's more food in our mouths go unfed beside locked...

Images: The Creative Arts, Kolkata & International Institute