

A Festival Exploring South Asian Culture in the West

Desh Pradesh

November 6-10, 1991 Euclid Theatre 394 Euclid Ave, Toronto

Five days of outspoken and challenging programs taking up issues of Identity, Home, racism, lesbian and gay life, feminism and women's experience among South Asians in the West.

Featuring the changing shape of South Asian cultural expression with new and provocative films, videos, poetry, literature, theatre, music and performance art by artists and activists living in Britain, The United States and Canada.

Film + Video premieres:

Khush by Pratibha Parmar (U.K.)
Bolo Bolo by Gita Saxena and Ian Rashid (Canada)
Jareena Portrait of a Hijra by Piyen Kallan (U.S.)
Knowing her place by Indu Krishnan (U.S.)
Democracy in Crisis by Manjira Datta (India)
Shari and Coke by Rakhsana Mesani (U.K./South Africa)
A New Arrangement Gurinder Chakla (U.K.)


Feature Film Sneak Preview:

Matla by Srinivas Krishna (Toronto)

Appearing with their film or video work:

Pratibha Parmara (U.K.),
Srinivas Krishna (Toronto),
Gita Saxena (Toronto),
Ian Rashid (Toronto/U.K.),
Manjira Datta (India).

For more information
(416) 922-0554

Presented by Khush,
The Euclid Theatre
and 

Advance Passes \$35 available at:
The Toronto Women's Bookstore (Harbord St.)
This Ain't The Roseale Library (Church St.)
Pages Bookstore (Queen St. W.)
The Indian Record Shop (Gerrard St. E.)



Readings/Performance/Presentation:

Sundhi Gupta (U.K.), Moyer Vassani (Toronto), Nayan Shah (U.S.), Sadhu Binurag (Vancouver), Raj Pannu (Vancouver), Ramnabi Espinet (Toronto), Arnold Iwaru (Toronto), Malika Mendez (Toronto), Aruna Srivastava (Vancouver), Ashok Madiwala (Calgary), Jamila Ismail (Vancouver), Fauzia Rafiq (Toronto), Sunera Thobani (Vancouver) and many more....



Bhangra + Dance Party
at the Rivoli, 332 Queen St. W.
Friday Nov. 8, 9:30pm
featuring British Bhangra DJ Nitu
+ Toronto's CKLN DJ Michelle Mohabier



Theatre performances:

Beyond The Kala Pani
Indo Caribbean women's collective
Shameless/Baysharam
South Asian Sisters in solidarity

Wednesday November 6th

7 : 3 0 p m

Shifting Identities

The Canadian premiere of *Khush* a dramatic documentary film about South Asian Lesbian and Gay life by Pratibha Parmar. Also, Toronto video producer Gita Saxena's *Second Generation*, author of *Nuclear Seasons*—Toronto's Indo-Caribbean writer Ramabai Espinet, and Vancouver critic Aruna Srivastava and Calgary publisher and poet Ashok Mathur, present *In view, Interview, Identity*.

Thursday November 7th

7 : 0 0 p m

Brave New Words

Literary readings featuring Toronto's Moyer Vassanji, author of *No New Land*, Indo Caribbean writer Arnold Itwaru author of the book of poems *Body Rites*, Vancouver performance poets Jamila Ismail and Raj Pannu and Punjabi poet Sadhu Binning, Gay cultural activist & emerging poet Ian Rashid.

9 : 3 0 p m

The Journey

Beyond The Kala Pani (beyond the black water), a play by a collec-

tive of Indo Caribbean women tracing the migration of women from India to the Caribbean to Canada. A dramatic reading of Suniti Namjoshi's work by Toronto Actor Malika Mendez and *Takari and Coke* a video documentary by Rukhsana Mosam (U.K.), about South Asians in South Africa will precede the play.

Friday November 8th

5 : 3 0 p m

India Without Romance

Progressive feminist film maker Manjira Datta from India presents *Democracy in Crisis*, a left perspective on the current political situation in India including coverage of the 1991 Indian elections. A discussion with the film maker will follow the screening.

7 : 3 0 p m

Masala

A sneak preview of Toronto director Srinivas Krishna's dramatic-comedy about the lives of two South Asian families. Starring Saeed Jaffrey (in three different roles). *Masala* opens in major Canadian cinemas in late November. The Director will be on hand for a discussion following the film.

9 : 3 0 p m

Desh Pradesh Dance Party

The Rivoli - 332 Queen St. W. With British Bhangra DJ "Ritu" and Toronto's CKLN DJ Michelle Mohabeer.

Saturday November 9th

Daytime Workshops

Noon:

Violence Against Women

Panelists include Vancouver feminist activist Sunera Thobani and Fauzia Rafiq of DIVA alongside screening of a video produced by South Asian women in Vancouver.

2 p m :

Identity, Sexuality and History

A presentation by Nayan Shah (U.S.) on race and sexuality construction of identities by South Asian lesbians and gay men.

4 p m :

Organizing around AIDS/HIV in the South Asian communities

Featuring the Premiere of *Bolo Bolo* a video by Gita Saxena and Ian Rashid about South Asians and HIV/AIDS, special guest Aisha Khan, chair of Muslim Women's Aid U.K., an HIV/AIDS steering group in London, Aids Activists Kalpesh Oza & Anthony Mohammed.

Evening Programmes:

7 : 0 0 p m

Womanvision

A Nice Arrangement a short film by Gurrinder Chada (director of *I'm British But*), *Knowing Her Place* a video by Indu Krishnan (U.S.) investigating cultural schizophrenia experienced by a woman and *Baysharam/Shameless*, a play by Toronto's South Asian Sisters in Solidarity.

9 : 3 0 p m

Brown and Out

The Canadian Premiere of *Jareena*, *Portrait of a Hijda* a video about Indian transvestites by Prem Kalliat (U.S.). *Ferdous* a short film by Shakila Mann (U.K.) experimenting with lesbian images in the Koran. Gay photographer/writer/ cultural producer Sunil Gupta presents *Time Based Art and Cultural Difference*—The emergence of South Asian Lesbian and Gay Identities in the U.K. and Pratibha Parmar.

Sunday November 10th

Daytime Workshops

Noon:

Hybrid Musics

A discussion of the evolving forms of South Asian music from Bhangra to soca to classical. With

British DJ Ritu and others.

2 p m :

Home as a Mythic Space

Exploring the meaning of home to various sectors of the South Asian community. With Michelle Mohabeer (Tor/Guyana), Moyer Vassanji (Tor/East Africa), Pratibha Parmar (U.K./East Africa), Raj Pannu (Van/India), and Arun Prabha Mukherjee (Tor/India).

4 p m :

Print Media Alternatives

Existing and forming magazines and journals which serve as a forum for South Asian culture in the west; DIVA (Toronto), *Rungh* (Vancouver), *Ankur* (Vancouver), *Toronto South Asian Review*, *Khush Khayal*, and others.

Sunday evening Closing Celebrasian

7 : 0 0 p m

Toronto musicians Sheila James - solo vocals and keyboards, Ritesh Das and friends on tabla, sitar and keyboards, a writers cabaret featuring twelve writers on the theme of "Home", and The Tarana Dance School with an Indo Caribbean dance piece *Oh Tassawale*.

