

kali

Kali Theatre Co. has been presenting ground-breaking new theatre writing by women with a South Asian background for over 20 years. We seek out and nurture strong individual writers who challenge our perceptions and engage people from all backgrounds in work that reflects and comments on our lives today. We have won rave reviews, sold-out shows and inspired audiences all over the UK with work that challenges our perceptions through original and surprising theatre.

www.kalitheatre.com

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Artistic Director **Janet Steel**

General Manager **Christopher Corner**

Marketing and Admin **Binita Walia**

Press & Marketing **Yasmeen Khan**

PENTABUS THEATRE

Pentabus is a contemporary theatre company, producing original plays about the rural world for local and national audiences. Based on a farm in Shropshire, we make a real commitment to the creative health of the countryside, encouraging artists to draw from it and urging communities to participate in it. Our shows are playful, political and compassionate, offering rural audiences work that is made especially for, and speaks directly to, them.

www.pentabus.co.uk

Artistic Director **Elizabeth Freestone**

Managing Director **Rachael Griffin**

Administrator **Sarah Hughes**

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ENGLAND**



The Husbands

by Sharmila Chauhan

Sharmila Chauhan *Writer*

Theatre found Sharmila when she was pregnant. The birth of her son coincided with selection for the Royal Court's writing programme. Her play *Born Again/Purnajanam* was performed in January 2012 at Southwark Playhouse as part of *Tagore's Women* (Directed by Janet Steel of Kali). *When Spring Comes*, an exploration of the Asian Ugandan exodus, was performed in autumn 2012 (Dir: Domonic Hingorani) in conjunction with Tamasha and South Asian Lit Fest. Sharmila was nominated for the Asian New Writer Award and her short stories have been published in print and online and she is also working on a novel. Fascinated by the quiet meaning of people's lives: her work is often a transgressive meditation on love, sex and exploration of the diaspora. Trained as a pharmacist, with a PhD in clinical pharmacology, Sharmila gave up academia to follow the writer's life. She lives in London with her husband, son and cat.
www.sharmilathewriter.com @sci_literati

Aya **Syreeta Kumar**

Sem **Rhik Samadder**

Omar **Mark Theodore**

Jerome **Phillip Edgerley**

Director **Janet Steel**

Creative Advisor **Elizabeth Freestone**

Designer **Jean Chan**

Lighting **Prema Mehta**

Music **Arun Ghosh**

Movement **Shobna Gulati**

Production Manager **Luke Child**

Company Stage Manager **Sarah Julia Pujol**

Technical Stage Manager **Sam Eccles**

Janet Steel *Director*

Artistic Director of Kali since 2003. After many years as an actress, Janet's directing career began in 1988 at Loose Change Theatre with her first full-length piece, *White Biting Dog*. Directing: *Behzti* (The Rep), *April in Paris*, *Bretevski Street*, *A Hard Rain*, *Top Girls* (Northampton Royal), *Millennium Mysteries*, *Big School* (Belgrade Coventry); *Antigone*, *The Mother*, *Orpheus Descending*, *An Ideal Husband*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *The Knockey*, *Serious Money* (Rose Bruford). For Kali: Over 35 readings of new work and productions of *Calcutta Kosher* (2004 & 2012), *Chaos*, *Paper Thin*, *Deadeye*, *Zameen*, *Another Paradise*, *Behna*, *Ghandi & Coconuts*, *Purnjanam/Born Again*, *Mustafa* and *My Daughter's Trial*.

Elizabeth Freestone *Creative Advisor*

Trained at Rose Bruford College and RNT Studio. For Pentabus: *Blue Sky*, *Stand Up Diggers All*, *This Same England*, *The Hay Play*. Other directing includes: *The Rape of Lucrece*, *Here Lies Mary Spindler*, *The Tragedy of Thomas Hobbes*, *The Comedy of Errors* (RSC); *Endless Light* (Kali/ Southwark Playhouse); *The Duchess of Malfi*, *Dr Faustus*, *The School for Scandal*, *Volpone* (Greenwich Theatre); *Romeo and Juliet* (Shakespeare's Globe); *Top Girls*, *Three Sisters*, *Night Must Fall* (RWCMD); *Skellig*, *Rocket Fuel*, *No Place Like Home* (OnO Theatre); *The Travels of the Three English Brothers* (British Museum); *A Gloriously Mucky Business* (LAMDA/ Lyric Hammersmith); *The Water Harvest* (Theatre 503). Associate Director on *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* (RNT) and a Staff Director at the National, the Royal Court, Hampstead Theatre and Soho Theatre.

Phillip Edgerley *Jerome*

Phillip Edgerley is an actor who has worked in all areas of the industry including work with the National Theatre, Dreamthinkspeak and the BBC. Most recently he has been working with the renowned visual artist Alexandre Singh on his play, *The Humans* which premiered in Rotterdam and New York and is due for further international performances in 2014. In 2009 he joined The RSC's Long Ensemble Company performing 8 plays over 2 ½ years in London, Stratford and New York. Currently, he is a guest director at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art and Shakespeare's Globe.

Rhik Samadder *Sem*

Rhik Samadder trained at Drama Centre London. Since graduating his theatre credits include title roles in *The Indian Boy* (RSC) and *Romeo and Juliet* (Salisbury Playhouse). Other theatre includes *King Saturn* (Soho Theatre), *Fewer Emergencies* (Oxford Playhouse), *No Smoke* (Arcola Theatre) and *Ealing Common* (Theatre 503). Film Credits include: *Chemical Wedding* (WarnerBros) and *Arrivals* (Wilf Varvill). TV credits include: *Strikeback* (HBO) and *Doctors* (BBC). Corporate work includes work for NHS, SANE and idents for Channel 4. Rhik is also a regular freelance journalist for the Guardian. Twitter @whatsamadder

Syreeta Kumar *Aya*

Trained at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. Has worked extensively in theatre and television. Theatre credits include *Olivia* in *Twelfth Night* (Filter Theatre Company), *Midnights Children*, *Hamlet*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Camino Real* (Royal Shakespeare Company), *Haroun* and *The Sea Of Stories* (National Theatre), has also worked with London Bubble, Tara Arts, Talawa, Theatre Royal Stratford East and Leicester Haymarket. Television credits include *Silk*, *Torchwood*, *Shadow Line*, *Hustle*, *Doctors*, *Eastenders* and most recently *Coronation Street*. She lives in Brighton with her two daughters, cat, dog, and ONE husband.

Mark Theodore *Omar*

Trained at The Poor School. *Theatre includes: Julius Caesar* (RSC), *The Prince of Homburg* (Donmar Warehouse), *Three Sisters* (Lyric Hammersmith), *Twelfth Night* (York Theatre Royal), *Treasure Island* (West End), *Days of Significance*, *Macbeth*, *God in Ruins*, *Pericles*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Days of Significance* (RSC), *Festen* (National Tour), *93.2 fm* (Royal Court), *A Raisin in the Sun* (Young Vic), *Animal Farm* (Northern Stage), *Dirty Butterfly*, *Wrong Place* (Soho Theatre), *Measure for Measure* (RNT). TV includes: *Obsession: Dark Desires* (October Films), *The Dumping Ground* (BBC), *Friday Night Dinner* (Big Talk Productions), *Julius Caesar* (Illuminations Television). Film includes: *Ali G in da House*.

Jean Chan *Set and Costume Designer*

Graduated from Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. Trainee Designer for the RSC. Won the 2009 Linbury Prize for Stage Design. A runner up in the Arts Foundation Awards 2013. Design credits include: *BFG* (Dundee Rep); *Tonypanemonium* (National Theatre Wales), *Hope Light and Nowhere* (Edinburgh Fringe), *The Hairy Ape*, *The Irish Giant*, *The Seagull* (Southwark Playhouse); *The Suit* (Young Vic); *Hamlet YPS* (RSC); *The Garbage King* (Unicorn Theatre). *1984*, *Alice By Heart* (Lyric Hammersmith); *Mayfair* (Pentabus/Latitude Festival); *I Have a Dream* (Polka); *When The Waters Came* (Theatre Centre); *Why the Lion Danced* (Yellow Earth Theatre); *The Birthday of the Infanta* (Trestle Theatre); *The Roman Bath* (Arcola Theatre); Associate Design credits include: *Lionboy* (Complicite), *Five Guys Named Moe* (Edinburgh & Theatre Royal Stratford East); *Monsters* (Arcola /Strawberry Vale Productions). www.jeanchan.co.uk

Arun Ghosh *Sound*

Arun Ghosh is a British Asian clarinetist, composer, Musical Director and music educator. He has composed music for over forty theatre, dance and radio productions, and has released three critically acclaimed albums; Northern Namaste (2008), Primal Odyssey (2011) and A South Asian Suite (2013) on camoci records. Other significant works include his re-score of feature length animation The Adventures of Prince Achmed, and contemporary dance piece, A Handful of Dust. Ghosh is an Associate Artist of the Albany Theatre, Deptford and of Spitalfields Music 2014, and was Artist in Residence of Alchemy Festival 2011 at the Southbank.

The Husbands

Prema Mehta *Lighting Designer*

Prema Mehta works as a lighting designer for drama and dance. For Kali: *Speed and Twelve* (Tristan Bates Theatre), *Shared Memories* and *Calcutta Kosher* (Arcola). Other theatre includes: *The Great Extension* (Theatre Royal Stratford East), *Snow Queen* (Derby Theatre) and *The Electric Hills* (Liverpool Everyman). Designs for dance include *Jugni* (UK tour), *Maaya* (Westminster Hall), *Bells* (Mayor of London's Showtime) and *Sufi Zen* (Royal Festival Hall). Forthcoming designs include *OK Tata Tata* and *The Periera's Bakery at 76 Chapel Road* (Leicester Curve) and *Fourteen* (Watford Palace). Further details at www.premamehta.com

Shobna Gulati *Movement*

Theatre: *The Vagina Monologues* (Mark Goucher); *Pretend You Have Big Buildings*, *Parminder Café Vesuvio* (Royal Exchange); *Romeo and Juliet* (Leicester Haymarket); *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Tara Arts/National tour); *How High is Up?* (West Yorkshire Playhouse); *Moti Roti Puttli Chunni* (Stratford East); *The Mahabharata* (Year of Opera); *The Sacred Thread* (Royal Festival Hall). TV : Sunita in *Coronation Street*, Anita in *Dinnerladies*, *The Circle* (Channel 4), *Eastenders*. Panellist on *Call My Bluff*, *Have I Got News For You*, *Loose Women*. Film: BAFTA winning *Shadowscan*.

Luke Child *Production Manager*

Luke has toured both the UK and internationally with some of the most commercially successful productions including *The Lion King*, *The King and I*, *The Rocky Horror Show* and *Matthew Bourne's Dorian Gray*. One of his proudest achievements was to open a major new theatre in Dublin, where he spent two years dedicated to the venues success. Luke is delighted to have the opportunity to work with Kali and Pentabus on *The Husbands*.

Sarah Julie Pujol *Company Stage Manager*

Recent credits include: Company Stage Manager for *Talkback Festival* (Kali Theatre at Tristan Bates, London); Stage Manager for *Children of Fate* by Inside Intelligence (CLF Theatre, London); Assistant Stage Manager for *The Old Woman* directed by Robert Wilson (UK, Italy, Greece); Company Stage Manager or *XY* by Papercut Theatre (Pleasance Courtyard, Edinburgh); Stage Manager for *PEEP* by Natural Shocks (Assembly Gardens, Edinburgh); Stage Manager for *Dance: Make Your Move* by British Red Cross (Mick Jagger Centre, London); Stage Manager for *Equal Writes* (Tristan Bates Theatre, London) and Stage Manager for *XY* by Papercut Theatre (Theatre503, London).

Sam Eccles *Technical Stage Manager*

BA University of Wales Trinity St David in Theatre Design and Production. At UoW: *Fahrenheit 451*, *Oh What a Lovely War*, *Holey Matrimony*. Sam has spent six years in theatre and events as a freelance Technical Stage Manager and Lighting Designer. For Pentabus: *Milked*, *In This Place*, *For Once*, *Blue Sky*, *Underland*, *White Open Spaces*. *Tea Time* (Oxford Play House); *Venezia the Show* (Teatro San Gallo); *Dismorphia* (Sean Tuan John); *Peter Pan* (New Vic Theatre): *Event Lighting Design: Sheep Music Festival*, *Hard Rock Café Venice*, *OysterBand*, *Flight the Bear*.