

**Patience James** is a dancer, actress and singer. Trained at Wac Arts' three year professional musical theatre course and East London Dance. She is a co-founder of her own dance duo, GOP Dancers, who will be performing this year at London's biggest dance event, Breakin' Convention. Credits include *Olivia Tweest* (Hackney Empire), *Concrete Jungle* (Peacock Theatre/Edinburgh Fringe), *Ah Men!* (Soho Theatre), *Black and Blue Reading* (Tricycle Theatre), *Journeys Beyond* (Arcola Tent/Edinburgh Festival). Dance platforms include O2 Arena/Indigo, Brixton Academy, Wembley Arena, Sadler's Wells and the X Factor for artists such as David Guetta, Emeli Sande', Cher Lloyd and Fuse Odg.

**Maggie O'Brien** trained at Drama Studio London. Her theatre credits include: *You Can't Take it With You* (Manchester Royal Exchange/Told By an Idiot), *Faith Healer* (Salisbury Playhouse), *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* (Octagon, Bolton), *The Flying Machine* (Unicorn Theatre), *Caucasian Chalk Circle* (National Theatre/Theatre de Complicite), *The Kitchen* (Royal Court), *Cider with Rosie*, *Be My Baby* (New Vic). She has also worked with Theatre Royal Northampton, Orange Tree Richmond, Theatre by the Lake, Pursued by a Bear, Theatre 503, Theatre Centre, Theatre Royal Bury St Edmunds.

**Aryana Ramkhalawon** trained at Guildford School of Acting. Since graduating her theatre credits include *Ayah* in *The Secret Garden* (Royal Alexandra Theatre, Toronto & Royal Festival Theatre Edinburgh), TV includes *Waterloo Road* (BBC), *Lawless-Drama Matters* (Sky), *Doctors* (BBC), *Crime Stories* (ITV), *Bollywood Carmen* (BBC 3 Live), *Jamillah* and *Aladdin* (CBBC). Workshops include *Bend it like Beckham-The Musical*, (Sonia Friedman Productions), *Urban Mischieff* (Box Clever Theatre).

**Harvey Virdi's** recent acting credits include The Royal Shakespeare Company, English Touring Theatre, Hampstead Theatre, The National Theatre as well as national and international touring and regional rep. Film credits include *Honour*, *Jadoo*, *Venus*, *Brick Lane*, *Bend It Like Beckham* and *Thunderbirds*. She plays Mrs Malik in the BBC 1 comedy series *Citizen Khan*. Other TV credits include *The Kumars* (Sky 1), *Britz*, *Casualty*, *Doctors*, *Holby*, *Little Crackers*, *The Jury* and *Coronation Street*. Her writing credits include *Happy Birthday Sunita*, *Meri Christmas* and *Park Life* (BBC Radio 4).

**Amina Zia** trained at ALRA. Theatre includes *Animal Magnetism*, *Panting* (Bush Theatre). She has worked on three seasons of the *Angelic Tales* new writing festival (Theatre Royal Stratford East) and *Kali's* new writing seasons. TV includes *Citizen Khan*. Radio includes *English My Way*, a comedy series in Urdu (BBC Learning English). Amina will appear in her first US feature film *Criminal* (Millennium Films) later this year. She is also a published short story writer, stand-up comedian and her first short comedy play *Panting* was staged at the Bush Theatre last year. Twitter: @AminaZia1

#### **Samantha Tibbs Touring CSM**

Samantha has worked as both a stage manager and technician in a variety of productions and venues. Some of her recent stage management and technical credits include: ASM & Sound Op for *Eric & Little Ern* (Seabright Productions West End and tour), CSM for *Ready Steady Ceilidh* and *This is Ceilidh* (PW Productions), House Stage Manager for Hull Truck Theatre, Deputy Stage Manager for *Little Shop of Horrors & Sweeney Todd* (New Street Theatre), Deputy Stage Manager for *Sister Act* (Nottingham Theatre Royal). Samantha has a B.A and an M.A in English Literature.

#### **Jai Channa Composer**

Jai is a composer, cross-disciplinary artist and music practitioner. He is a part of the Ambient Jam ensemble and Spinning Yarn project where he engages with participants with mild to severe learning disabilities through movement and music. *TWELVE* is Jai's third score for Kali following *Solidarity* and *My Daughter's Trial*. Other credits include NY Times bestseller series *The Horus Heresy: Horus Rising*, *False Gods*, *Galaxy in Flames*, *Overfiend*, *The Damnation of Pythos* and *The Talon of Horus* (Games Workshop), *Puja Nights* (Film London + Eastern Edge Film Fund), *Wondariya* and the *Mirror of Truth* (Brahma Kumaris), *Power Down* (Element Animation) and *Count Doku* (Birdi Ent). Jai has a B.A and an M.A (Distinction) in Music.

#### **Binita Walia MA RCA Set Design**

Binita has always been inspired by the everyday, incidental light shows that take place in the reflected surfaces that surround us to make large scale architectural glass works. Her fascination with glass and light was consolidated during her time as a MA student at the Royal College of Art in London and she has been creating public realm artworks since 1995. Since 2013 she has been exploring her personal historic and contemporary cultural reference points to express ideas about domesticity, relationships and responsibilities using film, jewellery and sculpture. [www.thespaceinbetween.co.uk](http://www.thespaceinbetween.co.uk)

With thanks to Southall Black Sisters, ASHA and Insight Lighting.

**kali**

# TWELVE

*Friendship, first love, defiance, death and survival*

12 Writers

12 Lives

12 Stories

14th—19th April 2015

# TWELVE

*The Mother* by Amber Lone Harvey Viridi

*Dalia* by Bettina Gracias Amina Zia

*Red, White and Blue* by Satinder Chohan Aryana Ramkhalawon

*Mother* by Azma Dar Maggie O'Brien

*Like Happy Stuff* by Sayan Kent Patience James

*Nazma* by Nessah Muthy Amina Zia

*Alfie* by Tanika Gupta Maggie O'Brien

*Cockney School Girl* by Anu Kumar Aryana Ramkhalawon

*The Custodian* by Sharmila Chauhan Amina Zia

*The Father* by Amber Lone Harvey Viridi

*Final Status* by Yasmeen Khan Aryana Ramkhalawon

*In The Ring* by Sonali Bhattacharya Sheema Kermani

*The Wink of Execution* by Yasmin Whittaker-Khan Harvey Viridi

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Conceived and Directed by **Janet Steel**

Choreographer and Dancer **Sheema Kermani**

Dancer **Patience James**

Set Design **Binita Walia**

Composer **Jai Channa**

Lighting Design **Chris Corner**

Dramaturg **Sunila Galappatti**

Stage Manager **Samantha Tibbs**

For Kali Theatre Artistic Director **Janet Steel**

General Manager **Chris Corner**

Audience Development **Binita Walia**



*Intrepid plays by fearless women*

Kali produces ground-breaking plays by women writers from a South Asian background. We have won rave reviews, sold-out shows and inspired audiences all over the UK with work that challenges people's perceptions through original and surprising theatre.

**"The most enjoyably inventive piece of theatre I've seen this year"** The Guardian on *Behna*

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## Kali Theatre Company

The Albany Deptford London SE8 4AG

020 8694 6033 [info@kalitheatre.co.uk](mailto:info@kalitheatre.co.uk)

Registered Charity No 1071733

*Please take a few minutes to tell us what you thought of Twelve on the feedback form, or email us [info@kalitheatre.co.uk](mailto:info@kalitheatre.co.uk).*

*We would like to hear what you think about the play.*

## Company Biographies

**Janet Steel** Artistic Director of Kali since 2003, she has directed over 30 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*, *My Daughter's Trial*, *The Husbands*, *My Big Fat Cowpat Wedding*. After many years as an actress, Janet began directing in 1988 at Loose Change Theatre with *White Biting Dog*. Other directing credits include *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).

**Sheema Kermani** is the founder of Tehrik-e-Niswan, a cultural arm of the Women's Rights Movement in Pakistan. For over three decades, she has led a battle against cultural oppression in Pakistan by staging plays and on subjects that are not easily talked about in that part of the world. Sheema has performed in many countries including China, Egypt, Indonesia, U.S.A, U.K, Germany, France and the Netherlands. Her life and work has been written about in The New York Times and covered by the BBC. In 2005 Sheema was nominated as one of the "1000 Peace Women from across the Globe" for the Nobel Peace Prize.

## Southall Black Sisters and TWELVE

The Metropolitan Police estimates there are **12** so called ‘honour’ killings every year in the UK, as reported to the Home Affairs Select Committee by Southall Black Sisters (HASC, 2008). In the last 10 years or so, there has been unprecedented national debate on forced marriage, ‘honour’ killings and ‘honour’ based violence (HBV), centred around the tragic deaths of women from minority communities such as Rukshana Naz, Heshu Yonis, Sheflia Ahmed, Surjit Athwal and Banaz Mahmood.

**Southall Black Sisters** (SBS) have successfully worked to bring these cases to justice, and to highlight the need for government and the community to take more action against these crimes, which occur within the context of domestic violence and violence against women and girls. SBS have also been at the forefront of introducing major initiatives and reforms such as the Home Office Working Group on Forced Marriage (1999), the Government’s Forced Marriage Unit, the Forced Marriage (Civil Protection) Act 2007, forced marriage guidelines, and the police and Crown Prosecution Service policies on forced marriage and HBV. We continue to call for their effective implementation, and more resources for frontline black and minority women’s organisations which provide crucial services and support to women to live free from violence.

Bekhal Mahmood, the sister of Banaz Mahmood said to SBS:

*“More needs to be put in place to tackle honour killings so that women do not have to feel frightened to ask for help. We often turn to groups like Southall Black Sisters before the police as they have more insight into our lives and difficulties. If these organisations did not exist, we would have no hope. They help women to fulfil their dreams to have a happy and safe future.”*

**Contact:** Tel: 020 8571 0800 (Helpline)      Tel: 020 8571 9595 (Office)

[Info@southallblacksisters.co.uk](mailto:Info@southallblacksisters.co.uk)      [www.southallblacksisters.org.uk](http://www.southallblacksisters.org.uk)

### Donations:

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# ASHA

## Working to end Violence against Women and Girls

Asha is a South Asian women's organisation founded in 1984. We work to challenge inequalities, campaign for a just and fair society and provide resources to empower South Asian women to build lives free of oppression, violence and injustice.

### Asha's Work

**Safe & Secure refuge Accommodation** (19 bed spaces) for South Asian women and children escaping violence.

**Advice Service** for women which provides confidential advice, information & support over the phone or through appointments at our Resource Centre.

**Training and Community Development Programme** that aims to provide high quality, accessible training for women staying at Asha and women in the community, which will empower them to lead independent lives.

### Asha's vision is a world that is fair and equal.

Due to widespread funding cuts, many women's organisations are closing down. However, the injustices and inequalities that women face continue. We challenge the violation of women's rights and the systems and beliefs that enable these violations to continue. Asha exists to provide vital resources for South Asian women and children to build their lives free of violence, injustice and exploitation.

### ~~Honour-based Violence~~

Asha is pleased to be involved with Kali Theatre Company's production *Twelve*. When there is an act of violence against a South Asian woman in the UK, the media will usually label it a case of 'honour-based violence.' What happens as a result, is that cases of violence against South Asian women are looked at as different and something difficult to understand. This can mean that South Asian women are not fully supported. It is important to remember that the acts of violence in 'Twelve' are part of the wider problem of domestic violence. They come from the belief that men are superior to women. The abuse of women is directly linked to control and coercion. It is the exercising of power over women and it crosses religious, cultural and class boundaries. It's time to change the language we use.

**Contact Us Tel: 0208 696 0023**

**admin@asha.org.uk**

All calls and emails will be kept confidential. Find out more about Asha on our website:

**[www.ashaprojects.org.uk](http://www.ashaprojects.org.uk)**



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