



MEDIA RELEASE

The NCPA concludes *Anubhuti 2010* with *Natya Rang – The Art of Theatre*

January 22nd to 31st, 2010

Ten days of elaborate performances on the theme of Art of Theatre, celebrating 50 years of the Government of Maharashtra

Mumbai, January, 2010: *Anubhuti*, our three-week multi-arts festival at the National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA), that began with '***NCPA Weekend Festival***', will have a spectacular closing with a ten-day theatre season called '***NCPA Natya Rang***' – a rich display of theatre that is rooted in Marathi folk traditions, from January 22nd to 31st

Commenting on *NCPA Natya Rang*, **Mrs. Vijaya Mehta, Executive Director – NCPA**, elaborates, "*NCPA Natya Rang* was conceived with the idea of focusing on various manifestations of Theatre including ritualistic, folk, traditional and urban one-man shows. Incorporating the "multi-arts" and "beyond perception" elements of *Anubhuti*, which also encapsulates *Natya Rang*, we also decided to use and explore the 'dramatic' in allied arts such as *Natya Sangeet*, cinema and dance."

As 2010 marks the Maharashtra Government's 50th year since establishment, the NCPA joins hands with the **Directorate of Cultural Affairs, Government of Maharashtra**, Sangeet Natak Akademi, Lalit Kala Akademi various zonal centres and local theatre groups to present some of the rare festive and ritualistic theatre traditions of the state and around. A celebration of theatre which encompasses music, art, dance and film, *NCPA Natya Rang* is a multi-dimensional festival which brings a taste of the varied folk art forms. The myriad performances at the festival are a reflection of the cultural diversity of Maharashtra.

Mr. Ajay Ambekar, Director, Directorate of Cultural Affairs, Government of Maharashtra, says, "Since last year the Directorate of Cultural Affairs has been holding *Mumbai Saptarang* – an annual cultural festival that promotes folk arts of Maharashtra, enables interaction of artists with the audience and promotes young artists. Mumbai is the financial and cultural capital of the country, and in this city of ours we have the country's best performing arts space: the NCPA. For instance, *Natyadharmi* will feature over 200 folk artists on stage. Only NCPA has the capacity and the ability to execute an event of this magnitude and production. We are very happy with the lineup of *Natya Rang*."

The NCPA will be abuzz with a colourful explosion of cultural activities taking place across its theatres, theatre foyers, open air gardens and art gallery. The festival will be inaugurated with **Yuva: Young Voices** featuring award-winning one-act plays by youth from all over the state. Mrs Vijaya Mehta and renowned Marathi stage, screen and Bollywood actor, Mohan Joshi, will inaugurate the event (see annexure A for other inaugurations featuring prominent personalities).

The NCPA has also collaborated with Lalit Kala Akademi to display works of legendary painters of Maharashtra like MF Hussain, Akbar Padamsee, VS Gaitonde, Tyeb Mehta etc., in **Rangpat: Masters of Maharashtra** at Piramal Art Gallery throughout the duration of the festival.

'Youth' being the key feature of the festival, NCPA *Natya Rang* will encapsulate four cyclical events to tie in education and entertainment. There will be two fantastic Folk Theatre (**Lokdharmi: Festive Theatre**) and Traditional Theatre (**Natyadharmi: Ritualistic Theatre**) performances, attending which will enable the viewer to sit for seminars that will trace the background of that traditional theatre form and its relationship with contemporary life. The seminars titled **Karyashala: Symposium**, will be held on the mornings following each Natyadharmi and Lokdharmi performance.

Not to leave film far behind, **Drishyapat: First Take**, a film workshop will explore the art of the stage through the medium of the lens. This workshop will also feature some remarkable debut short films – in both documentary and fiction categories.

While **Natya Sangeet** (a traditional Marathi theatre form to be performed at Tata Theatre on 28th January) will highlight the rustic yet refined traditional theatre music, **The Power of One** will present traditional one man shows from across India along with premieres of urban one man shows.

The Power of One will include: **One on One** (*Monologues & Duologues in English/Hindi*), **Expatri** (a series of one man shows that will bring forth the distinct cultures of various nomadic tribes), **Sanmati: The Gift of Wisdom** (is a musical narration, scripted and enacted by Shekhar Sen) and **Fastest Feet in Rhythm**. **Fastest Feet in Rhythm**, to be performed at the Tata Theatre on 29th January, is an explosive collaboration with India's foremost *Kathak* master Chitresh Das and members of his dance company along with one of the world's fastest, Emmy-award winning tap dancers – Jason Samuels Smith.

And then, there is something for foodies! Cooking up goodies during the entire festival is **Upahar** – a food festival for those who want to tantalise their taste buds with a feast of home-made Marathi cuisine. The sumptuous fare will include authentic dishes like *sabudana khichdi*, *coconut vadi*, *masala milk*, *puranpolis*, *besan laddoos* and so on, handmade by local Maharashtrian women of Kutumbsakhi Sahakari Audyogik Utpadak Sanstha Ltd. The food will be laid out at all theatre foyers during intervals of shows.

The NCPA invites you to join the *Natya Rang* festivities from 22nd to 31st January, 2009.

Natya Rang- The Art of Theatre (22nd to 31st January 2010)

Date	Time	Venue	Event	Box Office Opens
Jan 22 nd -31 st	12.00pm to 8.00pm	Piramal Art Gallery	Exhibition of Paintings <i>Rangpat: Masters of Maharashtra</i>	

Jan 22 nd -31 st		Tata, Experimental & Little Theatre Foyers (during intervals)	Food Festival <i>Upahar: Local Flavours</i>	
Jan 22 nd -24 th	6.30 pm	Experimental Theatre	One Act Plays <i>Yuva: Young Voices</i>	
Jan 23 rd -26 th	4.00pm to 6.00pm	Sunken Garden	Open Air folk Performance <i>Lokdharmi: Festive Theatre</i>	Jan 15 th - Members Jan 18 th - Public
Jan 23 rd - 24 th	2.00pm to 6.00 pm	Little Theatre	Film Workshop <i>Drishyapat: First take</i>	First come first serve is.
Jan 23 rd - 25 th	6.30pm	Tata Theatre	Traditional Theatre <i>Natyadharmi: Ritualistic Theatre</i>	Jan 15 th
Jan 24 th -26 th	11.00pm to 1.00 pm	Little Theatre	Seminar <i>Karyashala: Symposium</i>	Natyadharmi passes be used for entry.
Jan 28 th	6.30pm	Tata Theatre	Traditional Theatre <i>Natya Sangeet</i>	Jan 15 th -Members, Jan 18 th -Public.
Jan 26 th	7.00pm	Tata Theatre	Monologues & Duologues in English/Hindi <i>One on One</i>	Jan15th- Members, Jan18th-Public
Jan 27 th	7.00pm	Experimental Theatre	Monologues & Duologues in English/Hindi <i>One on One</i>	Jan15th- Members, Jan18th-Public
Jan 31 st	4.00pm to 7.00pm	Experimental Theatre	Monologues & Duologues in English/Hindi <i>One on One</i>	Jan15th- Members, Jan18th-Public
Jan 27 th	6.30pm	Tata Theatre	One-Man show <i>Ekpatri</i>	Jan15th- Members, Jan18th-Public
Jan 29 th	6.30pm	Tata Theatre	Theatre in Dance <i>Fastest Feet in Rhythm</i>	Jan15th- Members, Jan18th-Public
Jan 30 th	6.20pm	Tata Theatre	One-Man show by Shekhar Sen <i>Sanmati: The Gift of Wisdom</i>	Jan15th- Members, Jan18th-Public
Jan 31 st	6.30pm	Tata Theatre	English Play <i>Broken Images</i>	Jan15th- Members, Jan18th-Public

NCPA Box Office**22824567 / 66548135 / 66223742 (from 9 AM to & 7 PM daily)**Online at www.bookmyshow.com**Inauguration Schedule**

PROGRAMME	INAUGURAL DETAILS	CHIEF GUEST
Yuva Act: Young Voices Prize winning One Actors	22 nd January, 2010 Friday 6:30 pm, Experimental Theatre	Mohan Joshi Famous Marathi stage, screen & Bollywood actor as well as President of Akhil Bharatiya Marathi Natya Parishad.
Rangpat: Masters of Maharashtra Works of legendary painters of Maharashtra, presented by Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi.	22 nd January, 2010 Friday 7 pm, Piramal Art Gallery	A list of paintings on display in the exhibition is enclosed for your reference. Ranjit Hoskote as chief guest will talk about the paintings.
Drishyapat: First Take Short film festival & workshop	23 rd January, 2010 Saturday 2 pm, Little Theatre	Vijaya Mehta
Lokdharmi: Festive Theatre Folk Theatre presented by Zonal Cultural Centres, Government of India	23 rd January, 2010 Saturday 5 pm, Sunken Garden	N D Mahanor Highly revered Marathi poet, well-known for imagery based on nature and folk culture from Ajanta (Jalgaon)
Natyadharmi: Ritualistic Theatre Classical Theatre presented by Sangeet Natak Akademi	23 rd January, 2010 Saturday 6:30 pm Tata Theatre	Sunaina Hazarilal Mumbai based dancer who has presented her works for many many years only at NCPA.
The Inner Space: The Magic of Theatre Abstract paintings influenced by theatre by Pune's senior artist Shyam Bhutkar	25 th January, 2010 Monday 6 pm, Tata Theatre Foyer	Brinda Miller will be the chief guest.

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