

# NIGHT OF

# THEATRE No 6

09.02.2013

TRIMUKHI  
CULTURAL  
CENTRE

Borotalpada Village  
West Midnapur  
West Bengal  
India

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## 5. LIGHT & SIGHT II PHOTOGRAPHY

In January 2013 the Mexican visual artist Alejandro Orozco ran in Borotalpada the second part of his workshop on creative photography. The workshop moved onto a creative terrain where the participants were invited to imagine and foresee an image even before it was being taken, exploring how to pass from what they think to what they can capture with the camera. The exhibition presents a selection of 28 pictures.

coordination ALEJANDRO OROZCO [MX] translation ARNAB BANERJEE [IN] photography GOPAL HANSDA | BHIMCHARAN HANSDA | GIRISH SOREN | ARNAB BANERJEE | FALGUNI HANSDA | MOTILAL HANSDA | SALKHAN HANSDA | SUNITA SOREN [IN] | ALEJANDRO OROZCO [MX]

## 2. THE THING THAT EXISTS WHEN WE AREN'T THERE THEATRE

The French theatre director and experimental film maker Jean-Frédéric Chevallier chose to compose his new stage work with diversity. His team this year is composed of artists from Ecuador, Mexico, France as well as from the Bengal village of Morapai and the Santal Borotalpada. He wonders how to inhabit Trimukhi Cultural Centre, what to do inside and outside the building. In some parts, he also introduces extracts from his forthcoming film. By combining elements from such different origins, his theatre composition produces unexpected feelings and thoughts.

text, video & direction JEAN-FRÉDÉRIC CHEVALLIER [FR] collaboration ALEJANDRO OROZCO [MX] & SUKLA BAR [IN] assistant CHANDRAI MURMU [IN] sound & music creation BENOÎT MORY [FR] & ABRAHAM CALVACHI [EC] live music ALEXANDRE JURAIN [FR] & SUKANTA BOSE JURAIN [IN] additional music GOLDBERG VARIATIONS [J.S. BACH] BY KIMIKO ISHIZAKA technical assistant HIMADRI MONDAL [IN] lighting assistants BHIMCHARAN HANSDA | SALKHAN HANSDA [IN] actors FALGUNI HANSDA | GOPAL HANSDA | KAJOL HANSDA | MOTILAL HANSDA | RAIMA MONDAL [IN], CHANDRAI MURMU | LORENA ROJAS [MX], CHAMRU SOREN | PINI SOREN [IN]

## 9. FLYING BAMBOO INSTALLATION

In 2012 Trimukhi Platform opened the question: "What does 'to build' mean?". From an initial drawing, a barely visible trace on the ground, a different architecture has taken place which contains the actual movement from different geopolitical centres (Paris, London, Kolkata or Mexico) to a single border (Borotalpada): a cultural centre outside the centre. Such a *sui-generis* project literally condenses the lines which provide the creative structure for the installation that the Mexican visual artist Alejandro Orozco has decided to build: a huge structure mostly made of local bamboo. This *in-situ* installation, developed in collaboration with local villagers presents a space to transit, to stand for a moment, to surround and to visually participate in.

conception & realisation ALEJANDRO OROZCO [MX] assistance & advice SUKLA BAR | GIRISH SOREN | CHANDRAI MURMU | BHIMCHARAN HANSDA | SALKHAN HANSDA | MOTILAL HANSDA | GOPAL HANSDA | HIMADRI MONDAL [IN] | LORENA ROJAS [MX] |

| IN = India | FR = France | EC = Ecuador | MX = Mexico | CO = Colombia |  
| MC (presenter) = KALICHARAN HEMBROM |

## 8. WHAT DOES "TO BUILD" MEAN? DOCUMENTARY

The decision to build a Cultural Centre in Borotalpada was taken by the villagers on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010. After almost a year of talks – usually in the form of assemblies, the construction started: a piece of land was chosen, the place was cleaned and a Santal ritual performed. A first draft was marked on the ground with strings and ashes. While the construction was going on, other things were also being built: relationships, understandings, discovery of each one's desires. As the French anthropologist Marc Hatzfeld wrote: "The first work of this Centre is the fabric of emotion, intelligence, generosity and dreams that makes this little piece of world shine under the light of a new dawn."

edition JEAN-FRÉDÉRIC CHEVALLIER [FR] commentaries MARC HATZFELD [FR] main workers SUKLA BAR [IN] | HECTOR BOURGES [MX] | NATHALI BUENAVENTURA [CO] | JEAN-FRÉDÉRIC CHEVALLIER [FR] | FALGUNI & MOTILAL HANSDA [IN] | KANAI HANSDA [IN] | "DOCTOR" & "LADEN" HANSDA [IN] | MARC HATZFELD [FR] | CHANDRAI MURMU [IN] | ALEJANDRO OROZCO [MX] | PAOLA OSPINA [CO] | CHAMRU SOREN | GIRISH SOREN | KALICHARAN HEMBROM [IN]

## 8. SANTAL DANCE

For contemporary choreographers, Santal dances are fascinating. There is a force in them but it is quite difficult to explain where it comes from. Is it the rhythm? Is it the group togetherness? Is it the repetition of the same steps that makes the same other? It seems that nothing changes and at the same time eyes never get tired of watching the circle the women dancers draw with their slight displacement. The group is composed of Borotalpada villager members of Trimukhi Platform.

coordination | KANAI HANSDA & TIBRU MURMU [IN] musicians KISUN HANSDA | TIBRU MURMU | KANAI HANSDA | GANESH HANSDA | BASONTO SOREN [IN] dancers DELKO HANSDA | MADO HEMBRAM | PARMONI MURMU | PARMONI HANSDA | KAJOL HANSDA | PARBOTE HANSDA | MALOTE HEMBROM | PANI SOREN | PARBOTE SOREN | SOMBARI HANSDA [IN]

## 6. A PRAISE OF SANTAL WALL PERFORMANCE-LECTURE

Six years ago the French script-writer and photographer Julien Nenault started to visit Adhivashi villages in North India. From Jarkhand to Gujarat, he met tribal painters, discussed and worked with them. He took a special liking to the way Santal women painted the walls of their homes. Now, through a lecture that is not a lecture but more a performance, he shares his fascination for the beauty and sensibility of this painting gesture.

text, video, direction & performer JULIEN NENAULT [FR] musician ALEXANDRE JURAIN [FR] guest performers GIRLS AND WOMEN FROM THE AREA [IN]

## 9. TIERRA ROJA লাল মাটি DANCE-THEATRE

To be invited to create a performance for the Night of Theatre festival always means to be invited to a displacement, to be called to move out from one's own artistic habits and knowledge towards new aesthetic experiences. Lorena Rojas, well known in Mexico for her mastering of fusion dance, has taken up the challenge and designed with girls from Borotalpada, a lovely choreographic piece blending fusion dance with theatre, tribal dance and daily life gestures.

direction LORENA ROJAS [MX] in collaboration with SUKLA BAR [IN] & ALEJANDRO OROZCO [MX] music RADAID | GORKATA | TSG TRLB dancers SUMI SOREN | PARBOTE SOREN | PANI SOREN | PUNDGI SOREN | RAIMA MONDAL [IN] & LORENA ROJAS [MX]

## b. CREATURES OF FLESH AND PAPER DOCUMENTARY

In December 2012, Trimukhi Platform invited a visual artist and an actress from Colombia to give a double workshop in Borotalpada primary school for 25 children from the Adhivashi area. Nathali Buenaventura shared original drawing techniques and strategies with the participants while Paola Ospina led them to be as free with their bodies as if they were moving sculptures to be explored.

instructors NATHALI BUENAVENTURA, PAOLA OSPINA [CO] music BENOÎT MORY [FR]

## 5. FUSION TRIBAL DANCE

To continue with energy and joy, Lorena Rojas shares two of her most famous Mexican fusion dance solos.

direction & choreography LORENA ROJAS [MX] lighting CHANDRAI MURMU [IN]

## 50. PATHARBANDHER SANDYA PRADIP JHUMUR NACH DANCE

Arup Mahato is a tribal choreographer from the Mahato village of Pathorbandh. When he was 10 years old, he started to learn Jhumur dance and Cho dance. Five years later he started to learn to play the Madol instrument. He is now 52 years old and for 23 years he has been directing the tribal dance group he founded and developed. His Patharbandher Sandya Pradip Jhumur Nach Dol is now very famous in the area and is regularly invited to perform.

direction ARUP MAHATO [IN] assistant BHABOTOSH MAHATO [IN] singers AMULYA & KETUKA MAHATO [IN] musicians GURUCHARAN MAHATO | BAHADUR MAHATO | BUJUL MAHATO | SUBHASH MAHATO [IN] leading dancer NIKHIL MAHATO [IN] dancers MAUSUMI MAHATO | PROTIMA MAHATO | PUSPA MAHATO | JAYANTI MAHATO | PUTUL MAHATO | NILIMA & PUJARANI MAHATO [IN]

## 55. AZARAK IN LIVE MUSIC CONCERT

AZARAK is a musical duo born from the encounter between Sukanta Bose, a traditional Bengali singer, and Alexandre Jurain, a French musician and composer who came to India to learn classical music. Their compositions include Indian, Tribal and Celtic overtones: the flowing voice of Sukanta enters into dialogue with the melody from the Esraj and the undulations pulsed by the Didgeridoo that Alexandre plays.

singer SUKANTA BOSE [IN] composition, esraj & didgeridoo ALEXANDRE JURAIN [FR] production AZARAK lighting CHANDRAI MURMU [IN]

# night & theatre

বর্তমান Night of Theatre উৎসবটি আমাদের ষষ্ঠ সংস্করণ। প্রথম চারটি সংস্করণ মেক্সিকান জাতীয় বিশ্ব বিদ্যালয়, মেক্সিকান ন্যাশনাল কাউন্সিল ফর আর্টস অ্যান্ড কালচার, মেক্সিকো শহরের সংস্কৃতি ও মেক্সিকোতে ফরাসি দূতাবাস সচিবের সহযোগিতায় মেক্সিকো শহরে অনুষ্ঠিত হয়। আজ রাতে ষষ্ঠ সংস্করণটির মতই, পঞ্চম সংস্করণটি অনুষ্ঠিত হয় পশ্চিমবঙ্গে, বড়তালপাদা নামক এক সাঁওতাল গ্রামে। মানুষ জন প্রায়ই আমাদের জিজ্ঞাসা করে : কেন এই ধরনের Theatre উৎসব এই ধরনের পল্লীগ্রামে সংগঠিত করা ? উত্তর খুবই সহজ : কারণ আমরা দখতে চাই, কি ঘটে, যখন সমসাময়িক শিল্পকলা ডিভাইস গড়ে তোলা হয় শহরের চৌহদ্দির বাইরে এমন এক পল্লীগ্রামে পল্লীবাসীদের নিয়ে কারণ আমাদের গভীর বিশ্বাস এবং আমরা এতই গভীরভাবে বিশ্বাস করি কারণ আমরা প্রায়ই এই অভিজ্ঞতা অর্জন করি - যে বর্তমান চারুকলা গড়ে উঠা দরকার সমাজের সকল স্তরের মানুষদের নিয়ে - এবং সর্বস্তরের শিল্পীবৃন্দদের নিয়ে যাতে শুধুমাত্র বিবৃতি গত বৈচিত্র্য নয়, একেই সঙ্গে অস্তিত্ব প্রদর্শনের প্রাসঙ্গিকতা ও সঠিকতার বৈচিত্র্য ও। সেই জন্যই আমরা স্থানীয় সঙ্গীতজ্ঞ, নর্তকী, অভিনেতা, চিত্রশিল্পী, ও গায়িকাদের সঙ্গে বড়তালপাদা গ্রামে কাজ করার জন্যে ইউরোপ, ল্যাটিন আমেরিকা এবং ভারতের প্রখ্যাত শিল্পীদের আমন্ত্রণ করি। এই সকল শিল্পীদের আমরা এমন কিছু প্রস্তুত করার আমন্ত্রণ জানাই যা নিয়ে তারা গর্ব অনুভব করে। এবং মূলত এই গুলিই আমরা Night of Theatre উৎসবে ভাগ করে নিই।

২০১৩ সালের সংস্করণে এ সকলে হয়ত আশ্চর্য হতে পারে যে, যে উৎসব টিকে "Night of Theatre" বলা হয়, সেই উৎসবে এত অল্প Theatre আর এত গুলি নাচ, ভিডিও, সঙ্গীত, এবং ইনস্টলেশন প্রোগ্রাম কেন ? প্রাচীন গ্রীক শব্দে "Theatre" কথাটির মানে "জায়গা যেখান থেকে কোন দৃশ্য দেখা হয়" বা "প্রদর্শনী যা দেখান হয়"। এবং বাংলায় "যাত্রা" মানে "ভ্রমণ- স্থানচ্যুতি - এক জায়গা থেকে অন্য জায়গায় যাওয়া"। আমরা চেষ্টা করি প্রত্যেক দর্শকদের মধ্যে এক নতুন দৃষ্টিশক্তির অভিজ্ঞতা জাগিয়ে তালার, সৃষ্টি করি এমন এক মুহূর্ত যা আমাদের বাস্তব কে অন্য এক দৃষ্টিকোন থেকে পর্যবেক্ষণ করতে সক্ষম করে। ব্যক্তিগত অনুভূতি, উদ্বেগ এবং চিন্তা দিয়ে নিজের এক আভ্যন্তরীণ যাত্রা। ভারতবর্ষ, দক্ষিণ আমেরিকা অথবা পশ্চিম ইউরোপে একই তং এর জীবন যাত্রায় (যে কোন উপায় টাকা অর্জন কর এবং TV নিয়ে সুখি থাকবে) বসবাস করে, আমরা আমাদের বাস্তব কে শুধুমাত্র একটাই দৃষ্টিকোন থেকে দেখি (কিভাবে প্রতিবেশীর কাছ থেকে ছিনিয়ে নেওয়া যায়)। তাই আমাদের প্রত্যেকের প্রয়োজন, চারুকলার মধ্যে দিয়ে সৃষ্টি এই মুহূর্তটি পাওয়ার কেননা শিল্পকলাই এই কোন থেকেই দূর কে দর্শন করার বিকল্প স্থান প্রদান করতে পারে, আমরা কৃতজ্ঞ যে আমরা আমাদের স্বাভাবিক আভ্যন্তরীণ যাত্রার গভীরে প্রবেশ করে এই ছক থেকে বার হয়ে আসতে পারি। এই ষষ্ঠ Night of Theatre এর শিল্পীরা যেমন ভিন্ন ও বৈচিত্র্যময়, তাদের প্রস্তাব সেইরূপ ভিন্ন ও বৈচিত্র্যময়। বৈচিত্র্য ভাবের বৈশিষ্ট্য দান করে যেখানে প্রত্যেকটি দর্শক এই কাজ গুলি প্রত্যক্ষ করে এবং তার সঙ্গে সঙ্গে এগিয়ে চলে। বৈচিত্র্য যা আজ রাতে আমরা উপভোগ করতে পারি তা নিজেদের কে আরো অসামান্য করার আহ্বান মাত্র। গ্রহণ করা বা ভিন্নতাকে সহ্য করার কোন প্রশ্ন নয় কিন্তু প্রশ্ন হল এই ভিন্নতাকে ভালবাসা। এই Theatre মুখর মুহূর্ত জীবন আবার স্বাদ ও গন্ধ পেতে শুরু করলো। এবং রাত্রি শেষে, আগামী প্রভাতে আমরা আনন্দ মনে জেগে উঠি।

It is now the sixth edition of our Night of Theatre festival. The first four editions were held in Mexico City with the support of the Mexican National University, the Mexican National Council for Arts and Culture, the Secretary of Culture of Mexico City and the French Embassy in Mexico. The fifth edition was held in the remote Borotalpada Santal Village, India, as is the sixth one tonight.

Often people ask us: why organise such an event in such a place? The answer is quite simple: Because we want to see what happens when contemporary art devices are built at the periphery together with peripheral people. It is also because we deeply believe – and we believe it so deeply because we experience it so often – that nowadays art needs to be produced by all strata of society – and by groups of artists with a plurality of backgrounds – so there is not only a diversity of propositions but also relevance and accuracy in what is finally produced. That's why we invite renowned artists from Europe, Latin America and India to work in Borotalpada together with local musicians, dancers, actors, painters, singers. We ask them to prepare something that they all can be proud of. And that is essentially what we share during our night-long programme.

Now, for this 2013 edition, people may also wonder why, something called a "Night of Theatre" has so little "theatre" and so many "dance", "video", "music" and "installation" programmes. In ancient Greek, the word "Theatre" meant the place from where to sight or the spectacle that is offered to the sight. And in Bengali, "Jatra" means also journey, displacement from one place to another. What we try to produce in each member of the audience is a new sight experience, a moment during which it becomes possible to watch our realities from another angle; an inner journey through personal feelings, concerns and thoughts. Living in India, South America or Western Europe according to a similar pattern of life ("make money by any means and you will be happy with your TV!"), we watch our surroundings from only one angle ("how to grab from my neighbour?"). This makes it necessary for each one of us to be given such moments through art – as art can offer an alternate space from which to watch far from this angle, thanks to which we can go deeper on our singular journey to exit this pattern. The different teams of artists who worked to prepare this Sixth Night are just as diverse and different as each of their propositions. Diversity should also characterise the manner in which each audience member looks at these works and travels along with them. The diversity that we can enjoy tonight is nothing but a call to be more unique. It is not about accepting, or, even worse, tolerating differences, but about loving them. In this moment of "theatre", life begins to have taste and flavour again. And after the night, the next morning, we wake up with joy.

Jean-Frédéric Chevallier

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director JEAN-FRÉDÉRIC CHEVALLIER general secretary SUKLA BAR vice-president FALGUNI HANSDA logistics coordinator GIRISH SOREN technical coordinator CHANDRAI MURMU board comity PRAMILA BOR | MOTILAL HANSDA | KALICHARAN HEMBROM | CHAMRU SOREN active members KAJOL & PARBOTI HANSDA | KANAI & DELKO HANSDA | JAGESWAR HANSDA | GANESH HANSDA | JITEN HANSDA | MADO HEMBROM | PARMONI MURMU | SUNITA SOREN | BOSONTO SOREN | MADGO SOREN permanent collaborators TANIA BARBERÁN | MARC HATZFELD | DAMAYANTI LAHIRI | ALEJANDRO OROZCO