

THEATRE OF MY OWN

The Opening

It has taken our strong belief to pick and present a classic, written in the 70s yet remaining highly relevant today as well. If you are familiar with Vijay Tendulkar's *Sakharam Binder* that dared to peel the pretentiousness of a masked society, then you know what we are talking about.

And so, we dared to continue the peeling.

Our Journey so far --

We are *Theatre On Your Own (TOYO)*, an ensemble theatre group, and we have created over 200 theatrical experiences in various formats that spark a dialogue between artistes and audience – which include staged readings, improvisations, workshops (theatre training and corporate), formal theatre and corporate performances as well as original script development. Founded in 2015 we work towards exploring exciting, new multimedia & story-telling formats for unexpected and evocative performances.

Theatre is not just an occupation for us but also a medium to work on collaborative projects under **TOYO Brotherhood** where we integrate other art forms with Theatre. We also create our own **Mainstage Production** where we recently presented *At Louv* and through **Chuski Natak Ki**, we have adapted classic Hindi plays like *Aadhe Adhure* by Mohan Rakesh, *Dance Like A Man* by Mahesh Dattani and our current production *Sakharam Binder*.

Our Sakharam Binder –

We didn't pick *Sakharam Binder* for merely its controversial characterisation or story line. Through *Sakharam* we found an opportunity to see and reflect ourselves until there was no gap between what was going on inside us and what we chose to show.

For 28 shows in last 2 years, our *Binder* has stood himself up as a mirror to over 2000 people (or at least whoever amongst those dared to look at him). Our 28th show was a landmark show at the esteemed Ranga Shankara Theatre, Bengaluru. And as we now leap even higher to our 29th performance at the Indian Habitat Centre, Delhi on April 28th, 2019 we find ourselves facing the mirror of reality, that of getting *Binder's* journey closer to you – making *Binder* travel.

Our Appeal –

It is our courage that has got us this far, it is our courage to pull Tendulkar's vision and give it such a taste and twist to draw and engage more crowd; and above all, it is our courage that compels us to reach out and ASK, ask for HELP, ask *our crowd* to FUND. We have received a lots from our audience so far – whistles, criticism, empty seats, standing ovations, scornful looks, wise words, enthusiasm, polite encouragement, silent treatment, appreciation in cries and claps – everything for the keeps. At this juncture though, we need what really matters for us to reach to you -- your trust.

Why must you contribute?

Very simply put, to see Creativity that you wouldn't have seen before.

Nevertheless, why would you even consider contributing for a show that has been presented and performed thousands of times in the last 47 years by various actors and performers? It's a question with which we embarked our journey as well.

It wasn't easy to adapt and live up to the stature that this play has created over the years. We studied this play over and over until we realised that this play represented (and still does) our

hypocrisy. Our so called modern society, then and even now, held a myopic mirror which conveniently showed the other side and not ourselves. We could do our bit, even if little.

The story had to be told and that too in a way that not just gets through but even cuts through our senses. We took it beyond the script, beyond the characters, beyond just a story and designed a set, a format, a narration that compellingly pulls you to reflect, to hold that mirror in your own hands and see the real you, to stand up to who you are and to respect what others are as well.

We are giving every bit of ours to create awareness of our power driven society, of questions on man vs woman, on independence vs reliance, on whether we really are a modern society or does that exist only in closed doors of our minds?

Every little bit helps, every bit of it – *to our team's faith, creativity and future*, not only towards Binder but other creations as well.

To contribute –

Towards funding our show – PayTM us at: 988 000 6877.

Towards funding our transport (tickets) – Whatsapp us at 988 000 6877.

Towards funding our local conveyance – PayTM us at: 988 000 6877.

Towards purchase of bulk tickets – Whatsapp us at: 988 000 6877.

For any other queries, suggestions or information, visit us at www.theatreonyourown.in or follow us at xxxxxxx on FB/IG or call/text us at 988 000 6877.