



THE Prophet AND THE Poet

a play by Vijay Padaki
Directed by Yaksha Bhatt

Ajay Sarpeshkar
Sanjay Mediwalla

Assistant Director
Producer

Cast

Anjana Menon	Narrator
Abhiram Cheema	Actor exploring the life of Gandhi
Aurko Dutta	Actor exploring the life of Tagore

Crew

Light Operation	Prateek Karkal
Sound/Projection	Ajay Sarpeshkar
Stage Management	Mitul Patel
Art	Neil Sen
Set	Kent Groth
Light Design	Bryan Nortin
Production Team	Sara Kumar, Mithila Jagirdar, Vaishali Bithale
House Management	Jesal Kapasi
Ticketing	Tickets2events.com (GV Krishnan)

*Shunya Gratefully Acknowledges
the Generous Support of*

**The Houston Arts Alliance
The Tagore Society of Houston
Pradeep Anand
Surajit Dasgupta
Indo-American News
India Herald
Generasian Radio
Geetanjali Radio
Music Masala Radio
Anjali Center for Performing Arts
Sarika Phalak
Kanchan Phalak
Sriram Vengalathur**

We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to our friends and family for their undying support, love and encouragement.

Dear Guest,

Shunya is thrilled to bring you *The Prophet and the Poet* as part of our ongoing mission to provide a voice to the South Asian American experience. The play is written by Vijay Padaki and has been developed at the Academy of Theatre Arts, a program division of Bangalore Little Theatre Foundation and is produced by arrangement with Bangalore Little Theatre Foundation.

The play premiered by invitation at Gandhi's Sabarmati Ashram on January 30, 2009, subsequently at Visva Bharati University at Santiniketan, then at the courtyard stage of Tagore's home in Jora Sanko, now a heritage site. The play script is developed from a draft manuscript compiled by Shailesh Parekh and shared with Bangalore Little Theatre, now published as Gandhi vs. Tagore by Viswa Bharati, Kolkata, 2010. The compilation was based on the archival research by Sabyasachi Bhattacharya, former Vice Chancellor of Visva Bharati University.

This has been a landmark year for Shunya. We began 2011 with the comedy *1-888-DIAL-INDIA*, followed by a staged reading of selections from Shishir Kurup's *Merchant on Venice* with an associated lecture, and we now end our season with this illuminating look at the relationship of two monumental intellects. We have been supported in our season by you, our guests, the city of Houston through the Houston Arts Alliance, and the many volunteers who have worked tirelessly to give South Asian themed theatre a place in Houston's arts scene.

As an all-volunteer organization, we depend on the support of you, our audience. Your generous contribution will provide much needed assistance for our upcoming productions and will ensure that we are able to provide the same experiences for future generations of Houston South Asian Americans as we have been provided. As a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, we are authorized to accept tax deductible donations and will be happy to provide you with a receipt for your tax purposes. With your support we can ensure that live theatre in Houston reflects the South Asian community and its long history of drama.

Thanking you for your unwavering support of our cause.

Sanjay Mediwalla
Sanjay@ShunyaTheatre.org
Managing Director, Shunya Theatre