

From the creator of the hit show **Poutine Masala**– a new, soulful dance/theatre performance

that is sure to brighten your winter

Press Release
For Immediate Release



in collaboration with Infinithéâtre, presents

SATRANGI

SEVEN STORIES OF LIGHT

Multimedia dance/theatre written, choreographed, directed and performed by
Deepali Lindblom

November 28 – December 9, 2012

“Before I saw the world with my eyes, now I see it with my heart” – Lawrence
Halford

MONTREAL November, 2012 – Deepali, in collaboration with **Infinithéâtre**, presents the uplifting **Satragi; Seven stories of Light**, at **Bain St. Michel from Nov. 28 to Dec. 9**, just in time for the winter holidays. From the enchanting island of L’Isle–aux–Coudres to a village nestled deep in the Himalayas of Nepal. From a public bus in India to the war–zone of Bosnia. From the slums of Lima to the revolution in Egypt. From the glamour of Paris to the quiet life of a sage. Satragi is a glimpse into what makes us human.

Deepali Lindblom, an enigmatic dancer and actor, has once again conceived a multidisciplinary production, this time telling seven true short stories from around the world. Part humorous, part touching but always riveting, Deepali brings these stirring tales alive.

Satragi, meaning rainbow in Hindi, rejoices in the spirit of winter festivities celebrated by thousands of multi–ethnic Montréalers. All involving light, they start in November with Diwali (India), Santa Lucia in early December (Scandinavia), Los Posados (Mexico), Le Réveillon (France), Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanzaa (Africa). Wanting to share the stories of the people that greatly inspired her, Deepali has come full circle with Satragi, “I was, after all, born on Diwali–day and my name means ray of light.”

Deepali elaborates on her motivation to do Satrangi, "I've always been interested in creating performances around subjects that matter greatly. While living in India, Sweden and Montreal, I met people who told me inspiring tales from their lives. I feel the compelling need to share them with the world. These are accounts of injustice and struggle, but also of faith, joy, laughter, courage, hope and love. These are stories that sustain humanity, touch us and hopefully make a difference."

One story is that of **Maryline** and **Lawrence Halford**. Maryline says, "When Deepali told me that she would like to use our story for Satrangi, I was hesitant at first. It was a very painful chapter in our lives, but we also realised that it changed our lives for the best and if it can inspire anyone else, then it is worth telling."

Deepali is accompanied by **Karine Benchetrit**, **Catrine Demers**, **Anne Roudaut** and **Olivia Shaw** for the dazzling dances, which have Indian roots but flirt with dance styles from the various stories' countries. Multicultural inclusion is important for Deepali. She explains, "Being born and raised in India, a hot pot of cultures, has influenced a significant part of my understanding of the world and it reflects in my creative process. Here in Montréal, a city with a powerful soul that comes from being culturally diverse, I want to explore making the most of my dance and theatre traditions in a contemporary Canadian context."

Exotic music sets the backdrop, adding to the dances and heightening the senses. Short films and a slideshow contributed by the original storytellers accentuate the narration. The set design is by up and coming **Claire Renaud** and **Charlotte Hoffman**. They appreciated their challenging and creative task at hand, "Deepali wanted three things- intimacy, colours and light. We are very pleased with the final result that involved many hours of designing, discarding and redesigning. When the audience descends into the pool, they will be immersed in an enchanting world." **Alycia O'Keefe** adds to this with an inventive lighting design that will transport the audience to the mood of the moment.

In addition to the show, there will be a photo exhibition in the theatre lobby. Put together by **Samah Sadak**, a newly immigrated Egyptian journalist, these postcard size pictures are human portraits from around the world, contributed by photographers from Montréal and elsewhere. Photo submissions are still being accepted.

This winter solstice, open your heart and let the light in. Be illuminated!

Satrangi; Seven stories of light

Nov. 28-Dec. 9

At Bain St. Michel, 5300, rue St-Dominique

Tuesday to Saturday 8pm, Sunday 2pm

Tickets: \$20, \$17 for groups of 4 or more (taxes included)

December 2 at 2pm is pay-what-you-can to encourage word of mouth

Tickets: (514) 987-1774 ext. 104 or online with PayPal: www.infinitheatre.com/infin-box-office.html (cash only at the door)

For more information about Deepali Lindblom: <http://deepali.ca>

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Opening night is Wednesday, November 28

Invitation to follow

The **MEDIA CALL** with excerpts from Satrangi will be held on **Tuesday, November 27 at 12:00pm** at Bain St. Michel. This is an occasion for camera footage, interviews and still photography.

Please confirm by Friday, November 23.

Media Contact: If you would like to interview show creator/performer Deepali Lindblom or any other company member, please contact Deepali at 514.699.6534 or info@deepali.ca

Deepali Lindblom

Deepali Lindblom is a Montréal based dancer, actor and choreographer. Proficient in several Indian folk dances, folk theater and puppetry, Deepali combines these art forms with Kathak, an Indian classical dance. She blends in the charisma of the East, the precision of the West and the best of in between in her performing arts.

Deepali has received specialized training in Street/folk theatre, glove puppetry and Naqaal, an Indian story telling dance technique. She also holds a diploma in TV and film production. She worked in the Indian film and television industry for a short while, before quitting it to travel rural and tribal India to perform and give workshops.

In 2006, while living in Sweden, Deepali became a professional choreographer and dancer. She also started projects that used art as a medium to preserve cultural identities. In Montréal, where she arrived in 2008, she co-founded Dung-dkar, Tibetan Artist Collective. In 2009, she wrote, directed and performed in an Indo-Tibetan production, Legend of the Necklace, that premiered during Asian Heritage Month. Later that year, its sequel, Lha Gyalo, was made thanks to a generous Canada Council grant and was staged at the Bell Centre during the visit of His Holiness Dalai Lama. It later premiered at Art Neuf.

In 2010, Deepali started her own company, **Deepali Productions** and thus started an incredible journey of dance. Since then, she has taught Indian dances to more than 3000 people and given numerous performances both solo and with her dance troupe, Mix Masala. Selected highlights include performing at Soirée des Jutra, Des kiwis et des hommes, Bal du dimanche at Place-des-Arts and Weekend du monde among others.

This year, in collaboration with Mainline Theater, Deepali produced, choreographed and performed in Poutine Masala, a comedy dance/theatre. It was an instant hit and a complete sell-out. Poutine Masala has been chosen to play at the Wildside Festival at Centaur Theatre from January 4-13, 2013.