



**A Fundraiser for  
San Francisco Women Against Rape (SFWAR)  
Saturday, August 19th  
La Peña Community Center, Berkeley**

**Community Sponsors**

Alliance for South Asians Taking Action (ASATA)  
APEX Express KPFA 94.1 FM (Media Sponsor)  
Asian Americans for Civil Rights & Equality (AACRE)  
Finnish Hall, Berkeley  
Narika

**PROGRAM**

**I have Never Known Two**

Of the 64 manifestations of Shiva, the androgynous form is the Ardhanarishvara. This becomes the canvas for a meditative dance on the porous relations between binaries: male/female, self/other, where the sum of the whole becomes greater than its parts.

Dance and Choreography: Deepa Mahadevan and Lakshmi Sriraman

Readers: Adhirai Karthik and Gamzeh

Musicians: Ajay Gopi (Mridangam) and Shreyas Bharadwaj (Flute)

Poem by: Aniruddhan Vasudevan

Costumes: Joy Anthony

ASL Interpretation: Cathleen Riddley

**Re-storying Hindu Mythology**

Gamzeh and Anuj Vaidya

ASL Interpretation: Jay Jempson

**Ganga Satellite**

Speaking with Sita means speaking with the land. In this science-fiction eco-feminist re-telling of the Ramayana, the story of Sita takes centerstage.

Dance and Choreography: Antoine Hunter, Deepa Mahadevan, Lakshmi Sriraman

Musicians: Ruby Mountain (vocals, soundscape), Ajay Gopi (Mridangam), and Shreyas Bharadwaj (Flute)

Production Design: Praba Pilar

ASL Performer: Cathleen Riddley

Script and Direction: Anuj Vaidya

**Q&A Session**

ASL Interpretation: Jay Jempson and Cathleen Riddley

**Reception - Continue our discussion over refreshments**

## ARTIST BIOS

**Adhirai Karthik** is 9 years old. She is a dancer, singer, actor and an on-stage performer since the age of three. She has performed key roles in five major dance productions. She recently played the lead role in a Bay area based film which drew critical acclaim. Her ambition "is to star in a major movie with lot of actors but not with too many shooting schedules."

**Ajay Gopi (Mridangam)** has been learning the Mridangam since 5<sup>th</sup> grade. He has performed in many prestigious Sabhas in India, and has won many competitions. He is currently a Sophomore at UC Berkeley.

**Aniruddhan Vasudevan** is a performer, poet and author, from Madras/ Chennai, India, is currently a graduate student in Anthropology at the University of Texas, Austin. He is an LGBT rights activist and artist. Ani is a trained performer of Bharatanatyam.

**Anuj Vaidya** is an artist, educator and media curator whose work straddles the cusp between performance and film and addresses issues of gender, sexuality and ecology. He is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Performance Studies at UC Davis. Since 2008, Vaidya has also been co-director of the 3rd i South Asian Film Festival.

**Antoine Hunter** is an award-winning African-American Deaf producer, choreographer, film/theater actor, dancer, dance instructor, model, poet, speaker, mentor and Deaf advocate. He teaches dance and ASL in both Hearing and Deaf communities and is the founder and artistic director of Urban Jazz Dance Company and has been producing the Bay Area International Deaf Dance Festival since 2013.

**Cathleen Riddley** is an award-winning actor. Previously she has been an ASL interpreter for the Broadway National Tours of *Hamilton*, *Hair*, *The Lion King*, *Once*, and *The Color Purple*. A project close to her heart is working with incarcerated men at San Quentin State Prison with their violence prevention program.

**Deepa Mahadevan** is a PhD candidate with the Performance Studies graduate group at the University of California, Davis. She is the founder and artistic director of Tiruchitrambalam school of Dance in Union city, CA.

**Gamzeh** is the online persona of Preeti Mangala Shekar. She is a performance artist, Sufi poetry connoisseur and a voice-over artist, including for audio and video documentaries.

**Jay Jempson** is an American Sign Language interpreter providing services for the deaf community in the Bay Area.

**Lakshmi Sriraman** is an accomplished Bharatanatyam performer, educator and choreographer based in Lexington, Kentucky. Her more recent works have expanded to include spoken word, theater and other performing arts as vocabularies for expression. She founded the Shree School of Dance to impart Bharatanatyam education in the Bluegrass area.

**Praba Pilar** is a diasporic Colombian interdisciplinary artist integrating performance art, street theatre, electronic installations, digital works, video, websites, and writing. Her interventionist projects have traveled widely to museums, galleries, universities, performance festivals, conferences, public streets, and radio airwaves around the world.

**Ruby Mountain** (aka Krystle Ahmadyar) is an Oakland-based award-winning vocalist and songwriter who calls upon her training in Jazz, experimental electronic and Afghan music to create compositions of love, resiliency and social justice.

**Shreyas Bharadwaj (Flautist)** has performed at prestigious concert venues at the annual Madras Margazhi Music Festival and on Indian television. He has performed in several cities across the US in solo concerts, and as an accompanist in dance performances. He is an active part of the Bay area based band 'Raaga.'



