



PRESS RELEASE



Srishti – Nina Rajarani Dance Creations presents *Sevens*

A three-part dance and music performance based on the sacred, sometimes sinful, significance of the number 7

**Conceived, directed and choreographed by choreographer Nina Rajarani MBE
Original live music for vocals, flute, viola and keyboards by Yadav Yadavan and Shammi Pithia**

UK tour 4 March to 5 July

Press night: The Weston Auditorium, Hatfield on 4 March

London press night: The Place Theatre, London on 2 April

Sevens is a new three-part performance created in 2021 by award-winning dancer and choreographer Nina Rajarani MBE.

The initial inspiration was the seven steps of Saptapadi, the most important rite of a Hindu marriage ceremony where, with each step, the couple take a vow that is beautiful, simple and timeless. Rajarani created *Seven Steps* with her vocalist husband Yadav Yadavan and they now perform it together as the central part of this new work.

Increasingly fascinated by the number 7, Rajarani went on to create two further pieces – *Seven Snags* and *Seven Sins* – for her company of classical dancers, using the

contrasting dance forms of Bharatanatyam and Kathak. Rajarani worked with dramaturgs Lou Cope (on the initial creation) and Miranda Laurence.

The evening opens with *Seven Snags*, a flirtatious courtship between the company's dancers and musicians, the choreographic equivalent of an obstacle course full of fast-paced footwork and spins, hectic dynamics and challenging cross-rhythms. The final part *Seven Sins* is reflective, contemplative and soulful, questioning and challenging age-old ideas of right and wrong.

The original score for *Sevens* was composed by Yadav Yadavan and Shammi Pithia and is performed live by Yadavan on vocals, Pithia on keyboards and Vijay Venkat on flute and viola.

The dancers are Abirami Eswar, Mithun Gill, Suhani Dhanki Modi, Sankari Mridha and Nina Rajarani.

Listings information follows.

Dropbox to press images:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/3l8twjdkug6jl25/AACsvTh1OKgYSAF7GmiSxEk5a?dl=0>

www.srishti.co.uk

Ends

Press contacts: Martha Oakes or Sue Lancashire at martha@marthaoakespr.co.uk / 020 8854 5460 / 07798 626556 or sue@marthaoakespr.co.uk / 07973 819984.

Listings

Friday 4 March

The Weston Auditorium, University of Hertfordshire, College Lane Campus, Hatfield, Hertfordshire AL10 9AB

Tickets 01707 281 127 / www.uharts.co.uk

Tuesday 22 March

The Rose Theatre, Edge Hill University, St Helens Road, Ormskirk L39 4QP

Tickets 01695 584480 / www.edgehill.ac.uk

Wednesday 30 March

MAC Birmingham, Midlands Arts Centre, Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham B12 9QH

Tickets 0121 446 3232 / www.macbirmingham.co.uk

Saturday 2 April

The Place Theatre, 17 Duke's Road, London WC1H 9PY

Tickets 020 7121 1100 / www.theplace.org.uk

Sunday 10 April

Wiltshire Music Centre, Ashley Road, Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire BA15 1DZ

Tickets 01225 860100 / www.wiltshiremusic.org.uk

Tuesday 10 May

South Hill Park, Ringmead, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 7PA

Tickets 01344 484 123 / www.southhillpark.org.uk

Tuesday 5 July

Curve, 60 Rutland Street, Leicester LE1 1SB

Tickets / 0116 242 3595 / www.curveonline.co.uk

Notes to editors

1. Nina Rajarani MBE is a choreographer, dancer and Bharatanatyam teacher and artistic director of Srishti, the company she set up in 1991 as both a touring company and dance and music school, based at Harrow Arts Centre. Nina has presented her solo and company work widely, nationally and internationally. She is a renowned dance teacher, a founder committee member of the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing's (ISTD) Classical Indian Dance Faculty and their lead examiner for Vocational & Teaching Qualification Bharatanatyam examinations. In 2006, Nina won the Place Prize, Europe's largest choreographic competition sponsored by Bloomberg, for her piece *QUICK!* She

was awarded an MBE in the Queen's 2009 Birthday Honours, in recognition of Services to South Asian Dance.

2. Creative team

Concept, Choreography & Direction: Nina Rajarani

Music Composition: Yadav Yadavan & Shammi Pithia

Dramaturgy: Lou Cope and Miranda Laurence

Costume Design: Sandhya Raman

Lighting Design and Technical Management: Chris Cuthbert @acquismedia

3. Instagram: @srishtidancecreations

Facebook: /srishtidancecreations

YouTube: /srishtidance

Twitter: @ninarajarani

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