

SAMPLE ENGLISH PRESS COVERAGE

(Most press in Hindi & other regional languages)



Amidst a society that defaults gender to man and woman and rarely talks about genders that exist out of that binary, Anant Dayal brings to life *The Legend of Ila - A story in song*, a play that tells the story of Ila who at different times lives either as a man or a woman.

WHEN: October 20 and 23 **TIME:** 7 pm **WHERE:** East Wind - Gurugram (Oct 20); India Habitat Centre (Oct 23).



Finding Meaning, a group art exhibition explores the ideas of our existence and the meaning of it all. The world has always searched for meaning, reason, and causality. **WHEN:** October 19 to 22 **TIME:** 11 am to 7 pm **WHERE:** Visual Art Gallery, Indian Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road.



Job Khuli Kitaab, a play written and directed by Saurabh Shukla, brings to you the struggle of a couple, happy in their marriage. Even after 55 years of marriage, Gopal is deeply in love with his ailing wife, Anusuya — until he finds out about her affair from 54 years ago. The play shows that it is never too late for a second chance at happiness. **TIME:** 4 pm and 7.30 pm **WHEN:** October 20 and 21 **WHERE:** Kamani Auditorium.

WATCH OUT



Palette Art Gallery presents *Reflections in Time*, an art exhibition where the artist weaves together both representation and abstraction, also melding architectural landscapes with still life, creating paintings steeped in prodigious antecedents. **TIME:** 11 am to 7 pm **WHEN:** October 19 to November 15 **WHERE:** Palette Art Gallery 14, Golf Links.

MAIL TODAY

Breaking out of gender binaries through music



A scene from the play 'The Legend of Ila'.

A GROUP of multicultural artists based in New York, the Barefoot Theatre Company produces and stages thought-provoking theatre performances across the world. Their latest musical play in India, *The Legend of Ila*, is a performance inspired from the dusty pages of the *Puranas*. The play is performed by Subhadra Kamath, Adhiraaj Mustafa, and Anant Dayal and they have also written the script. The soul of the play lies in a combination of words and music presented in the English language, but the performers call it 'a story in song', inspired by oral traditions around the world, which often use music as an integral device of storytelling. In a society that rarely talks about

genders that exist out of the binary of 'man' and 'woman', the protagonist, Ila, at different points in time, lives both as a woman and a man. The play revolves around the process of exploration of gender fluidity and queerness. The team has been innovating

The play revolves around a gender-fluid character

the play since it was staged a year ago and it keeps receiving new dimensions every time. The one hour production is a quirky and whimsical way of depicting a certain stigma attached to gender and cultural framework of

Hindu traditions and norms. As one of the performers of the play, Anant Dayal states, "What's important for me is that the whole question of gender studies, since our birth has only given people an intellectual experience and basic assumption on gender issues. My aim is to open people's eyes beyond the textbook sense of gender spectrum."

By Drishti Chawda
— 'The Legend of Ila' will be staged at East Wind Academy for Advanced Music and Performance — Gurugram on October 20 and at The Amphitheatre, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road on October 23. Tickets are priced at ₹499 including the cost of entry and food.



ME AND MY CITY

THROUGH THE LENS

CULTURE CAPSULE



The Legend of Ila - A Story in Song

This musical tells a fascinating tale from the pages of the *Puranas*. The protagonist, Ila, at different points in time, lives either as woman or man. This musical retelling of a legend explores the wonder and the absurdity of it all: the story, the character, and notions of gender.

Where: India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road

When: October 23

Timing: 7 pm