

নিলয় ও গুজব

— ◆ —
এক সন্ধ্যা, দুটি গল্প

One Evening · Two Stories

DHROOPAD ◆ EBONG THEATRIX



Saturday, June 27 · 7:00 PM | Sunday, June 28 · 5:00 PM

BalletNova Center for Dance · 3443 Carlin Springs Road, Falls Church, Virginia 22041

A powerful and deeply moving narrative. – The Stage.

By
Dr Shahman Moishan

NILOY NO JANI

Directed by
Taskin Binte Siddique



DHROOPAD, INC.

We Speak of Truth and Beauty

নিলয় ন জানি

NILOY NO JANI

Not Knowing Where Home Is

PLAYWRIGHT	Dr. Shahman Moishan
DESIGN & DIRECTION	Taskin Binte Siddique
COSTUME DESIGN	EnamTara Saki
AUDIO & VISUAL ENGINEERING	Sharahil Jarjis Mahmud
LIGHT OPERATION	Paresh Parekh
ORCHESTRA	Jibon Pereira

SYNOPSIS

A powerful and deeply human narrative, *Niloy No Jani* follows people who carry their homes in memory rather than in geography — displaced souls for whom the question of belonging is never simple and never fully answered. Through the lives of ordinary people navigating extraordinary ruptures, Dr. Shahman Moishan's play asks who has the right to define a home, and what we owe each other when our worlds collide.

PRODUCTION TEAM



DESIGN & DIRECTION
Taskin Binte Siddique



COSTUME DESIGN
EnamTara Saki



LIGHT OPERATION
Paresh Parekh



PLAYWRIGHT
Dr. Shahman Moishan



AUDIO & VISUAL ENGINEERING
Sharahil Jarjis Mahmud



ORCHESTRA
Jibon Pereira

CAST OF CHARACTERS



Clement Sapon Gomes
as Habil Miah

An accomplished hospitality professional with over 28 years of experience, Clement brings dedication to exceptional service to the stage as a versatile singer and drama performer.



Silvee Jamil
as Kurnikova

A full-time accountant with lifelong training in Odissi dance and deep childhood-rooted involvement in Northern Virginia's cultural productions, Silvee brings elegance and discipline to the stage.



Dr. Amrita Mukherjee
as Afia Mother

A family physician and published author, Dr. Mukherjee blends talents as a competitive screenwriter, Manipuri dancer, and powerful solo drama performer.



Allen Rozario
as Kalachand / Pailon Miah

A Global IT Director and longtime Maryland resident, Allen is a passionate theater and film enthusiast who brings his love for the arts to productions across the DMV.



Mohammad Anwar Zzaman
as Halim Miah

An accomplished finance professional with 18 years in DC nonprofits, Anwar maintains the passion for theater he developed in Bangladesh, enriching his performances with creative spirit.



Virginia Popy
as Gowhor Bibi

A behavioral therapist and freelance artist, Virginia blends a background in painting and fashion design with a deep love for Lalon singing and recitation.



Sejuty Chowdhury
as Full Banu

A versatile entrepreneur, model, and prominent performer, Sejuty channels extensive experience in regional cultural programs into her acting with steadfast commitment to Bangladeshi arts.



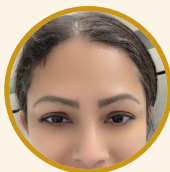
Muhammad Abdullah Milu
as General

A commercial construction project manager in DC, Milu draws on over two decades with Bengali cultural groups, bringing his roots in Dhaka recitation to festivals across the region.



Muhammad Wasiul Islam
as Kholilullah

A prominent DMV cultural activist with extensive experience in major regional drama productions, including works by Dhroopad, Bishwa Bharati, and BAAI.



Caroline Shoma Rozario
as Afia

Balancing a 26-year career at Safeway and local union representation, Caroline is a dynamic performer, entrepreneur, and active member of the DMV's Desi performing arts community.



Sharahil Jarjis Mahmud
as Villagers & Soldier

Having starred as the lead in Dhroopad's acclaimed production *Dondo*, Sharahil balances rigorous research at TJHSST with competitive Policy Debate, bringing a commanding theatrical presence to every role.

DIRECTION — TASKIN BINTE SIDDIQUE



Taskin Binte Siddique

DIRECTOR · DHROOPAD

Taskin Binte Siddique is the Director of Dhroopad and a former faculty member and graduate of the Theatre and Performance Studies department at Dhaka University. Her career spans major international festivals including the NSD Festival, the ITI Festival in Dhaka, and productions with the British Council and Manchester's Contact Theatre. Her cinematic performances earned nominations for the National Film Award of Bangladesh and the Meril-Prothom Alo Critic Award. Her directorial work spans innovative Prison Theatre to her acclaimed diaspora production *Dondo*.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

"Niloy" is a Bengali word for home — a place where our roots are deeply planted. When I read the play, I saw people talking about dreams, struggles, conflicts, love, and peace. This epic story shows us where we come from and who we are.

Does this world teach us to live together, or do we just want to control our destiny? If we arrive with nothing but our souls and bodies, who has the right to rule over us? To make this earth a better place, what should we fight for?

Are we fighting against humanity? Against ourselves? Or must we finally ask ourselves why we are not fighting for peace? The author pushes us to build a bridge between humanity and nature. I raise my voice in the theater to show the beautiful spirit of life and to hold onto the light of peace.

— Taskin Binte Siddique

ABOUT DHROOPAD

DHROOPAD is a Bengali American cultural organization in the greater Washington DC Metro area, formed in 2000 to promote the rich Bengali cultural heritage and to foster arts and literature as a force that transcends social, cultural, and religious barriers — instigating compassion for humanity. The all-volunteer efforts of Dhroopad's members are attributable to their love for Bengali culture and Bangladesh. Dhroopad believes in preserving heritage for its tangible and intangible values, and promotes awareness of the rich Bengali culture to its successors born and raised in the US.



GUJOB

(RUMORS)



Adapted from Neil Simon's Rumors

Playwright

Anirban Sen

Design and Direction

Arindam Ghosh

Cast

Abhijit	Aditya	Ananya	Anindito	Dibyendu	Mahasweta	Mita	Rituparna
	Shilpa	Sreedatta	Sruti	Subha	Sumanta	Surajit	

Set Design: Douglas Becker

Audio Engineer: Abishek Papan Dutt

Light Design: Mathew Cheney

Makeup: Arunima Ghosh & Subarna Chatterjee Thakur

Rumor Has It...

গুজব

GUJOB

Bengali adaptation of Neil Simon's Rumors

ORIGINAL PLAY	Neil Simon
BENGALI ADAPTATION	Anirban Sen
DESIGN & DIRECTION	Arindam Ghosh
SET DESIGN	Douglas Becker with Lillian Becker
AUDIO ENGINEERING	Abhishek Papan Dutt
MAKEUP DESIGN	Subarna Chatterjee Thakur

SYNOPSIS

In *Gujob*, chaos begins when friends gather to celebrate Chandril and Manasi's 25th wedding anniversary — only to stumble upon secrets, scandals, and outrageous misunderstandings. Inspired by Neil Simon's *Rumors* but adapted with a Bengali twist, this comedy unfolds through gossip, mistaken assumptions, and laugh-out-loud confrontations. Beneath the hilarity, the play reflects on the fragility and resilience of human bonds.

PRODUCTION TEAM



DESIGN & DIRECTION
Arindam Ghosh



BENGALI ADAPTATION
Anirban Sen
from Neil Simon's Rumors



SET DESIGN
Douglas Becker
with Lillian Becker



AUDIO ENGINEERING
Abhishek Papan Dutt



MAKEUP DESIGN
Subarna Chatterjee Thakur

CAST OF CHARACTERS



Subha Bhattacharya
as Chandril

A Maryland-based Healthcare IT professional, Subha has spent two decades in the U.S. while keeping his heart rooted in Kolkata, bringing soulful energy to theatre, poetry, and music.



Shilpa Dasgupta
as Krishna

An education technology professional and host of a folktale podcast, Shilpa is a former radio jockey with experience voicing audio dramas. *Gujob* marks her exciting stage debut.



Anindito Paul
as Kanu

By profession in healthcare and technology, Anindito's artistic life flourishes through music and theatre. A passionate singer with YouTube recordings, this marks his debut with Ebong TheatriX.



Sreedatta Banerjee
as Kalyani

A Senior Associate Scientist in biotech and classically trained Bharatanatyam dancer honored with a Rajya Sangeet Academy scholarship — discipline and expressiveness in every role.



Surajit Dasgupta
as Lalon

Surajit balances a career in technology with his love for theatre, performing regularly in the cultural circuits of the Bengali diaspora across the DMV.



Sruti Banerjee
as Koyel

A business analyst and technical writer by day and storyteller by night — balancing data and documentation with writing, poetry, singing, and acting.



Sumantra Banerjee
as Imran

A quality assurance engineer combining technical precision with artistic creativity. When not perfecting systems, he performs on stage, merging storytelling with expressive acting.



Ananya Chakraborty Paul
as Konashree

Passionate about theatre and performance, Ananya is a longtime supporter of diaspora cultural events who brings warmth and charisma to *Gujob*.



Abhijit Dasgupta
as Giten

A pharmaceutical industry professional and stagecraft enthusiast, Abhijit steps into the spotlight in *Gujob* — his debut acting role with Ebong TheatriX.



Aditya Chakraborty
as Inspector Pelaram

A versatile performer with a background in theatre and music, Aditya brings comic timing and stage presence to Inspector Pelaram — adding sparkle to the evening's chaos.



Mahasweta Bhattacharya
as Manasi

A high school math teacher in Maryland with a passion for elocution and theatre, Mahasweta brings poetic flair and dramatic grace to both classroom and stage.

DESIGN & DIRECTION — ARINDAM GHOSH



Arindam Ghosh

DIRECTOR & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, EBONG THEATRIX

Arindam Ghosh is the Artistic Director of Ebong TheatriX, which he co-founded in 2014. His work has earned the Ed-Ro-Char Award in Technical Excellence, the Cliff Smith Memorial Award for Excellence in Directing, and the Spencer C. Watson Jr. Award for Excellence in Technical Theater. His play *Avinash* — the first South Asian production selected for the AACT National Festival — won sixteen awards across MCTFA and ESTA, including Best in Festival.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Neil Simon understood that humor is one of the most precise instruments we have for exposing social hypocrisy. Behind every perfectly timed joke lies an uncomfortable truth that a more earnest approach would struggle to deliver. In bringing *Gujob* to Bengali audiences, I wanted to honor that instinct — to use comedy as a scalpel rather than a cushion.

The world of our play is one of status anxiety, performative friendship, and the quiet corruptions of modern middle-class life. Our characters are not villains — they are people very much like us, who have learned to say the right things, maintain the right appearances, and keep the wheels turning. The humor comes from watching that machinery break down spectacularly in a single evening.

But I have also taken liberties with Simon's original. Where *Rumors* is content to let the chaos resolve, *Gujob* asks a quieter question — what does a marriage actually become after twenty-five years together? The comfort that becomes complacency. The familiarity that stops looking. The relationship running on autopilot while life quietly passes through it.

At its heart, *Gujob* is about whether that recognition — painful as it is — might also be a beginning. Whether two people can choose each other again, not out of habit, but with full awareness of what the years have taken and what they have also given.

Comedy at its best always smuggles in that question through the back door. I hope this play makes you laugh. I hope it also makes you think.

— Arindam Ghosh

EBONG THEATRIX

South Asian Diaspora Theatre · Founded 2014 · Montgomery County, MD



Ebong TheatriX is a South Asian diaspora theatre company founded in 2014 in Montgomery County, Maryland. Committed to bold, inclusive storytelling, ET produces work that amplifies marginalized voices, celebrates cultural diversity, and sparks meaningful community dialogue. Recipient of the American Association of Community Theatre's Twink Lynch Organizational Achievement Award, ET has built a national reputation for theatre that is artistically ambitious and socially urgent — from award-winning ensemble productions to multilingual festivals featuring artists from across the US and India. ET is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit supported in part by the Arts & Humanities Council of Montgomery County.

ebong@ebongtheatrix.org · www.ebongtheatrix.org · 617-320-8760

PAST PRODUCTIONS

Kabuliwala	(2014)	Mamonir Chobi	(2017)	Bhalobasha, Bhengechure	(2020)
Bratya – The Outcast	(2014)	Kinoo Kaharer Thetar	(2018)	A Living Doll (with Ta Thoi)	(2020)
Ichchedana	(2015)	Terrorist Ki Premika	(2018)	Five Grains of Rice	(2021)
Keep Your Fingers to Yourself	(2015)	Brishtir Arale	(2019)	Pandamonium	(2021)
Kinoo Golar Goli Theke Broadway	(2015)	Chikitsa Sonkot	(2019)	Shunyo Shudhu Shunyo Noy	(2022)
Barita, Tui Achish Kemon?	(2016)	Looking Up	(2019)	Beporowa	(2023)
Love Story #5	(2016, 2018, 2019)	You Can't See Me	(2019)	Avinash	(2024)
Bidyut Eshechilo Porshu	(2017)	Bishonno Barud	(2019)	Gujob	(2025)

FestivET 2026

September 12 & 13, 2026 · The Writer's Center, Bethesda, MD

SAVE THE DATE

FestivET 2026

September 12 & 13

Venue: Bethesda
Writer's Center



Blue Lotus Burning

A new play by Arindam Ghosh

Guest ensembles from Chicago · Dallas · Atlanta · Houston

Details to follow



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