

Australian Festival of South Asian Arts

# parramasala®

THE WORLD COMES TO PARRAMATTA  
31 OCT TO 6 NOV 2011

## A PARRAMASLA ITINERARY FOR CULTURAL ADVENTURERS

Do you like travelling to exotic places without a fixed plan or an organised tour group? Do you enjoy the thrill of letting yourself stumble into unexpected experiences? Do you connect with artists who take risks and operate outside the boundaries of tradition? Do you like to be the first to catch the next wave?

Here are some suggestions to help you enjoy your week at Parramasala.

### SUNDAY 30 OCTOBER

**12pm to 9pm** – everybody is welcome at Deepavali Fair at Parramatta Stadium, the annual Hindu festival of the lights.

### MONDAY 31 OCTOBER

**3pm** – leave work early and head to the Parramatta Artists' Studios to experience the first day of free visual art exhibitions featuring artists from India, Australia and USA, open until 6pm.

**5.30pm** – meet your friends at Town Hall Square for a free performance of one of India's most acclaimed traditional Kathak dance ensembles, **Madhumita Roy & Company**. And grab some delicious, spicy snacks from the Masala Market food stalls.

**7pm** – head down Church Street to Riverside Theatres for the Opening Night of the **South Asian Film in Focus** series with the Australian premiere of the new Hindi thriller, *That Girl in Yellow Boots*. Your ticket includes a post-film party in the Riverside Theatres courtyard where you can discuss the film's gripping portrayal of Mumbai's political underbelly.

### TUESDAY 1 NOVEMBER

**1pm** – the free **Lunch Hour Documentaries** series starts at Riverside Theatres. Today we screen a 1961 film on the acclaimed Bengali poet Rabindranath Tagore.

**5pm** – after work, enjoy a drink before dinner at the **Festival Lounge** at Parramatta Town Hall. There are plenty of superb restaurants to discover on nearby Church Street or Harris Park which is only a 15 minute walk away.

**8pm** – back to Riverside Theatres. Malaysia's innovative Mavin Khoo has danced with the likes of Akram Khan. In his solo work **Devi in Absolution** he takes classical Indian dance into new territory, with live music by one of India's most acclaimed Carnatic singers, OS Arun, and musicians.

### WEDNESDAY 2 NOVEMBER

**6pm** – drop in to Town Hall Square where one of Bangladesh's rare touring ensembles of Baul musicians will give a free performance on the outdoor stage. **Baul Shilpi** celebrate celestial love with cheeky high spirits. Grab a chai tea and get a henna tattoo while you are there.

**7.30pm** – get to Riverside Theatres in time for the Australian premiere performance of India's acclaimed Chandralekha Group. Their performance of **Sharira** is a sensual, body-bending, mind-expanding blend of classic Indian dance, yoga and martial arts.

**8.40pm** – grab a late dinner at one of the fantastic restaurants along Church Street, just a few minutes walk from the theatre.

**10pm** – head back to Riverside Theatres to join the late night session of **The Other Journey** by CuriousWorks, an immersive outdoor theatre experience about Sri Lankan migration which involves headphones, beautiful projections, and even a boat ride up the river.

## THURSDAY 3 NOVEMBER

**6.30pm** – the Australian premiere of the Indian/Canadian film **Forgotten Woman** is screening at Riverside. Deepa Mehta's eye-opening documentary about the plight of today's Hindu widows in India won Best Documentary at the Hollywood Film Festival. Or at **7.30pm**, it's your last chance to catch **Sharira** by The Chandralekha Group.

**8.15pm** – you've got just enough time to head up to the **Masala Market** at Town Hall Square for a curry while checking out some free entertainment on the Outdoor Stage.

**9pm** – head back to Riverside for a 45 minute performance of **Mother India: 21st Century Remix**. The classic epic of Indian cinema is re-edited and given a new electronic and strings score performed live by UK's master turntablist DJ Tigerstyle and musicians.

**9.45pm** – back to Town Hall Square. Drop into the free **Festival Lounge** at Parramatta Town Hall for a drink and to mingle with the stars of the festival.

## FRIDAY 4 NOVEMBER

**6pm** – discover the fascinating world of Sufi music and poetry with a rare and intimate performance in the Riverside Theatres Courtyard by two of India's leading Sufi singers, **Dr Madan Gopal Singh** and **Druv Sangarai**, with music ensemble, **Chaar Yaar**.

**8.45pm** – There is still time to catch the 8.45pm or 10pm performance of **The Other Journey** on the riverbank. Bookings essential.

## SATURDAY 5 NOVEMBER

**11am** – take the challenge and you will be rewarded. India's **Satyajit Ray** was one of the most influential film directors in the world. This Retrospective at Riverside Theatres will see three of his most incredible feature films (from 1956 to 1991) screened back to back, with short breaks in between!

**8.30pm** – tabla percussion virtuoso **Trilok Gurtu** is a legend on the European jazz scene. In this one-off Australian concert he is joined by special guest, **Niladri Kumar**, a maverick superstar of the sitar.

**10pm** – back to Town Hall Square. Drop into the free **Festival Lounge** at Parramatta Town Hall for a drink and to mingle with the stars of the festival.

## SUNDAY 6 NOVEMBER

**11am** – there is plenty happening all day at Town Hall Square, with market stalls and back to back free performances. And catch the last day of the free visual art exhibitions at Parramatta Artists' Studios.

**6pm** – if you were mesmerized by the Sufi music concert by Chaar Yaar on Friday or Saturday night, this is your chance to see them perform with David Hykes and The Harmonic Choir in a soul-lifting collaboration. **Sufi Music & Harmonic Spheres** is at Riverside.

**7.30pm** – rush back to Town Hall Square for a samosa and catch our free closing night outdoor concert, with music from the likes of **Tablatronics** and headliners **The Bombay Royale** – a crazy band from Melbourne who will have everyone dancing to vintage Indian cinema classics and surf-adelic grooves. Entry to the licensed Festival Lounge tonight is \$20 for an exclusive Closing Night Party with the festival artists.

For more information and to book tickets visit [www.parramasala.com](http://www.parramasala.com)



Parramatta  
30 Oct – 6 Nov 2011

Buy tickets online  
[parramasala.com](http://parramasala.com)

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