



GOTROHEEN DUDMUM
Presents

JOHNNY I LOVE YOU



Story
Mahasweta Devi

Scenography
Kasturi Chattopadhyay

Playwright & Direction
Supratim Roy



The original story 'Urvashi O Johnny' deals with survival policies through the character of inanimate Urvashi and her owner Johnny, a ventriloquist. It is written at the time of emergency and in this circumstance Johnny's death because of his throat cancer shows how the democratic rights have been suppressed under establishment. But Johnny attempts to find his own petty way out to survive and for him survival means to stay happy. Johnny's performance was not for sale, for him it was a carnival of euphoria. His art was a pure extraction of his colour full soul that entertained common people.

Mahasweta Devi (1926–2016) was one of India's foremost literary figures from the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries—a writer and social activist in equal right. Author of numerous novels, essays and short stories, she received the Jnanpith Award, India's highest literary honour, in 1996. She was awarded the Ramon Magsaysay Award in 1997 for her 'compassionate crusade through art and activism to claim for tribal peoples a just and honourable place in India's national life'. There are many films and plays based on her novels and stories.



DIRECTORIAL NOTE

Society never acknowledge an artist's renunciations. The artists like Ritwik Ghatak, Bijan Bhattacharya, the street fighters, the dreamers, never bother about the acknowledgement. They never sell their art. Johnny also never sold his art. Gotroheen believes in this philosophy. There should be no janitor between art and audience.

"Who's there to defeat me? Tell me! Yes, this is Johnny. Degenerates! Didn't catch the birds of happiness and bring them to you? Who am I? Urvashi's my mistress, I'm her slave. Don't you know?...No, there was nobody here. I was having visions. There's nothing. It's all lies. I've got drunk, that's all, that's what wrong" (Urvashi and Johnny)

So don't judge us in the name of so called morality.



Kasturi Chattopadhyay, choreographer, actor and director is working more than for last three decades on stage and screen. Her major works are Surjo Pura Chhai, Winkle Twinkle, Fyataru, Debi Sarpamasta and many more. It's a challenge to her to compose the scenes with all non-dancer actors. But now we can say Kasturi Chattopadhyay's scenography is the asset of 'Johnny I Love You'

Supratim Roy, actor, playwright and director directed more than 25 plays. He works on off-proscenium plays too. His major works are Neelkantha Desh, Pragoitahasik, The Stranger, Baby K, Khol Do, Jara Agun Lagaye, etc. Supratim is the playwright, stage designer and director of the play 'Johnny I Love You'. He is playing the character Johnny.



Soumen Chakraborty is not just a light designer, he is the magician of light. Soumen is working with us from 2015. Now he is the most prominent light designer and working with many eminent directors. He won 'Best Light Designer Award' in META 15th.



Shubhanshu Mukherjee full-time theatre artist. In childhood, we used to have a creek in the theatre of the neighbourhood, then practice theatre in school and college. Joined Gotroheen Dumdum theatre group in 2010 and later joined Mirnava repertory as a contract-based artist. Now he engages as Artist Coordinator in Theatre Repertoire Rabindra Bharati University (Dept. of Drama). Besides theatre he is the founder director, and designer of an audio story channel called Golpodian on YouTube.

RAMANNA

MOTI

Debashree Chakrobarty is an Actor-Director who efficiently worked in Silver Screen and as well as on Stage. She is an Alumni of National School of Drama, India of the Year 2018. After completing Master in Computer Application she has started her Acting career in Bengali Film Industry in 2010. She did number of Television Series and Films as a lead Actor in big production houses of Kolkata and Mumbai. In Parallel with the Screen she established herself as an Active Theater Actor, Writer and Director too. She did lots of major roles in theatre with India's Eminent Theater Directors. Debashree Chakrobarty wants to explore different Country's Culture and Art Forms. And interested in making Bridges between Folk and Classical forms from Many Places.

Subhajit Ghosal has been associated with Gotroheen Dumdum for almost one year. He performs in 'Jara agun lagay', 'Khol Do', 'Ashtam Garva', 'Simana Parapar' and 'Jhonny I Love You'. Subhajit has been working as a video editor since 2019. He worked as an Editor in many production houses and in a few independent films also. For over 10 years he has been working on two little magazine publications named 'Prohelika' and 'Haptak Kachra'. He is fascinated in the aesthetics of Literature Drama and Films. He is practicing all those forms and wants to continue the journey of learning to absorb the rudiments of this aesthetics.

LENGDI / CHORUS

Rahul Nandi, theatre is in his veins. He is practicing theatre in 'Jhalapala' group since 2000. Also he is working with Gotroheen for the last one decade. He conducted theatre workshop for schools and NGOs. Rahul is a dedicated full timer theatre artist. He performed in Neelkantha Desh, Pragoitihask, Fyatarur Kissa, Khol Do, Simana Parapar, Jara Agun Lagaye for Gotroheen.

DR. HOSSAIN / HAMEED / CHORUS

Samar Kumar Pal is from village named Berugram of Purba Barddhaman district. Since 2019 he is with Gotroheen and performed in Khol Do, Jara Agun Lagaye, Adab and many more. He serves in Indian Post under Ministry of Communication.

DOCTOR / CHORUS

Ratul Nandi, when he was six years kid he staged his first drama performance. Over two decades there was no interruption in performance. He is still performing in many theatre productions for different groups in Kolkata and other states. He has completed his Master degree and pursuing M.Phil in Education from the University of Calcutta. In 'Johnny I Love You' you will feel the vibe of his magical tunes.



BANDPARTY/ CHORUS

Shrabana Ganguly from Jalpaiguri district, pursuing graduation in Drama from Rabindra Bharati University. For last one year she is with Gotroheen. Shrabana performs in Khol Do, Jara Agun Lagaye, Simana Parapar.



PHOOLKALIYA / CHORUS

Soumya Sarkar is performing theatre for last one year and he started with Gotroheen. Already he performed in three plays. He is doing his Master degree in Human Rights and Human Development from Rabindra Bharati University. Soumya is a musician and rhythm player too. His rhythm makes a chemistry with the actors in 'Johnny I Love You'.



BANDPARTY/ CHORUS

Madhumita Sengupta, without her it is impossible to materialise this play. She is managing all the off stage hassles. Madhumita and Gotroheen run together for last ten years. She completed her Master degree in Drama from Rabindra Bharati University. She is acting in many plays. Also she is a makeup artist.



OFF STAGE MANAGEMENT

Sutanuka Lahiri, here is the magical voice of Urvashi. At the age of 7 she started to learn Indian Classical Music (Kirana Gharana). She is a student of Abhijit Bose Folk Research Academy. Apart from Johnny I Love You, Sutanuka is singing for Gotroheen in Khol Do, Jara Agun Lagaye. She is a graduate in Bengali from Presidency University and Masters from Jadavpur University. Right now she is studying LLB in Burdwan University.



VOICE OF URVASHI

Abhishek Dey has been doing the photography and videography for Gotroheen from over one year and worked on 'Jara Agun Lagaye', 'Khol do'. He has done a diploma in photography from Ramkrishna Mission Vidyamandira. He has worked on documentaries, short films and music videos. His keen interest in documentation and storytelling brought him to the space of theatre.



PHOTOGRAPHER

Hemanta Paramanik, one of the makeup artist of 'Johnny I Love You'. He also performs in Khol Do play. Hemanta completed his Master in Bengali from Jadavpur University. He is experienced with bridal, party and theatre makeup.



MAKEUP ARTIST



Love is not just a confrontation with the absurdity of the world; it is a refusal to be broken by it. It is one of the ways we can each of us be stronger than our rocks. There is nothing we can do to change the constraints of our existence.

- Albert Camus

Gotroheen Dumdum was registered in 2007 as a Group Theatre. We, at Gotroheen, refuse to put a price on our performance. After every show we send out an appeal, a call for people's contribution, to keep us going. And people respond. They always do.

We refuse ticketing because we refuse to put in place an exclusionist policy for our performances, especially when our shows are funded by people's money channelised through Government grants. This policy was put in place for other productions that didn't receive Government or any other funding.

Gotroheen is biased. We are rigid with our beliefs. We are biased against every theatrical element that stops us from reaching out to the people. For us, theatre is not only a performance or a production, but rather a journey - a journey for CHANGE.

LONG LIVE PEOPLE'S ART !



গোত্রহীন
(দমদম)

GOTROHEEN DUMDUM

11/1 HARE KRISHNA SETT LANE, KOLKATA 700050
WEST BENGAL, INDIA.

CALL - 9007038419, 8100955585

E-MAIL - gotroheentheatre@gmail.com

VISIT US - www.gotroheentheatre.in