



SWINGS OF LOVE

(Assam Version)

Directed by M.Safeer

Script by Manjula Wediwardana
From English to Assamese

Dr. Mrinal Jyoti Goswami

Act by
Janhvii Borah




Colombo
International
Theatre Festival
2025

30th Aug 25
at Elphinstone Theatre
6.30 p.m.

Tickets : 2000/- | 1500/- | 1000/- Tickets.lk | 0117 201 299 | 0724 273 006 | 0773 129 749



AANK_A CREATIVE LINE

International Theatre Festival Participation Report (in collaboration with **Inter Act Art, Sri Lanka**)

Title:

**From Workshop to World Stage: *Swings of Love* at the
Colombo International Theatre Festival (CITF) 2025**

Festival Period:

25 August – 31 August 2025

Performance Date:

30 August 2025

Festival Venue:

Elphinstone Theatre, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Performed Work:



Swings of Love (প্ৰেমৰ দোলনা)

(Assamese Version)

- **Director:** M. Safeer
- **Original Script:** Manjula Wediwardana
- **Translation (English to Assamese):** Dr. Mrinal Jyoti Goswami
- **Performer:** Jahnabi Borah

Official Documentation Links:

- [Swings of Love- India – Sri Lanka – 30th August – Colombo International Theatre Festival](#)
- <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1DWAH82zJv/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/17pRSBUazk/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1AVY9rvKzE/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/18BjPaTCEy/>

1. Introduction

AANK_A Creative Line participated in the **Colombo International Theatre Festival (CITF) 2025**, one of South Asia's leading international theatre platforms, known for its emphasis on intercultural collaboration, physical theatre and experimental performance practices. The participation marked a significant continuation of AANK_A Creative Line's long-standing engagement with international theatre networks and its commitment to nurturing emerging performers through sustained pedagogic processes.

CITF 2025 brought together theatre practitioners, directors, scholars, and performers from Asia, Europe, Africa and beyond, creating a vibrant space for artistic exchange, discourse, and collaboration.

2. The Performance: *Swings of Love (Assamese Version)*

AANK_A Creative Line presented *Swings of Love (Assamese Version)* as a collaborative production between AANK_A Creative Line and Inter Act Art, Sri Lanka. The performance was staged as part of the Sri Lankan Premiere segment of the festival.

Conceptual Background

Swings of Love explores themes of longing, emotional vulnerability and human relationships through a visually poetic physical theatre language. The adaptation into Assamese retained the emotional core of the original text while allowing the performer to embody cultural nuances through movement, rhythm and spatial interaction.

A Key Outcome of BBITF 2023

Significantly, this production stands as a **direct outcome of the Bhullung-Bhuthur International Theatre Festival (BBITF) 2023 workshop process**. The performer, **Jahnabi Borah**, was a participant in the BBITF 2023 workshops, where she underwent structured training in physical theatre and performance creation. The work was further developed and first shaped into a complete performance in **April 2024**, eventually reaching the international stage at CITF 2025. This trajectory—from workshop to international festival—demonstrates the effectiveness of AANK_A Creative Line's pedagogic model in transforming training into professional artistic output.

Audience Response

The performance received an attentive and emotionally engaged response from the audience, with appreciation for its minimalistic staging, physical expressiveness and intimate performer-space relationship. Festival delegates and fellow practitioners acknowledged the work as a strong example of workshop-driven performance creation.

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04th September
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Tickets : 2000/- | 1000/- | 500/- | 0770 1685 83 | 0776 22 40 75 | www.citf.lk

ORGANIZED BY
Discipline of Culture Studies, University of Kelaniya
INTER ACT ART
කාමරාමයා
THE MIRROR
BANK MANGAL Media House

Colombo International Theatre Festival
August 25th to 31st
Elphinstone Theatre
Maradana

Bhullung Bhuthur International Theatre Festival
Sep. 03rd - 07th
Assam - India

3. Academic and Pedagogic Engagement: Workshop Conducted

As part of the festival's workshop programme, **Dr. Mrinal Jyoti Goswami** conducted a two-hour workshop titled:

Myth into Motion: Physical Theatre and Ritual Performance

Date: 28 August 2025

Venue: India Cultural Center, Colombo

Participants: 30–35 theatre practitioners and students

The workshop focused on exploring myth and ritual as sources for physical theatre creation. Participants engaged in exercises involving rhythmic repetition, ensemble coordination and symbolic movement to create short, non-verbal performance sequences inspired by cultural memory and ritual action.

The session was particularly appreciated for its balance of theoretical grounding and hands-on physical exploration, offering participants tools to reimagine traditional narratives within contemporary performance frameworks.





4. Institutional and Curatorial Role at CITF 2025

Beyond performance and pedagogy, **Dr. Mrinal Jyoti Goswami** played a key institutional role in CITF 2025:

- He served as **one of the members of the Festival Committee**, contributing to artistic and academic planning.
- He delivered a **Keynote Address** at the **Director's Forum** titled: ***"Parallel Festivals & Their Role"***, examining how parallel and satellite festivals function as alternative cultural ecosystems that nurture emerging voices and decentralize mainstream theatre practice.
- He also acted as **one of the Moderators** of the Director's Forum, facilitating critical dialogue among international directors, curators, and scholars.

This involvement positioned AANK_A Creative Line as an active contributor to global theatre discourse, not merely as a participating group.

5. Festival Highlights

- **International Participation:**
Artists and groups from Asia, Europe, Africa and the Middle East participated, making CITF 2025 a truly global forum.
- **Multidisciplinary Engagement:**
The festival combined performances, workshops, director's forums and academic discussions, creating a holistic theatrical ecosystem.
- **Parallel Festival Model:**
CITF's parallel festival structure resonated strongly with AANK_A Creative Line's own BBITF model, as BBITF functions as one of the parallel festivals of CITF, fostering meaningful exchanges on alternative festival practices.



Colombo International Theatre Festival 2025

26th Aug 2025 9.30 am
We All Carry Stories: Devising Theatre Workshop.
by: Andreea Tanase
Country: Romania

26th Aug 2025 2.00 pm
Acting and Performing Arts Principles
By Mazen EL Gharabawy
Country: Egypt

27th Aug 2025 9.30 am
Exploring Intimacy in Performance
By Dr. Chandradasan
Country: India

27th Aug 2025 2.00 pm
The Flow of Mind and Soul
by: Naira Yedigaryan
Country: Armenia

28th Aug 2025 9.30 am
MYTH INTO MOTION: PHYSICAL THEATRE AND RITUAL PERFORMANCE
by: Dr. Mrinal Jyoti Goswami
Country: India

28th Aug 2025 2.00 pm
FROM A NOVELL TO THE THEATER STAGE
by: THANASSIS SARANTOS (director and actor),
KONSTANTINOS EVANGELIDIS (music composer)
Country: GREECE

29th Aug 2025 9.30 am
The Body That Feels
From Stanislavski to Meyerhold: Two Paths to Emotion*
by: ERICA MOLDOVAN
Country: ROMANIA

29th Aug 2025 2.00 pm
Speak the Beat: Discover the Art of Kuaiban
by: Ray Hou
Country: China

30th Aug 2025 9.30 am
Turning Tales into Theatrical Scripts
By Prof. Shafi Ahmed
Country: Bangladesh

Colombo Theatre Festival 2025
Workshops Colombo

6. Outcomes and Reflections

Artistic Outcomes

- *Swings of Love* successfully demonstrated how workshop-based training can evolve into an internationally presentable performance.
- The performer's journey from BBITF workshop participant to international festival performer reinforced AANK_A Creative Line's pedagogic vision.

Pedagogic Impact

- The workshop expanded AANK_A Creative Line's teaching philosophy into a global context, enabling intercultural exchange through embodied practice.
- Participants gained exposure to physical theatre methodologies rooted in ritual and mythology.

Institutional Recognition

- AANK_A Creative Line's involvement at committee and forum levels enhanced its visibility as an institution engaged in both practice and policy-level theatre discourse.



Dr. Ravibandu Vidyapathi Felicitation

Colombo International Theatre Festival 2025

11th EDITION

Elphinstone Theatre - Maradana - 6.30 pm

25th August (Opening)	Grand Opening / Felicitation	"Draupadi" - Sri Lanka (Dance Theatre) Directed by Dr. Ravibandu Vidyapathi	
26th August	"MEDEA VOICE" - Korea Directed by Son Jeung-woo	"The Nightingale" - China Directed by Sergey Grishin	"A Journey of Despair" - Sri Lanka Directed by Upeksha Lankathilaka
27th August	"THE AMERICAN" - GREECE Directed by THANASSIS SARANTOS	"Shh...!" - Sri Lanka Directed by Vidura Abeydeera	"Dummy" - Sri Lanka Directed by Sarathchandra Walpole
28th August	"Agleyum Chiyopatrayum" (Egle and Cleopatra)-INDIA Directed by Dr. Chandradasan	"171 Pitakotzuwa" - Sri Lanka Directed by Banula Wijesinghe	"Unseen" - Sri Lanka Directed by Asanka Ishani Dayapala
29th August	"Adrenaline" - Canada/Syria Directed by Majidi Bou-Matar	"Inside" - Armenia Directed by Naira Yedigaryan	"Comrade" - Sri Lanka Directed by Jinidu Padma Sri Bandara (15 min.) "It's not me, someone else" - Sri Lanka Directed by Randika Wimalasooriya
30th August	"#NotMe" - Romania Directed by Casandra Topologeanu	"Swings of Love" - India - Sri Lanka Directed by M.Safer	
31st	Closing Night		

Parallel Festival / Chilaw - Sudasuna Hall 6.30 pm

02nd September	"Vegetarian Ofelia" - Spain Directed by Carlot Berzal (45 min.)	"Salitha Sith" Directed by Gamini Wijewardhana (15 min.)	"Puzzle" - Sri Lanka Directed by Fr. Peter Hemapriya Botheju (15 min.)
03rd September	"The MAMLOK" - UAE Directed by Ahmed Abdulla Rashed (35 min.)	"Arabi Kopi" - Sri Lanka Directed by Sasini Madumali (15 min.)	"Childhood" - Sri Lanka Directed by Vindya Ananda (15 min.) "Macario, starving" Directed by Ricardo Menia Rosado (Spain/Mexico - Open Space)
04th September	"Equation of emotions" - INDIA Directed by Anogha Kushwaha (35 min.)	"THUS, SPOKE ANGER" - Tunisia Directed by Badli Korbi (45 min.)	"The Loops" - Sri Lanka Directed by Nishu Jayasooriya (15 Min)

Aug. 25th - 31st - Colombo
Sep. 02nd -04th - Chilaw
Sep. 03rd -07th - Assam - India

ORGANIZED BY



www.citf.lk

COLOMBO INTERNATIONAL THEATER FESTIVAL (CITF)
INTER ACT ART THEATER INSTITUTE - 215/61, Obeysekarapura, Rajagiriya, Sri Lanka.
Tel - +94 117 201 299 / +94 773 129 749
Email - interactarts@gmail.com

Future Collaborations

- Dialogues initiated with Inter Act Art and other international delegates opened possibilities for future co-productions, artist exchanges and workshop-based collaborations through BBITF and other platforms.

Cultural Diplomacy

- AANK_A Creative Line effectively represented Assamese and Indian theatre traditions within an international context, reinforcing theatre's role as a bridge across cultures and languages.



7. Conclusion

AANK_A Creative Line's participation in **Colombo International Theatre Festival 2025** was a multidimensional engagement encompassing performance, pedagogy and institutional leadership. From presenting a BBITF-originated collaborative production to shaping critical discourse through workshops and forums, the festival experience reaffirmed AANK_A Creative Line's commitment to sustainable, process-driven and globally connected theatre practice.

The journey of *Swings of Love*—from a workshop seed to an international stage—stands as a testament to the transformative power of long-term artistic mentorship and intercultural collaboration.

AANK_A Creative Line

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🌐 www.aank.org

✉️ info@aank.org | mrinal.goswami@aank.org

Crossing Stages, Creating Memories

SWINGS OF LOVE

সুন্দরোবল্লী

(Assam Version)

Directed by M.Safeer

Script by Manjula Wediwardana
From English to Assamese

Dr. Mrinal Jyoti Goswami

performed by :
Janhvii Borah


Colombo
International
Theatre Festival
2025

30th Augst 25
at Elphinstone Theatre
6.30 p.m.



Presentated by :



AANK_A
Creative Line

Expenditure Summary

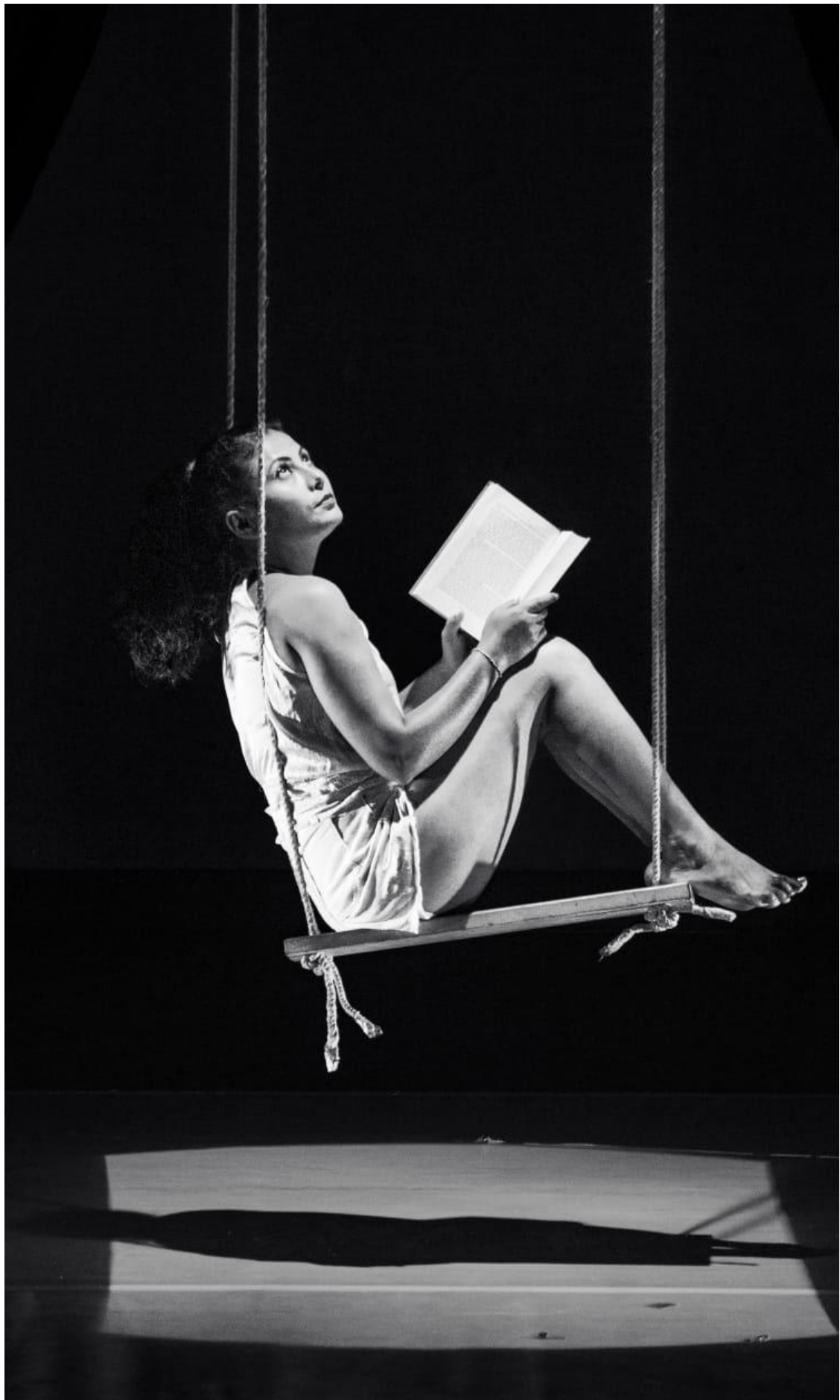




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What is essential for me is that the stories touch me in the same way that movies and documentaries have done

The most important aspects that continue to shape me and my work today are personal challenges and the opportunities to overcome them. It is therefore about personal development and transformation of consciousness. The films "Egg-mutation" and "Wolfman", which were produced exclusively in-house, took part at several international film festivals successfully.

A: In 2011 I founded the entrepreneurial community *Unternehmer Mithos Lebens* (entrepreneur of

Q What do you think could be the power of the art of documentary film makers across borders of prejudice and nation state related conflicts of the world?

A For me, the greatest power lies in films that bear witness to their time, that accompany people and experiences, that approach such conflicts in a mindful and conscientious manner. Through this process, which is much more than just the transfer of knowledge, a space is created that, in the best case scenario, can spare others this intense experience and, as a source of inspiration, point the way to new paths.

Q: Could you elaborate on some of your work?

deeper into its history, had raised the level of my
advances. Especially when traveling to an unfamiliar envi-
ronment with different cultures, accompanied by a climate
that takes some getting used to and a new time zone, I found
the encounters with the people to be pleasant and relax-
ing. Despite the behaviour in traffic, which seemed rather
strange to us Europeans, I never felt unsafe, as most road
users seemed to be careful.

Q—I understand you visited many parts of Sri Lanka on your own prior to shooting the film mostly in Dambana. Can you comment on your travels?

A. When it came to filming, it was important to get to know the country and its people beforehand.

and wisdom shining on their situation confronting modernity and the
ing process of adaptation. This may certainly be part of my
own interpretation.

Q Is this your first documentary with the Ecole San Spirit?

A: Previously I had worked as an editor for the documentary "Hu - Man - Healing Journey to be Human," which received several awards at film festivals.

... in Lanka

Colombo International Theatre Festival 2025; bringing the world to one stage in Lanka

The Columbus International Theatre Festival (CITF) which has served as a platform where scores of international theatre artists have participated, bringing with them the power to change the world or the better through their art, will brighten up the country since 1991.

"Indoamedia despite the many economic hardships and is put together at international event of this nature, we continue to put on as well as an independent effort to keep these alive and to showcase it to its theatre audience worldwide," states the director. Actor and art formi Mahomed Salim

This year the OTF will commence on 25 August and close on 4 September, being staged in Colombia's Chelva where a range of performances from within the country as well as globally will be showcased. The 11th Colombia International Theatre Festival will feature 10 productions from 10 countries with

CITY is an endeavour of Inner Act Art launched decade ago by Salmer and a group of theatre

practitioners committed to developing national theatre by bridging cultural and language boundaries through the universal language of performance. Salovey, who has years after year continued doggedly in his effort, surmounting many an obstacle, points out that the festival is a dedication to the father of modern Sri Lankan theatre Ediriweera Sarachchandra, continuing his vision of supporting local theatre for younger generations.

The main event will be held at the Eppinhurst theatre in Maradana with a festival in Chilaw's stadium hall where a total of 25 plays will be staged in Colombo (25-31 August) and in Chilaw

"We have been contributing to theatre towards peace and diplomacy for the past 11 years. Every year the participants from other countries travel across Sri Lanka and carry for and under the images they see as they return to their home country and to others. Sales, who is the perfect example of the power that one citizen can wield positively towards their country through their chosen art, carrying out a national duty that is usually considered amongst the tasks of political representatives of the nation.

The CTF has been contributing each year to the national economy through the foreign currency it brings in, and especially where international performers, artists, and visiting audiences contribute to significant voices for promoting Sri Lanka internationally. Meanwhile, among the performances to be

"All the stories that will be narrated at this festival are universal. They cut across cultural contexts and lan-

Another unique feature is that alongside the event held in Sri Lanka a parallel festival is held in Assam, for the second consecutive time, where hand selected Sri Lankan theatre groups and their productions grace the stage in Assam.

Salmer explains that discussions are also afoot for the organising of an international festival that will continue consecutively for three months at a global location, marking a new epoch in Sri Lanka's cultural influencing potential.

It is held to promote the love of theatre among

The parallel festival in Assam, India will be held from (3-7 September).
Below is the schedule of the festival in Sri Lanka in Colombo and Chilaw.

25 August

Grand opening and felicitation with 'Draupadi' (Sri Lanka), directed by Dr. Ravibandu Vidyapathi
26 August
'Media Voice' (Korea), directed by Son Jeung-

27 August
The American (Tamil, directed by Thanassis
Savastis)
Seth... (Sri Lanka, directed by Vidula Ranganathan)
Dommy (Sri Lanka, directed by Sarath Chandana)
28 August
Kefeyan Oiyapattayam (Tamil, directed by D.
Chandrasekaran)
171 Phakatsam (Sri Lanka, directed by Bandu
Wijesinghe)
Ummert (Sri Lanka, directed by Asanka Ishara)

Dayapola
29 August
Adrenaline (Canada/Syria), directed by Majid
Matar
Imade (Armenia), directed by Naira Yedigaryan
Comrade (Sri Lanka), directed by Jeeva Pad
Bandara
It's Not Me, Someone Else (Sri Lanka), directed by Jeeva Pad
Bandara

30 August
'Whistle' (Romania), directed by Cassandra Topolovgru

"Swings of Love" (India, Sri Lanka), directed by M. Saeed
31 August
 Opening night
2 September
 "Vegetarian Officer" (Spain), directed by Carlos Berzal
 "Saththa Sathi" (Sri Lanka), directed by Gamini Wijewardhana
 "Puzzle" (Sri Lanka), directed by Fr. Peter Hemasinghe Bochiya
3 September
 "Mamank" (JME), directed by Ahmed Rashed
 "Anshi Kagi" (Sri Lanka), directed by Sasa Murali

4 September
 'Equation of Emotions' (India), directed by
 Kiranbha
 'They, 'Smoke Again' (Tunisia), directed by

Karbi
The Loops (Sri Lanka), directed by
Jayasooriya

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අඟුරු යොමුවල SWINGS OF LOVE

(ඇසුම් හාමා නිෂ්පාදනය)

එම්. සඟිරිගේ අධ්‍යක්ෂණයක්
මංජුල වෙඩිවර්ධනගේ රචනයක්
ඇසුම් හාමා පරිවර්තනය මිනාල් ජෝටි ගෝස්වාමි

රංගනය :
ජානව් බෝරා



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International
Theatre Festival
2025

අගෝස්තු 30 දි

සවස 6.30 ට

මරදන එල්ලින්නිස්ටන් රඟහලේදී

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