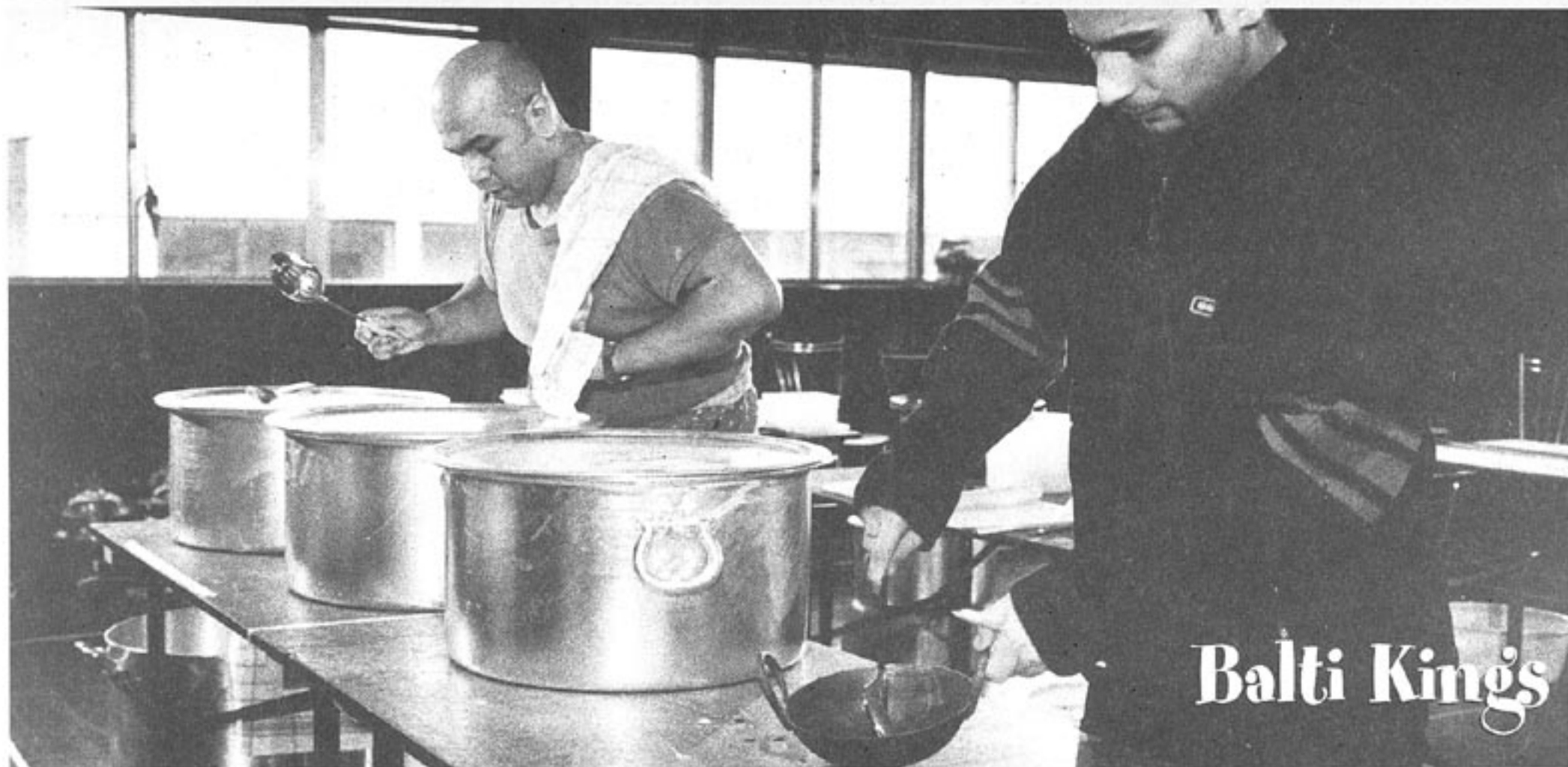


TAMASHA THEATRE COMPANY & BIRMINGHAM REPERTORY THEATRE IN ASSOCIATION WITH LYRIC THEATRE HAMMERSMITH PRESENT

# Balti Kings

A New Play by Sudha Bhuchar & Shaheen Khan  
Director Kristine Landon-Smith • Designer Sue Mayes





**Balti Kings** began because Birmingham was fast becoming Tamasha's second home. For the past six years, our productions have become an annual event at the Door, Birmingham Rep and we wanted to give our loyal audience something specifically Brummie. We had broken enough family naans together in Baltiland over the years and so hit upon the idea of setting a play in one of the numerous restaurants on the Ladypool Road. The concept of Balti was invented in Birmingham, but has been transported as far as the Costa del Sol and Belgium, and to make a play about the people behind the scenes who make the nation's favourite food seemed to be an idea with great theatrical potential.

From early days, Tamasha has used research as a starting point. Together with a team of actors, Sue Mayes (designer) and Shaheen Khan (co-writer), we went and interviewed everyone involved in the Balti industry ...from chefs to waiters and owners to punters. However, what particularly fascinated us was the activity in the kitchens and we spent many hours sitting and wondering how grand buffets were prepared whilst real-life dramas unfolded. We are indebted to the people who gave us a window into their lives, after we had convinced them that we were neither from the Home Office nor the DSS!

The next stage is always a workshop where actors' imaginations help move factual research towards fiction. 'Hotseating' the actors helped to develop potential characters in the play. Zahid, a real-life character we met, who produces the neon signs, died a death, whereas Khalida, the samosa lady, who threatened to turn the workshop into a one-woman show, found her rightful place in the first draft. Philip Osment, our dramaturg, aided the whole process with his experience and incisive questioning and subsequently, the first draft was showcased in Edinburgh in August 1999.

In only three weeks of rehearsal, we have had to tackle the challenge of how to get the audience to believe that thirty-five dishes are being produced on stage. With our Production Manager insisting that real food was not an option and Kristine insisting that it was the only way, we have begun to slowly discover how to create the illusion of a busy kitchen in Birmingham's Baltiland, where food is cooked up for the Grand Bollywood Buffet before the audience's very eyes. We hope you are convinced!



Kristine Landon-Smith  
and Sudha Bhuchar  
Joint Artistic Directors

# Balti Kings

**A New Play by Sudha Bhuchar & Shaheen Khan**  
**Directed by Kristine Landon-Smith • Designed by Sue Mayes**

## Cast

SHAMMI AULAKH	Nadim
AMEET CHANNA	Shakeel
KRISS DOSANJH	Billa
NABIL ELOUAHABI	Shahab
INDIRA JOSHI	Khalida
NIZWAR KARANJ	Yacoub
MIRKO SEKULIC	Isaac
ZELDA TINSKA	Mariam
ANTONY ZAKI	Yahsin

## Production Team

DIRECTOR	Kristine Landon-Smith
DESIGNER	Sue Mayes
LIGHTING DESIGNER	Chris Davey
LIGHTING ASSISTANT	Tim Bray
SOUND DESIGNER	Mike Furness
MUSIC	Barrie Bignold
DRAMATURG	Philip Osment
PRODUCTION MANAGER	Dennis Charles
STAGE MANAGER	Jon Rogers
DEPUTY STAGE MANAGER	Claire Gossop
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER	Lucy Baxter
WARDROBE SUPERVISOR	Hilary Lewis
CHEF TRAINING	Shafiq Alim

## For Tamasha Theatre Company

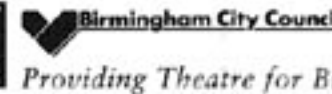
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR	Sudha Bhuchar
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR	Kristine Landon-Smith
GENERAL MANAGER	Kathy Bourne
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	Nicky Jones
PRESS AND MARKETING	Suman Bhuchar
MARKETING ASSISTANT	Suki Bhullar
PRESS CONSULTANT	Ben Chamberlain
MARKETING CONSULTANT	Mark Slaughter
EDUCATION CONSULTANT	Sita Brahmachari
BALTI KINGS CARTOON	Steve Chadburn
PROGRAMME PHOTOGRAPHS	Jenny Potter
PROGRAMME DESIGN	Jaded

### Special Thanks to:

Shafiq Alim and the staff at Masaledar; Muktar Ahmed and the staff at the Al Frash; The owner and staff of the Kababish Resturant and the Lahore Kebab House; Sonya Muchinste and Mr Muchinste; Parvez Ahmed and Javed Chowdhury; Zahida; Andy Munro; Mr Ali; Mr M A Butt; Mr Omar and the staff at the Royal Al Fisal; Refugee Council Advocacy Unit; Pat Chapman, founder of the Curry Club; Menu Magazine and Tandoori Magazine



Lyric **LINKS**  
MARKS & SPENCER



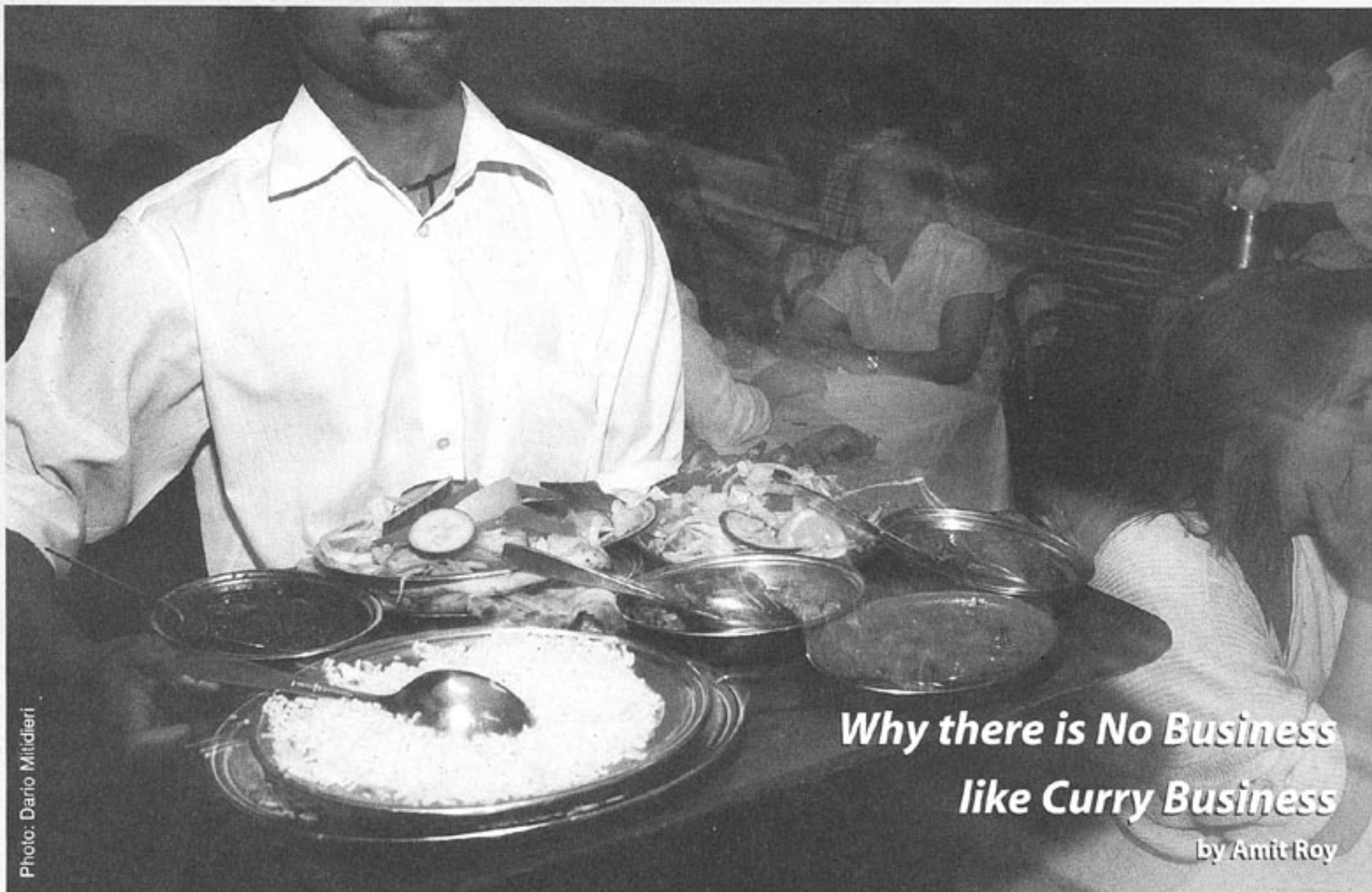


Photo: Dario Mitidieri

## ***Why there is No Business like Curry Business***

by Amit Roy

The expression, "as British as roast beef", has slipped out of usage and ought, on purely statistical grounds, to give way to "as British as chicken tikka masala". Surveys by Mintel and Mealtrack show that curry has replaced roast beef & Yorkshire pudding and fish & chips in the affections of the nation, with chicken tikka masala — a curious English concoction — firmly established as the favourite item. According to the British Tourist Authority, "Britain has a national dish all right, and it's a world beater: the Indian curry".

The truth is there was a receptive market in England for spicy Indian food long before the pioneering Edward Palmer, the son of an Indian army officer, set up Veeraswamy in London's Regent Street in 1927 as the first Indian restaurant. The Brits in India brought back Curry, having anglicised *Kari*, the Tamil word for sauce, in the 18th century.

Asians rejoice that the empire has struck back by subverting the British palate — curry is addictive so there is no going back to "meat and two veg". Among supermarkets, Sainsbury sells 1.1 million packets of chicken tikka masala every year, while Marks & Spencer shifts 18 tonnes of the stuff every week. But the Raj may yet have the last laugh. Such is the hunger for chicken tikka masala among British tourists going to Bombay and Bangladesh that restaurants there have had to include this British invention on their menus.

The pride of Birmingham is the Balti — which literally means a bucket. The style of cooking probably derives from the Afghani practice of tossing bits of meat, vegetables and fresh spices into a *karhai* — a receptacle — and rendering the mixture extra tender and the juices flavoursome by slow simmering. Much the same philosophy is adopted by the boys who run the 40-50 restaurants that comprise Birmingham's Balti Triangle. The extraordinary



popularity of the recipe explains why Pat Chapman's *The Balti Curry Book* topped the bestseller lists.

The supermarkets now stock "Balti" vegetables. Patak's, an ingredients firm known for its pickles and run by Kirit and Meena Pathak, markets a "Balti paste". The enterprising Perween Warsi of the Derby-based S & A Foods has even flogged "Balti Poulet Masala" to the French.

What has fuelled the curry industry, worth a staggering £2.8 billion a year, is partly the presence of 2.5 million people of Indian, Pakistani and Bangladeshi origin in Britain. The waiters and cooks from Bangladesh's Sylhet region are the true heroes who have triggered nothing short of a revolution in British food habits. They are the ones who have slaved long hours for little pay in flock wallpapered restaurants to ensure there is no business like curry business.

The buoyant mood has spawned "Curry Kings" such as G K Noon, whose factories supply 780,000 packets of Indian meals comprising 60 varieties to supermarkets every week. The phenomenon has also given birth to "Basmati Barons" Rashmi Thakrar and Moni Verma, the men behind the Tilda and Veetee brands respectively.

The Queen demonstrated curry's classlessness by apparently sending for a take away. The same was done by Cherie Blair, the prime minister's wife, during the 1999 Labour Party conference. John Major passed intelligence to the Taj Mahal Hotel, Bombay, that he would much rather the chilli wasn't omitted from his lamb speciality, *Dum ka Kid Ghost*, during his prime ministerial visit to India in 1993. When Ian Botham did his across Britain charity walk in 1999, the Indus in Doncaster kept the cricketer going with 400 onion bhajis and 400 samosas.

Curry has been rendered glamorous by Nicole Kidman and Tom Cruise, who posed for photographs at the Bombay Brasserie — the restaurant has opened a sister establishment, Quilon, named after a Kerala town famed for its coastal cuisine. Foremost among cooks, chefs and proprietors who have become personalities is Madhur Jaffrey, whose BBC TV series, *Flavours of India*, confirmed Indian

cuisine as the tastiest in the world. More recently, BBC TV's Asian programmes have turned Nina and Sumita Dhand into celebrities.

Other big names include Udit Sarkhel (Sarkhel's was judged Carlton's "Best Indian restaurant in London"); Amin Ali of the Red Fort and Soho Spice; Andy Varma of Vama; Rohit Khattar of Chor Bizarre; and Cyrus Todiwala of Cafe Spice Namaste.

Vineet Bhatia's Zaika in Fulham Road may become the first Indian restaurant to receive a Michelin star. Asians suspect, however, that the French run Michelin system of assessing excellence discriminates against Indian restaurants — "they fear that Indian cuisine will kill French just as it has knocked out Chinese," alleges a top Indian chef.

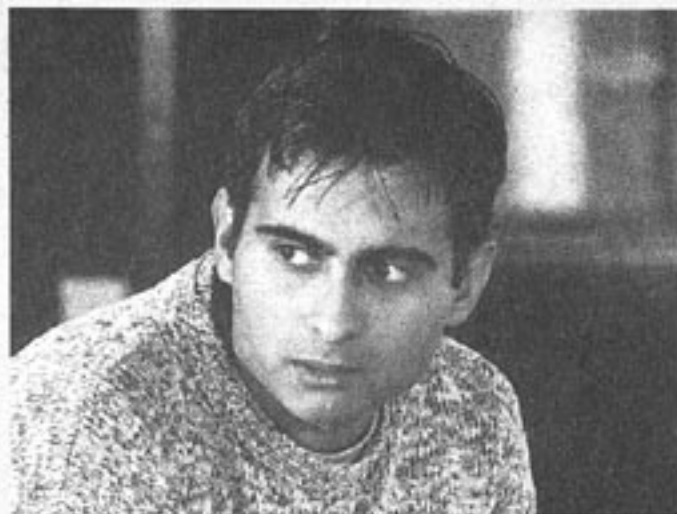
Meanwhile, a plethora of curry competitions, organised by outfits like Peter Grove's *The Real Curry Restaurant Guide*, is turning up winners. One, Manzoor Ahmed, of the Tabaq in Balham, south London, was named the 1999 National Curry Chef by the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health.

The rise in the number of Indian restaurants has been bewildering: 10 in 1955; 500 in 1965; 1,200 by the early 1970s when the East African Asians arrived; 3,000 in 1980; 6,600 in 1986; and 7,000 in 1991. A landmark was the installation of the first tandoori oven by Mahendra Kaul at Gaylord in Mortimer Street, London, in 1965.

Today, 2.5 million people a week eat in 8,000 Indian restaurants, some extremely sophisticated or minimalist in design. "Regional" is in and the buzzword is "authenticity". Some restaurants have become chains — for example, Shimla Pinks has expanded from Birmingham to London and Oxford (where it took over the Taj, established 1937). The Shere Khan in Manchester's Trafford Centre can seat 400 but finds "there is still a queue on Friday and Saturday nights."

Life need never be bland again. As Oz observed memorably in *Auf Wiedersehen*, the TV comedy: "Let's go for a curry. It's a British national dish."

# The Cast



## SHAMMI AULAKH

Shammi received a scholarship and sponsorship from Sir Nigel Hawthorne and Ian Holm OBE to train at the London Academy of Performing Arts.

Theatre credits include: **Bina's Choice** (Dominion Centre); **New Dawn** (P. Robinson Theatre); **Oedipus** (title role), **Love for Love**, **The Cherry Orchard** and Orsino in **Twelfth Night** (all London Academy) and **Survivors** (Orange Tree Theatre).

Commercials include Kodak World Wide 'Moments' campaign. Shammi is also a photographer.



## AMEET CHANNA

Ameet's theatre credits include: **Crazy Horse** (Paines Plough); **Don't Look at my Sister...Innit!** (Tabularasa); **Ready or Not** and **Dusky Warriors** (Theatre Royal Stratford East); **Ungrateful Dead** and **Bad Company** (Waterman's Arts Centre); **Voices on the Wind** and **Wicked! Yaar** (Royal National Theatre) and **The Dice Game** (Nottingham Playhouse).

Television credits include: **League of Gentlemen**, **Roger Roger** and **The Accused** (all for the BBC) and **The Bill** (Thames). Film credits include: **The Drive** (Anglia TV) and **Wild West** (Initial Films). For Radio: **House of the Sun**; **Uganda** and **Girlies** (BBC). Ameet also hosted the main stage at this year's BBC Network East Live Mega Mela.



## KRISS DOSANJH

Kriss' theatre work includes: **Krishna's Lila** (Leicester Haymarket); **One Night** (Theatre Royal Stratford East); **East is East** (Tamasha Theatre Company) and **Sharazad** (Oxford Touring Theatre).

Television and film credits include: **Emmerdale** (ITV); **East is East** (Channel 4 Films); **Hetty Wainthropp Investigates** (BBC); **Out of Sight** (Carlton); **Guru in Seven** (Balhar Films); **The Bill** (Thames); **Brokers Man** (Bentley Productions); **The Knock**; **The Escort** (Pathe Productions); **Felicia's Journey** (Marquis Films) and **Second Generation** (Firefly).

Radio credits include: **The Good Person of Ajmer**; **The Red Oleander**; **The Little Clay Cart**; **Untouchable** and **House of the Sun**.

# The Cast



## NABIL ELOUAHABI

Nabil trained at Holborn Centre for the Performing Arts and Royal Holloway, University of London.

Most recent theatre includes: **Don't Look at my Sister... Innit!** (Edinburgh Festival 1999 and national tour); **Wish** (Oval House); **Choirboys** (The Old Red Lion/Finborough) and **Swingers** (Old Red Lion/Latchmere).

Television and film credits include: **London's Burning** (LWT); **Casualty** (BBC); **Bodyguards** (Zenith) and **Buskers** (Independent Feature).



## INDIRA JOSHI

Indira was born in Burma and was educated in India. She began her career on the Delhi stage playing the title roles in **Yerma** and **Antigone**, Madelaine in **Victims of Duty** and as a newsreader and DJ for **A Date With You** for All India Radio.

Theatre work includes: **Exodus** (Tara Arts) and **One Night** (Theatre Royal Stratford East). TV includes: **Bhangra Heads** (Maiden's Voyage); **Small Potatoes** (Hat Trick Productions); **Belief File**, **Parosi** and **Diary of Rita Patel** (all for the BBC).

Radio includes: **Mrs Parker**, **Harvest**, **The Cyclise** and **Black Narcissus** (BBC Radio 4).

Indira has also narrated many programmes for TV including two folk tales for **Jackanory**.

She has recently returned to the U.K to resume her career as an actress having spent several years in America where she founded the award-winning newspaper *New World Times* for Native Americans.



## NIZWAR KARANJ

Nizwar trained at the Arts Educational School, London.

His work in theatre includes: **Borderline** (Joint Stock and the Royal Court); **Rift Valley Blues** (Churchill Theatre, Bromley); **Migrations** (Theatre Royal Stratford East); **Cries from the Mammal House** (Leicester Haymarket/Royal Court); **A Midsummer Night's Dream** (Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith and UK Tour) and **A Tainted Dawn** (Tricycle Theatre and Edinburgh International Festival for Tamasha Theatre Company). He has also work extensively with Tara Arts, appearing in: **Anklets of Fire**; **Hayavadana**; **Exile in the Forest**; **Bicharo**; **Vengeance**; **Bhavni Bhavai**; **This Story's Not for the Telling** and **The Government Inspector**. For the Royal National Theatre he appeared in: **A Map of the World**; **The Little Clay Cart**; **Tartuffe** (including world tour); **Cyrano** and more recently **Haroun and the Sea of Stories**.

Television credits include: **Crown Court**; **Jewel in the Crown**; **Glory Boys** and **Days Like These**.

His film credits include: **Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom**; **Nelly's Version**; **The Darkening** and the recently released **Felicia's Journey**. Nizwar has also worked extensively on Radio.

# The Cast



## MIRKO SEKULIC

Mirko trained at the Court Theatre Training Company. He has most recently been seen as Bonnie in N1 Theatre Company's production **Anapest**.

Other theatre credits include: **My Last Will** (Rome); **Measure for Measure** (Court Theatre Company) and **Man of Mode** (Courtyard Theatre). Mirko has also successfully directed productions of Chekhov's **Uncle Vanya**, William Sutton's **The Great Yes** and Dario Fo's **The Open Couple**.

Film and television credits include: **Universal Grinding Wheel** and **The Verdict** (BBC) and **Oh Gloria!** (Independent Films).

He is also co-founder of Seven Sisters Theatre Company.



## ZELDA TINSKA

Zelda worked as a dancer both in France and England before turning to acting last year.

Television credits include: **Holby City** and **The Bill**.

Film credits include **The Beach**.

This is Zelda's stage debut.



## ANTONY ZAKI

Antony started acting during his school days in Kent. After winning a scholarship to drama school, he appeared in a TV film **Love Match**, as well as the TV series **Poirot** with David Suchet. He landed his first theatre job playing Sir Toby Belch in the Theatre Royal Stratford East's production of **Twelfth Night**.

In the last three years he has worked more frequently in film, winning the Critics Award for his performance in **Gypsy Magic** directed by Stole Popov. He has co-starred with Roshan Seth in the US comedy drama, **The Journey**, soon to be released. Antony was in **Guru In Seven**, directed by Shani Grewel and together they are writing an Asian sitcom series, commissioned by Carlton. Antony was awarded the Aga Khan Award for Excellence in the Arts.

To keep up with technology, Antony has a website: [www.netspin.co.uk/zaki](http://www.netspin.co.uk/zaki).



# The Creative Team

## SUDHA BHUCHAR - Writer

Sudha is co-founder of Tamasha Theatre Company and is both an actor and a playwright. She started her career at Tara Arts sixteen years ago and her acting credits include: **Eastenders** (BBC), **The Archers** (BBC Radio) and Salman Rushdie's **Haroun and the Sea of Stories** (Royal National Theatre). She has co-adapted, with Kristine Landon Smith, many of Tamasha's productions: **Untouchable**, **House of the Sun**, **A Tainted Dawn** and **Fourteen Songs, Two Weddings and a Funeral**. She has teamed up with Shaheen Khan on many BBC Radio Four dramas including **Girlies** (third series to be aired in Spring 2000) and **Dancing Girls of Lahore**. **Balti Kings** is her first new play for the stage.

## SHAHEEN KHAN - Writer

Shaheen Khan is an actor and a playwright. Her childhood ambition was to become an actress and she was discovered at the doctor's surgery at the age of sixteen when she was picked to star in **Parosi**, the Asian "Neighbours". Her stage career took off at Tara Arts in 1983 and since then she has worked extensively in theatre, film, radio and television. Credits include: **Casualty** (BBC); Tanika Gupta's **Flight** and **My Sister Wife** and **Bhaji on the Beach** both by Meera Syal. She has co-written **Girlies** and **Dancing Girls of Lahore** with Sudha Bhuchar. **Balti Kings** marks her stage debut as a writer.

## KRISTINE LANDON-SMITH - Director

Kristine graduated from The Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama in 1981. As an actress Kristine has worked all over Britain with companies including the Royal Court Theatre; Hull Truck Theatre Company; Theatre Clwyd; Durham Theatre and Theatre Royal Stratford East. While Associate Director at the Bristol Old Vic, Kristine directed **Bodycount** by Les Smith and Lorca's **Yerma**. Kristine is co-founder of Tamasha Theatre Company and has directed all of Tamasha's eight productions. The 1996 production **East is East** was nominated for an Olivier award and won the Writers' Guild Award - it has recently been made into a film. Two of Tamasha's other productions, **Yearning** and **Women of the Dust** won CRE Race in the Media awards for Radio Drama. Last year's production **Fourteen Songs, Two Weddings and a Funeral** recently won both the BBC Asia Award for Achievement in the Arts and the Barclays Theatre Award for Best Musical. Kristine has also been a producer for BBC Radio since 1996 and has produced many plays, series, serials and short stories.

## SUE MAYES - Designer

Sue has designed all of Tamasha's shows including their recent productions **East is East**, **A Tainted Dawn** and **Fourteen Songs, Two Weddings and a Funeral**. After training at Central School of Arts and Design, she began her career with residencies at Ipswich Rep, Belgrade Theatre in Education and Liverpool Everyman. Her freelance work has included designs for Talawa, New Vic at Stoke on Trent, Bristol Old Vic, the Theatre Royal Stratford East and Southwark Playhouse.

## CHRIS DAVEY - Lighting Designer

Chris's theatre designs include: **The Three Sisters** (Oxford Stage Company); **Nude With Violin** and **The Illusion** (Manchester Royal Exchange); **Baby Doll** and **A Time of Fire** (Birmingham Rep); **Dangerous Corner** (Palace Theatre, Watford); **Family, Passing Places** and **Greta** (Traverse Edinburgh); **The Deep Blue Sea** and **Clay Bull** (Lyceum Edinburgh); **Shining Souls** (Peter Hall Season at the Old Vic); **Cause Celebre** and **Then Again** (Lyric Hammersmith); **Happy Valley** and **Brothers of the Brush** (Everyman Liverpool); **Candide** and **Shakuntala** (Gate Theatre); **War and Peace** (Shared Experience/Royal National Theatre); **In A Little World Of Our Own** and **Endgame** (Donmar Warehouse); **The Colour of Justice**, **Dance of Death**, **Kat and the Kings** and **Two Trains Running** (Tricycle Theatre); **Anna Karenina**, **Jane Eyre**, **The Tempest**, **Mill on the Floss** and **Desire Under the Elms** (Shared Experience); **Blood Wedding** and **Grimm Tales** (Young Vic); **Maa** (Royal Court); **Love** (West Yorkshire Playhouse); **Grimm Tales** (Leicester Haymarket) and **Just One World** (Aarchen Germany). He has also designed for the RSC, Theatre Royal Stratford East, Palace Theatre Watford, Buxton Opera House, Sadlers Wells Theatre and the Queens Theatre Hornchurch. Chris has also been involved in dance theatre where credits include: **Transatlantic Tap** (Dance Umbrella Riverside Studios); **Turn of the Tide** (Queen Elizabeth Hall) and **Shobana** (Jeyasigh Dance Company). Opera credits include: **La Traviata** (Castleward Opera Belfast) **Gli Equivoci Nel Sembiante**, **Schuman Song Cycle** and **A Man of Feeling** (Batignano Opera Festival); **The Picture of Dorian Gray** (Opera de Monte Carlo) and **Faust** (Surrey Opera).

# The Creative Team

## MIKE FURNESS - Sound Designer

Theatre sound designs include: **All's Well That Ends Well** and **As You Like It** (RSC); **Blues in the Night**, **The Witches**, **Ladyday** and **The BFG** (West End). He has also designed for the New Vic, Paines Plough, The Kings Head, The Tricycle and shows at this year's Edinburgh and Brighton Festivals. This will be his fifth sound design for Tamasha having previously designed **House of the Sun**, **A Yearning**, **Women of the Dust** and **Fourteen Songs, Two Weddings and a Funeral**. He also designs sound systems for orchestral performance, corporate and other live events in the UK and abroad. He produces talking books, most recently having produced a series of audio plays for the Natural History Museum. He is also a sound consultant for Cameron Mackintosh Consultants, having designed the sound system for the Chicken Shed Theatre in London.

## BARRIE BIGNOLD - Music

Barrie was responsible for adapting and composing the music for Tamasha's award-winning production of **Fourteen Songs, Two Weddings and a Funeral**. His music for **The Shop** (BBC1) was nominated for an Ivor Novello Award for Best Original Score for TV Production this year. The year also included the series **The Builders** and **Burgled** (for the BBC); **Time Team - History Hunters** and the much acclaimed **Road Raj** documentary series for Channel 4. As a composer, Barrie works in many different areas of the media. Theatre scores have ranged from **Twelfth Night** for Kate O'Mara's British Actors' Shakespeare Company to **Peter Pan** for Chichester Festival Theatre.

## DENNIS CHARLES - Production Manager

020 8691 7266

## JON ROGERS - Company Stage Manager

Jon has stage managed various productions in the West End, in Rep and for Opera. With this production he is fulfilling a lifelong ambition to work with chicken tikka masala...

## CLAIRE GOSSOP - Deputy Stage Manager

Claire studied Drama and Technical Theatre Arts at Middlesex University. Since graduation, her work has included: **The Babysitter**, **Floyd Collins**, **Perfect Plastic** and **The Extraordinary Revelations of Orca the Goldfish** (all at the Bridewell); **Blue Window** (Old Red Lion); **The Orchestra** and **The Surgeon of Honour** (Southwark Playhouse); **Coups and Calypsos** and **Unfinished Business** (Oval House) and **Contradance** (Edinburgh) all as Stage Manager. As Deputy Stage Manager she has worked on **Vortigen** and **Eyam** (The Bridewell); **Fourteen Songs, Two Weddings and a Funeral** (Tamasha Theatre Company UK tour) and **Inner City Jam** (Cockpit Theatre).

## LUCY BAXTER - Assistant Stage Manager

Lucy trained in Drama and Theatre Arts at Middlesex University. She has previously worked for the London Bubble on their summer tours of **Once Upon a Time**, **A Midsummer Night's Dream** and **Lords and Ladies**; for Opera Circus' **King Stag** and on **Cuckoo and Night** at the New End. Her film credits include Film Four's **Like It Is**. Earlier this year Lucy stage managed **Conference of the Birds**, a special project in Lithuania involving orphanage children performing in the departure lounge of the local airport! This is her second production for Tamasha Theatre Company having previously worked on **Fourteen Songs, Two Weddings and a Funeral**.

## SITA BRAHMACHARI - Education Consultant

Sita Brahmachari is a freelance theatre education consultant. She has an MA in Arts Education (Drama) from the Central School of Speech and Drama. She has been published in a number of British and International papers and most recently had a chapter published on Interculturalism in 'On the Subject of Drama' Ed. David Hornbrook (Routledge 1998). As a freelancer, she has run education projects for LWT Talent Challenge for Tower Hamlets Summer University, LIFT and Camden Arts and Tourism among others. Sita is a regular visiting lecturer at the Central School. She was Education Officer for Talawa Theatre Company from 1992 to 1995. From 1990 to 1992 Sita was Community Theatre Worker at the Royal Court Young People's Theatre.

## SUMAN BHUCHAR - Press and Marketing

Suman Bhuchar is a television producer whose Channel 4 documentary, **Dead Man Talking**, was shortlisted for BBC TV's Asia Awards in 1999. In charge of Tamasha's press and marketing since the company began, her dedicated approach has helped to attract new audiences for British Asian theatre. She has received a Society for Theatre Research Award for her work on Tamasha. She is also a freelance journalist who writes a weekly column on Bollywood for *The Herald*, Glasgow. She writes widely on British Asian arts and is currently making a film on the twin artists, Amrit & Rabindra Singh.

## BEN CHAMBERLAIN - Press Consultant

020 7924 5255

## MARK SLAUGHTER - Marketing Consultant

020 8691 5512



# TAMASHA TOUR SCHEDULE

Tamasha will be touring

## Balti Kings

across the U.K to the following venues:

15th December – 8th January	Birmingham Rep, Theatre	Box Office: 0121 236 4455
12th January – 19th February	Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith	Box Office: 020 8741 2311
22nd February – 26th February	Everyman Theatre, Liverpool	Box Office: 0151 709 4776
8th March – 11th March	Bristol Old Vic	Box Office: 0117 987 7877
14th March – 15th March	Lawrence Batley, Huddersfield	Box Office: 01484 430528
17th March – 18th March	Oxford Playhouse	Box Office: 01865 798600
21st March – 25th March	Contact Theatre, Manchester	Box Office: 0161 274 4400
28th March – 1st April	Theatre Royal, Plymouth	Box Office: 01752 267222

### AUTUMN 2000

Tamasha will present Deepak Verma's new play **Ghostdancing** (working title). Well known for his role as Sanjay in EastEnders, Deepak has more recently started writing for radio and the stage. The play will tour to small scale venues throughout the U.K, including the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.

### SPRING 2001

Tamasha is delighted to announce that due to popular demand, **Fourteen Songs, Two Weddings and a Funeral** will be returning to the stage in Spring 2001. The tour has yet to be finalised but venues will include Birmingham Repertory Theatre and the Lyric Theatre Hammersmith, both on the main stage. **Fourteen Songs, Two Weddings and a Funeral** won both the BBC Asia Award for Achievement in the Arts and the Barclays Theatre Award for Best Musical.

To find out more about the above productions and Tamasha Theatre Company:  
Contact our office on Tel: 020 7609 2411 Fax 020 7609 2722 E-mail: [general@tamasha.demon.co.uk](mailto:general@tamasha.demon.co.uk)  
Or visit our website on [www.tamasha.demon.co.uk](http://www.tamasha.demon.co.uk)  
To join our Mailing List fill in the slip below...

Please fill in this form and return it to:

**Tamasha Theatre Company, Unit E, 11 Ronalds Road, London N5 1XJ**

Name:.....

Address:.....  
.....  
.....

Tel No:..... E-mail:.....

How did you hear about this production?:.....

Shakeel's  
Restuarant



Pile your Plates as high  
as you can for under a fiver!

Sing along  
with your favourite  
Bollywood Stars  
on our special  
"Curry-Oke Night"

LADYPOOL ROAD  
SPARKBROOK, BIRMINGHAM  
020 7609 2411

# TAMASHA PAST PRODUCTIONS

1989

## UNTOUCHABLE

Adaptation by Sudha Bhuchar and Kristine Landon-Smith  
from the novel by Mulk Raj Anand

What the papers said...

*"If UNTOUCHABLE is the fruit of their first efforts,  
Tamasha seems set to lead the way in the ensuing decade"*

TIMES OF INDIA

1991

## HOUSE OF THE SUN

Adaptation by Sudha Bhuchar and Kristine Landon-Smith  
from the novel by Meira Chand

What the papers said...

*"Not just one for the Asian community, but a warm, witty  
comedy of city life"*

TIME OUT

1993

## WOMEN OF THE DUST

By Ruth Carter

What the papers said...

*"Sue Mayes' sun baked setting creates a tremendous sense  
of place on the Riverside's panoramic stage and  
Kristine Landon - Smith's production is powerfully played."*

EVENING STANDARD

1994

## A SHAFT OF SUNLIGHT

By Abhijat Joshi

What the papers said...

*"This play was quite simply, one of the most mesmerising and  
absorbing 80 minutes I have ever spent in a theatre."*

REDDITCH OBSERVER

1995

## A YEARNING

Adaptation by Ruth Carter from the novel YERMA by Lorca  
What the papers said...

*"(a) thought- provoking production, opening a surprisingly  
accurate window into the aims and aspirations  
of the Punjabi community in our own city"*

BIRMINGHAM WEEKLY OBSERVER

1996-7

## EAST IS EAST

By Ayub Khan-Din

What the papers said...

*"A delightful new comedy...Kristine Landon - Smith's  
immensely attractive production."*

THE INDEPENDENT

1997

## A TAINTED DAWN

Written by Kristine Landon - Smith and Sudha Bhuchar

What the papers said...

*"I doubt if any theatre company anywhere will bring the  
disappointment and disillusion of 1947 so grittily to life..."*

THE TIMES

1998

## FOURTEEN SONGS, TWO WEDDINGS AND A FUNERAL

Adapted from the Bollywood film *Hum Aapke Hain Koun*  
by Kristine Landon-Smith and Sudha Bhuchar.

*"(Fourteen Songs, Two Weddings and A Funeral)  
has a naïve charm and melodic gaiety  
that puts most London musicals in the shade..."*

THE GUARDIAN