Bratya Basu’s EKDIN ALADIN Director: Kanchan Mullick



Playwright: Bratya Basu
Director: Kanchan Mullick
Group: Paikpara Indraranga, Kolkata
Language: Bengali
Duration: 1 hr 50 mins

The Play
Madhab Marik is a politician who aspires to become the leader of the country. He dreams of taking the oath as the Prime Minister. But everything goes haywire when during his dream of oath-taking ceremony a voice interrupts calling him a hooligan, cheat, and rioter. Madhab realizes the voice to be that of his childhood friend Satya who had died when he was in school. Madhab’s latest transition from one party to another keeps him wondering about what people are actually thinking about him. Through his encounter with Satya, Madhab’s fears come to light. Satya, to get his friend out of the turmoil, helps him with the magic lamp of Aladin. But this lamp

functions a bit differently. It helps Madhab to see the true face of the person towards whom he points the lamp. Madhab finds that all his political party members, high-command leader, even his elder daughter and her husband, have pretentious faces, and the lamp reveals them all, except for his wife, and Satya's mother who genuinely care for him. Madhab breaks down knowing the reality. He returns the lamp. Satya suggests Madhab to leave all his political pursuits and settle down and look after his family but Madhab disagrees and decides to start exploring his life afresh in a different light, for the people.

Director's Note

This was the first time I was asked to direct a play, and I will always cherish this offer and respect the confidence Paikpara Indraranga showed in my abilities. I had a smooth experience directing the play since the group is so professionally managed that besides direction I did not have to get involved in any other aspect of this big production. I especially thank Bratya Basu for believing in me and for giving me the opportunity to direct a play for the first time ever in my 27 years of living and breathing theatre.

The Director

In the year 1990 Kanchan Mullick started his theatre career with the group Hindol. He has been associated with the theatre group Swapnasandhani for almost 25 years. Here he learned acting, back stage work, set, light etc. Kanchan Mullick is known as a Bengali film and television actor. He has acted in movies like Mahakaal, Ranjala Ami Aar Asbo Na, Dhruba, Kelor Kirti, Lakshyabhed etc.

The Playwright

Bratya Basu, is an accomplished theatre artist, a playwright and director, who started his career as a sound operator. He is a theatre thinker and activist, and has served Bengali theatre for nearly 20 years. His plays have been staged by various directors like Suresh Bhardwaj, Bapi Bose, Arpita

Ghosh, Debesh Chattopadhyay, Suman Mukhopadhyay, Koushik Sen, Kishore Sengupta, Anirban Bhattacharya, Sekhar Samaddar, Biplab Bandopadhyay, Debashis Biswas, Debashis Ray, Debashis Dutta, Avi Chakraborty etc. A compilation of his plays has been published in three volumes in 2004, 2010 and 2016 respectively.

The Group
Indraranga was renamed Paikpara Indraranga in 2012. Ekdin Aladin is our fifth production since then, after Nishshanga Samrat, Arabya Rajani, Awdyo Sesh Rajani and Banijye Basate Lakshmi. Our six-year journey in the world of group theatre has been one of ups and downs. It was a learning experience, for it taught us the philosophy and introspection of the art of theatre.

Cast & Credits
On Stage: Kanchan Mullick, Taranga Sarkar,Indrajit Chakraborty, Aruna Mukhopadhyay,Sumana Mukhopadhyay, Shantanu Nath, Indranil Mukhopadhyay, Prasun Bandyopadhyay, Pankaj Sarkar, Tutul Ghosh, Mouli Roy,
Pubali Bandyopadhyay, Sukanta Saha, Soham Mukhopadhyay, Soumadipta Mondal, Joydeep Acharya, Sanjay Das, Anish Ghosh, Subrata Sadhukhan, Richa Roy, Payel Ghosh, Bhagyasree Roychowdhyry, Ranjana Karmakar

Set Design: Debasish Roy
Set Making: D’moy
Sound Design: Dishari Chakraborty
Sound Operation: Santanu Paul, Soumya Mukherjee
Light: Sudip Sanyal
Make-up: Md. Ali & Sanjoy Paul
Choreography: Sumit Roy
Costume: Madhumita Dham
Logo & Publicity Design: Hiran Mitra
Brochure Design & Still Photography: Abhijit Nath
Production Assistants: Paromita Chakraborty, Bijay Basu, Ranita Das, Indranil Mukhopadhyay, Nairwita Dutta

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Watch Meet the Director segment for the play