

# Ruddhasangeet by Shri Bratya Basu

## The Play

Shri Debabrata Biswas was a popular Rabindra Sangeet singer of Bengal. The artist's involvement with, and severance from, Gananaty Sangha, his renunciation of the communist party, his differences with the music board of Biswabharati University and his inexorable rise to fame, his opposition against socially renowned institutions, all echoed through the many associations he shared, are some of the notable areas of focus within the many levels of this play. Apart from Debabrata Biswas, the other celebrated characters in the play are Hemanga Biswas, Salil

Chowdhury, Ritwik Ghatak, Shambhu Mitra, Bijon Bhattacharya, Tripti Mitra, Jyoti Basu, Pramod Dasgupta, Suchitra Mitra, Manjushree Chaki Sarkar, Santosh Kumar Ghosh. Ruddhasangeet bears a historic testimony to the lives of Bengalis in East India, to their social, economical and political ups and downs through almost half a century.

## Director's Note

Ruddhasangeet is a chronical, a saga, the flavour of mass music, the fashion – Ruddhasangeet, the spread of popular music, and the liaison with both, the singer and the person Debabrata Biswas, are all represented in this play. A journey of thirty years through the thick and thin of the artist's life and limelight, are given the freedom of voice, the liberty of stage and a course of light. Providing an extra edge to the play is an original and rare treat involving both verbal and physical expertise.

## The Director & Playwright

Bratya Basu, is an accomplished theatre artist, a playwright and director. Basu launched his career as a dramatist and director with the play Ashaleen (1996), described by theatre

critics as the first post- modernist Bengali play. His noted plays (playwright, acting, direction) thereafter include Aranyadeb, Shahar Yaar, Virus-M, Winkle-Twinkle, 17th July, Chatuskon and many more. Basu has bagged many awards and recognitions both in Theatre and Film. Some of them include Hyderabad Bengali Film Festival Award, Ritwik Ghatak Honorary Award, Kalakar Award, Shyamal Sen Memorial Award, Dishari Award, Satyen Mitra Award, Shilpayan Samman, Srestho Natya Nirman etc. Bratya

Basu, is currently Hon'ble Cabinet Minister and in charge of the Ministry of Information Technology & Electronics for the state of West Bengal. He has created his own space in contemporary theatre by moving beyond its existing boundaries. He formed his own theatre group Bratyajon in 2008.

### **The Group**

Bratyajon was established by Bratya Basu in 2008. Apart from theatrical productions, the group is active in many associated fields. An important activity of the group is to organize an annual theatre festival. Bratyajon confers Bishnu Basu Smriti Puroskar in the loving memory of late Bishnu Basu and also organizes Bishnu Basu Memorial Lectures & Nitika Basu Memorial Lectures. Other activities include theatre publications comprising of a theatre journal and participation in the book fair. Bratyajon conducts theatre workshops for children that culminate in a stage performance.

### **Cast & Credits**

Debabrata Biswas Debsankar Halder

Arun Debasish Roy

Bijan Bhattacharya Raktim Datta

Jyoti Basu Bishmoy Roy

Promod Dasgupta Prantik Choudhury

Nirmal Gosh Nabarun Barik

Binay Roy Prasenjit Chattopadhyay

Chorus Ranjan Dutta

Chorus Moloy Bera

Hemanga Biswas Samrat Ghatak  
Rittwik Ghatak Krishnendu Dewanji  
Salil Chowdhury Subrata Pathak  
Subhas Mukhopadhyay Tanmay Sur  
Police/Purnendu Chandranath Roy  
Khokon Surojit Paul  
Shambhu Mitra Billwatosh Chattopadhyay  
Police/Angshu Abhijit Ghatak  
Srikanta Prabir Basu  
Gopesh Pradip Roy  
Tushar Arindom Ghosh  
Tripti Mitra Rumpi Paul  
Lalita Ananya Roy  
Manjusree Chaki Antara Bandopadhyay  
Suchitra Mitra Sushmita Bandopadhyay  
Dancer Sayeri Bhattacharya  
Dancer Priyanka Chatterjee  
Shila Poulami Basu  
Santosh Kumar Ghosh Bratya Basu  
Light Design Sudip Sanyal  
Light Operation Prithiwis Rana  
Set Design Soumik-Piyali  
Set Making Tinku-Modon  
Music Tapan Sinha  
Make-up Alok Debnath  
Background Score Swapan Bandopadhyay  
Costume Amit Roy  
Co-ordination Prithiwis Rana  
**Playwright & Director Shri Bratya Basu**