# Atul Satya Koushik’s Play: Ballygunge 1990

Playwright & Director: Atul Satya Koushik
Group: Films & Theatre Society, Delhi
Language: Hindi
Duration: 1 hr 20 mins

The Play
The play Ballygunge 1990 is a thriller. The place is Ballygunge, Calcutta and the year is 1990. Kartik and Vasuki had been in a passionate relationship for more than ten years, before Kartik left Vasuki behind to chase his dreams in Mumbai. Vasuki is now married to a famous painter and is living a life full of regrets and vendetta. She holds Kartik, and their failed love, responsible for her miserable life. Now she has invited him over for a coffee at her mansion. Kartik is a bit confused and happily surprised to see the same ten-year-old passion and love in Vasuki’s eyes. Vasuki is unpleasantly surprised to see the same hostility and detachment in Kartik’s eyes. A well-crafted plan is going to change the course of their lives forever.

Director’s Note
Having successfully presented grand historical productions, musicals, comedies and social satires, I wanted to take up a subject which has not been explored much, especially in Hindi Theatre. Suspense and thrill was for sure one genre which I personally had not seen much in my theatre viewing memory of about ten years. Therefore I coined the idea ‘Ballygunge 1990’ and started writing it. As I went deeper into the process of writing and designing the show, I realized that this play is more than a mere suspense plot. It is more of a love story… a story full of emotions and passion. All the regrets,

complaints and vendetta that appear in the story, have roots in love which flowered between the two protagonists over a decade.

The Director & Playwright

Atul Satya Koushik is well-known in the field of modern Hindi commercial theatre of India. An alumnus of Sri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC, Delhi) and a qualified Chartered Accountant, he also holds a degree in Law. He is in his early 30s and has already written 15 full-length theatre plays, and produced and directed them with over 700 shows in different parts of India. Atul is a recipient of many awards including the Times Entrepreneurship Award and the Yuva Natya Nirdeshak award by Sahitya Kala Parishad. He has been one of the flag-bearers of commercial theatre in Delhi, running many ticketed shows to full houses and casting celebrities in his theatre productions. His popular productions include The Legend of Ram, Chakravyuh, Raavan Ki Ramayan, Dad’s Girlfriend, Ballygunge 1990, Pajama Party, Draupadi, Wo Lahore etc. He writes his own plays and is emerging as an important modern playwright of India.

The Group

Established in 2009, Films & Theatre Society, Delhi is one of India’s leading theatre companies which has its own original scripts and in-house direction, production and marketing. The group has performed more than 700 shows of its 15 productions in over 30 cities of India. Many of its productions feature famous film, TV and theatre personalities, and put together, they offer a wide range of themes, genres and presentation styles. FTS conceptualises and organises various theatre events and art festivals, like Rang, at a large scale, bringing artists, sponsors and audience together for larger-than-life art extravaganzas.

Some of the group’s popular productions are Chakravyuh, Ballygunge 1990, Raavan Ki Ramayan, Pajama Party, The Legend of Ram, Dad’s Girlfriend, Wo Lahore etc. which have been

staged at various prestigious festivals and platforms such as Jaipur Rang Mahotsav, Kala Ghoda Festival, Parliament House auditorium etc.

Cast & Credits
On Stage Annup Soni
Nishtha Paliwal
Kunal Kaushik

Background Score & Music Rajesh Das
Creative Design Ashwani Kumar
Graphic Design Kunal Kumar
Production Manager Sumit Negi
Backstage Manager Sonam Kanotra
Music Operation Latika Jain
Light Operation Tarun Dang
Backstage Team Devansh Gulati, Rajeev Sachdeva
Set maker Mohd. Gulpham
Producer Ishaan Yadav, Aditi Chauhan
Concept Atul Satya Koushik & Nipul Malik

Playwright & Director Atul Satya Koushik

Contacts
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