

YE HAI DUNIYA MERI JAAN



An Inclusive  Entertainment Show

Entertainment Dance Drama by Trinayani to celebrate WORLD DISABILITY DAY 2014.

On 17th Dec, NGO Trinayani (started by Ritika Sahni in 2006) staged an inclusive dance drama at Rabindra Sadan featuring disabled and non-disabled performers (actors, singers, dancers) and students of 7 schools of Kolkata in a grand musical extravaganza. The Show was supported by Hindustan Petroleum Corporation limited.

The show was designed and scripted by Varsha Sheth in 'Hinglish' and the drama was directed by theatre veteran Ashok Singh. Noted danseuse Alokana Roy choreographed the dances, and Bhavna Hemani choreographed a fashion show with intellectually disabled children of **Mentaid**. Audio visual inputs by Vineet Jain, lights by Dinesh Poddar and live singing by an inclusive choir added charm to a very well-produced show.

Students of **Oral School for deaf children** performed the songs in sign language, and the other schools that presented the song-and-dance routines were **Akshar, Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy, Heritage, Premasree residential home for the blind and Ballygunge Shiksha Sadan**.

Celebrity actor Victor Banerjee and Chef Shaun Kenworthy played small but meaningful roles to endorse disability awareness and inclusion. A theme song, written by Varsha Sheth and composed by Varsha and Ritika, created waves amongst the participants and audience who sang along, in the end.

The drama was a simple but powerful story of 7 friends who overcome odds and despair to achieve their dream of opening a restaurant together. The 7 key actors (who also danced) were Harshit Gohil, Nishant Dave, Kanishka Tiwary, Nikita Thakkar, Anandita Thakker, Den (Sayom Deb, a wheelchair user) and Rajiv Saha (who is visually impaired). They were supported by Yuvraj Vyas, Jay Badlani, Padma Francis and Mahesh Oberoi.

The aim of such a show is to achieve Trinayani's objective of raising awareness about, and empowering people with disabilities. The mingling and performing together, of people with and without disabilities was heart-warming and unique.

Kudos to the team of Ritika Sahni, Varsha Sheth, Bhavna Hemani, Ashok Singh, Alokandana Roy and the team behind YE HAI DUNIYA MERI JAAN for giving Kolkata audiences such a meaningful and unique entertainment show.

Details of the show and pictures can be viewed on www.trinayani.org