



Beneath The Music

By Jay Emmanuel and Karthika Nair



The work

Beneath the Music is a powerful journey from resistance to acceptance of queerness, depicted through Keshav's struggle with his mother's disapproval of his life choices. Drawing from Karthika Nair's "Until the Lions," this poetic physical theatre celebrates gender fluidity and queerness across cultures. Its universal themes of struggle and acceptance make it accessible to all audiences, offering insight into the challenges faced by individuals navigating their identities. The work features a rich and compelling blend of spoken word performance and choreographed movement.

"A very different and moving piece of theatre, Beneath the Music, easily holds its audience for its 75-minute duration. A thoughtful, engrossing, and engaging production."

Stage Whispers

The creative team

Concept and Direction Jay Emmanuel

Writer Karthika Nair

Choreographer James O'Hara

Set and Lighting Design Willy Cessa

Sound Design and Composition Tao Issaro

Lighting Realiser Peter Young

Costume Design Nicole Marrington

Costume Consultant Kalieaswari Srinivasan

Video Artist Elham Eshraghian-Haakansson

Video Artist Collaborator Asha Kiani

Terrakoothu Master Kalaimamani P. K. Sambandan
Thambiran

Intimacy Coach Gabrielle Metcalf

Produced by Performing Lines WA

Presented by Encounter

Original Cast Kalieaswari Srinivasan, Manjula Radha
Krishnan, Ramith Ramesh and Tyrone Earl Lraé Robinson

Presentation history

May 2023 | World Premiere, Subiaco Arts Centre, WA

Video links

Promo video (w/ Vox Pops):

<https://vimeo.com/880386781>

Full archival (not to share publicly, password:
ENCOUNTER):

<https://vimeo.com/837789327?share=copy>

Duration

75 minutes, no interval

Touring requirements

Touring party	4 performers
	1 Production Manager
	1 Stage Manager

Performance space

Black Box or studio with end stage audience viewing
Minimum Stage Dimensions: 8.5m (W) x 6m (D) x 4.5m (H)
Bump-in: LX pre-rig required for same day opening.

Producer contact

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