



Sarah Trist  
Dance Management Agency

# Jham!



**An outdoor re-working of an innovative classical Indian dance production with live music**

***“Rajarani’s take on classical Indian dance is invigorating.”***

The Sunday Times

Artistic Director of **Srishti**, **Nina Rajarani MBE** is an award-winning choreographer of classical Indian dance with 30 years’ experience as a dance-maker. She fuels traditions of Bharatanatyam and Kathak with contemporary artistic practice and ideas.

**Rajarani’s** latest outdoor work **Jham!** is an upbeat, playful and energetic musical collaboration between dancers and musicians that uses creative improvisation - or “jamming” - to initiate a rhythmic interplay between classical and modern forms of music and dance. **Jham!** has a distinctly contemporary feel, with four musicians - including a beatboxer, a saxophonist and a traditional Karnatik vocalist - performing alongside four Kathak and Bharatanatyam dancers.



**Jham!** was originally created by **Rajarani** as a full-length performance for indoor theatre spaces (pictured above). The title refers to one of the dance syllables used for recitation in Indian classical dance, as well as alluding to improvisation. It is being adapted to be performed outdoors in 2022, building on **Srishti’s** success performing at UK festivals in the past, including Greenwich & Docklands International Festival with **Bend It 2008**, Hatfair and Stockton International Riverside Festival with **Quick! 2007** and a specially commissioned performance at Stonehenge as part of Salisbury International Festival 2009.



## Nina Rajarani MBE

Nina Rajarani trained in Bharatanatyam with Prakash Yadagudde at Bhavan, Chitra Visweswaran of Chennai and with Shanta and VP Dhananjayan in Chennai and in Karnatic vocal music under Sivasakti Sivanesan and Karpagam Balasubramanian.

As Artistic Director of Srishti, Nina has created dance productions since 1992, and together with vocalist/composer husband Y Yadavan since 2002. The work has been performed extensively within the UK, in many European cities, in India, Morocco, Singapore, Malaysia, Australia, the US and Canada. In 2006, Nina won the Place Prize with **QUICK!**, Europe's largest choreographic competition.

Nina is equally at home working with readable western characters and traditional archetypes, and cleverly weaves sophisticated forms of dance with recognisable narratives and themes. A unique trait of Nina's work is how Srishti musicians and dancers are choreographed together so that they are all characters in the story. This strikes a collective chord within the ensemble and further transforms the audience experience.

Nina is renowned as a teacher and has a thriving school of dance and music based at the Harrow Arts Centre. She has been closely involved in devising the syllabus for Bharatanatyam with graded examinations by the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing (ISTD). Nina is a founder committee member of the ISTD's Classical Indian Dance Faculty, was the Secretary of the Faculty for 15 years, has been a senior examiner for 20 years and served as its Vice Chair.

Nina Rajarani was awarded an MBE in the Queen's 2009 Birthday Honours, in recognition of her Services to South Asian Dance.

## BOOKING DETAILS

Available for touring	2022
No. of performers:	8 Performers
Total no. on the road:	10
Performance space:	Minimum 8m x 8m covered in professional dance lino
Outline Technical requirements:	Sound system with four radio microphones.
Technical staff required:	1 technician to set up and operate sound (live music)
Running time:	20-30 minutes t.b.c
Extract of original version of Jham!:	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zKWr_hvhlyw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zKWr_hvhlyw</a>
Fee:	£3100 for two performances on one day; £4400 for four performances on two days (two per day) plus travel, per diem/catering and accommodation.
Wraparound:	activity ranges from one off workshops in school and community settings to longer projects.
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[www.stdma.com](http://www.stdma.com)

[www.srishti.co.uk](http://www.srishti.co.uk)