



Sarah Trist  
Dance Management Agency

# Bells, Beats and Banter



**Fast-paced classical Indian dance  
for outdoor settings**

***“Bells Beats and Banter was one of the highlights of ANHAD festival this year. I decided to repeat programme Srishti because I knew that it had the best of the professional artists, ensemble, divine music, quirky choreography and an accessible pleasing format for outdoor audiences. They did not disappoint us!” Mira Kaushik***

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

**Rajarani's** new fast-paced outdoor piece for four dancers and three musicians, **Bells, Beats and Banter** is the choreographic equivalent of modern day dating apps and attitude, with exciting dynamics and coquettish cross rhythms that reveal all the fun and freedom of youth. **Bells, Beats and Banter** has a light-hearted feel, with an emphasis on entertaining audiences.









## 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 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 Secretary of the Faculty for 15 years and later Vice Chair, has is now lead examiner for ISTD's Bharatanatyam vocational and teaching qualifications.

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           | 2024  |
| No. of performers:              | 7 Performers  |
| Total no. on the road:          | 9   |
| Performance space:              | Minimum 8m x 8m covered in <a href="#">professional white dance lino</a> (black has potential to heat up on hot days and burn bare feet)  |
| Outline Technical requirements: | Sound system required with radio microphones as follows:<br>2 x hand held (cordless) vocal mics<br>1 radio mic (clip on) for flute<br>2 mics on short stands for percussion (tabla)<br>1 mic on short stand to amplify drone box    |
| Technical staff required:       | 1 technician to set up PA for live music. Company tours its own sound engineer  |
| Running time:                   | 20-25 minutes   |
| Trailer:                        | <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=36vncniJ0z0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=36vncniJ0z0</a>   |
| Full length performance:        | <a href="https://youtu.be/wHelmHz_zxs">https://youtu.be/wHelmHz_zxs</a>   |
| Fee:                            | £3500 for one day; £4950 for two days (maximum two shows per day) plus travel, per diem and hotel accommodation.  |
| Wraparound:                     | activity ranges from one off workshops in school and community settings to longer projects.   |
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