



Sarah Trist
Dance Management Agency

PLAY BALL



Bend It

Three Srishti classics touring
in Spring and Autumn 2026

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

Nina Rajarani is an award-winning choreographer of classical Indian dance with almost 35 years’ experience as a dance-maker. She fuels traditions of Bharatanatyam and Kathak with a love of storytelling and a firm desire to reflect contemporary life in her productions. With her performing company **Srishti – Nina Rajarani Dance Creations**, she 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.



Play Ball is an evening of three of **Srishti**’s most well known works performed by four classical Indian dancers and four classical Indian musicians. All created between 2005 and 2008, these classic originals are to be re-gendered with updated content to reflect today’s society.

Kadala...Is it love? opens the evening, portraying a woman in love and doubting her absent lover's commitment. **Nina Rajarani** will adapt the original work to reflect a new age of "love", exploring ingredients necessary to play ball when loyalty and fidelity are questionable. [Excerpts from original version](#)





Bend it... is a fun-filled ensemble piece with dancers and musicians as players on the field. With women's football competing for equal status with the men's game, **Srishti** will use an all-female cast of dancers to re-imagine *Bend it...* for the modern age. [Excerpts from production, 2019.](#)





QUICK! – the piece that won Nina Rajarani the Place Prize in 2006 - concludes the evening. The piece was originally performed by an all-male cast, portraying a fast-paced corporate world. With more women heading the financial world and technology altering the face of the workplace, the reworked version of *QUICK!* addresses the shift in gender expectation and use of artificial intelligence. [Excerpts from production, 2019.](#)



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 Karnatik 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 company's 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 sponsored by Bloomberg.

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 over 25 years and previously served as the Faculty's Vice Chair. She is now the ISTD's Lead Examiner for Bharatanatyam vocational and teaching qualifications. Her role involves training examiners, devising and revising syllabi and mentoring teachers.

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	Spring and Autumn 2026
No. of performers:	9 Performers
Total no. on the road:	10 - 11
Min. stage area:	Ideally 10m x 8m depth
Get-in:	Get in on the day of the first performance (lighting pre-rigged if possible)
Outline Technical requirements:	See separate tech. spec.
Technical staff required:	2 theatre technicians to set up and operate sound (live music) and lighting alongside company's touring Tech team
Running time:	Total 90 minutes Kadala (30 minutes) Interval Bendi it... (25 minutes) QUICK! (15 minutes)
Fee:	£2000 inclusive of travel and accommodation
Wraparound:	activity ranges from one off workshops in school and community settings to longer projects culminating in curtain raiser performances.
Contact:	Sarah Trist @ Sarah Trist Dance Management Agency 07757 654790 sarah@stdma.com

www.stdma.com
www.srishti.co.uk

