

Bend It...



**Soccer-themed performance
for outdoor settings**

"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 OBE

Artistic Director of **Srishti**, **Nina Rajarani MBE** is an award-winning choreographer of classical Indian dance with 35 years' experience as a dance-maker. She fuels traditions of Bharatanatyam and Kathak with contemporary artistic practice and ideas.

Rajarani's fast-paced piece for four dancers and four musicians, **Bend It...** has been adapted for outdoor settings to co-incide with the FIFA World Cup in 2026. With exciting dynamics and female dancers centre stage, this is a fun-filled ensemble piece about the beautiful game, featuring rhythm and rivalry with complex footwork and vibrant energy, a light-hearted feel and an emphasis on entertaining audiences.





India Tour of Play Ball 2025 that featured Bend It...

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 Sivasakthi 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. Her 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, and 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	on request
No. of performers:	8 Performers
Total no. on the road:	10
Performance space:	Minimum 8m x 8m covered in professional white dance lino (black has potential to heat up on hot days and burn bare feet)
Outline Technical requirements:	Sound system required to play a backing track with which 4 musicians perform live with radio microphones as follows: 1 radio mic (clip on) for vocals 1 radio mic (clip on) for flute 1 radio mic (clip on) for percussion 1 radio mic (clip on) for electric violin (he brings his own amplification system) 1 mic on short stand to amplify drone box
Technical staff required:	1 technician to set up PA for the backing track and live music. Company tours its own sound engineer
Running time:	25 minutes
Full length performance:	available from April 2026
Fee:	£3500 for one day; £4950 for two days (maximum two shows per day) plus travel, per diems and hotel accommodation where needed for 10 people.
Wraparound:	Fee includes Bend iT Jam, 45 minutes' public participation in an Indian dance routine taught on stage by the cast and accompanied by the musicians, performing live. Everyone welcome
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www.stdma.com www.srishti.co.uk