

## The story of Karna as a stage show or rather, a spectacle... "KARNA; WARRIOR OF THE SUN"

*There will be 10 shows over 10 days at Siri Fort Auditorium (main audi) starting 25th July to 3rd Aug 08. KARNA; WARRIOR OF THE SUN. The auditorium has a seating capacity of 1500 per show. The play is translated into Hindi by the well known playwright Ranjit Kapoor & is directed by Rudradeep Chakravarti who directed City of Jinns, based on William Darympyle's book by the same name.*

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The Mahabharata has been a repository of a vast number of stories portraying the endless range of human emotions of intrigue, guile, jealousy, love and also of a great sense of the play of destiny in human life, bringing forth a deeper & higher philosophy through the rendition of the Gita. Many characters hold sway in this great epic but the most poignant, dramatic persona that comes across is that of Karna, born the son of a god but destined to be brought up as one of a low caste charioteer.

The production is of the story of Karna as a stage show or rather, a spectacle. The story written by Farukh Dhondy (writer of Bandit Queen & Mangal Pandey) captures Karna's conflict to seek his destiny as a warrior, his battle against his social stature, his quest for honour and how circumstances & inescapable fate make him probably the most courageous & admirable character of the Mahabharata.

The story is embellished and enhances with meticulously crafted digital imagery, choreography, music & martial art. The narrative ends with the final discovery by the Pandavas that Karna was in reality their oldest brother & their shared angst and tragedy at this discovery.

The endeavour is to bring to our audiences theatre in its full glory. The effort also aims to bring within the fold the multitude of youngsters by presenting to them an epic in a language & format that they can identify with & relate to. Therefore for the first time in India, C.G.I (computer generated images) with live action is brought together on stage. The wonder & fantasy of Indralok will be brought alive with live choreography.

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