

## FACT SHEET

# **A NICE INDIAN BOY**

By Madhuri Shekar

CAST (in order of appearance)	
Naveen Gavaskar	Carol Mazhuvancheril*
Keshav Kurundkar	Noah Israel* <sup>0</sup>
Megha Gavaskar	Lynette Rathnam*
Archit Gavaskar	Abhimanyu Katyal*
Arundhathi Rao	Jessica Jain*

#### UNDERSTUDIES

NAVEEN/ARCHIT – Shaan Sharma; KESHAV – Taylor Witt; MEGHA/ARUNDHATHI – Surasree Das

CREATIVE TEAM		
Director	Zi Alikhan	
Choreographer/Associate Director	Ambika Raina	
Scenic Designer	Frank Oliva	
Costume Designer	Danielle Preston	
Lighting Designer	Emma Deane	
Sound Designer	Kenny Neal	
Cultural Consultant	Shruthi Mukund	
Intimacy Choreographer	Mallory Shear	
Production Stage Manager	Hope Villanueva*	
Assistant Stage Manager	Conri Connell	

\*Member, Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States <sup>(b)</sup>Dance Captain

## PERFORMANCES

Previews: March 8 - 10, 2023 Invited Press Opening: Saturday, March 11, 2023 at 7:45 PM Through April 9, 2023

Regular performances are Wednesday - Saturday at 7:45 PM and matinees on Saturday and Sunday at 1:45 PM, and Wednesday at 1:45 PM on March 15.

There will be a **sign-interpreted performance on Thursday, March 30 at 7:45 PM** and an **audio-described performance for the blind and visually impaired on March 22 at 7:45 PM**. Audience members who wish to use these services should contact Weldon Brown, Director of Sales and Audience Experience (wbrown@olneytheatre.org) to confirm.

Tickets are available from \$54 - \$79 and can be purchased at olneytheatre.org or 301-924-3400. Discounts available for groups, seniors, military and students.

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Effective March 8, 2023, face masks are recommended but no longer required while inside the theatre.

As has been the policy since last spring, face masks are not required in lobby areas.

Policies and protocols are subject to change in compliance with national, state, and local public health guidelines regarding COVID-19. Olney Theatre Center has routinely utilized the latest available information and will continue to do so.

Proof of vaccination or a negative Covid test is no longer required.

## **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

## **BEHIND THE SCENES**

Opening Night Panel Discussion: Conversation Between Madhuri Shekar & Karen Zacarias Saturday, March 11 at 5:00 PM Mulitz-Gudelsky Theatre Lab

Acclaimed DC Playwright Karen Zacarías (Native Gardens and many more) interviews her friend and colleague Madhuri Shekar, author of A Nice Indian Boy, in this special edition of Behind the Scenes. These two women playwrights, with cultural origins in India and Mexico, discuss writing stories of the diaspora and clashing cultures in America

## **COMMUNITY EVENTS** (continued)

## **BEYOND THE STAGE**

#### South Asian Author Story Time at Olney Library

Sunday, February 26, 2023 at 11:00 AM Free with no RSVP Required

Location: Olney Public Library 3500 Olney Laytonsville Rd, Olney, MD 20832

As part of our celebration of *A Nice Indian Boy*, we're sponsoring a morning of stories at the Olney Public Library hosted by Ryanna Quazi. This is a free family event appropriate for all ages, especially toddlers, preschoolers, and young children.

#### Not Your Aunty's Singles Mixer Thursday, March 23, 2023 at 6:00 PM

\$40 including a ticket to A Nice Indian Boy Actors Hall

Vijai is one of the leading Indian American female comedians making people laugh across America and internationally too. Vijai grew up as a "foreigner" (or at least that's what everyone called her) in the suburbs of Washington D.C. where she was born. Her material comes from her experience as an Indian girl in America - raising two immigrant parents, dating boys with mothers who wished their sons could find a nice blonde girl named "Tiffany," and the universal quest for love, understanding and a good pair of undies.

#### How To Dance Bhangra at an Indian Wedding Saturday, March 25, 2023 at 6:45 PM

Free with RSVP Omi's Pavilion

Join professional dancer and dance teacher Payal Makhijani for a bhangra class, so you'll be ready to hit the dance floor at the next Indian wedding you attend! In this introduction to bhangra, he will teach a 30-second, fun routine to a punjabi song. No dance experience is needed, all levels and ages are welcome. Be ready to break a sweat!

#### South Asian Film Festival Sunday, March 26 at 4:00 PM \$5

1938 Original Theatre

Hosted in partnership with DC South Asian Arts Council Inc, a non profit 501 (c) (3) organization and the Washington DC South Asian Film Festival (DCSAFF) which is one of the most celebrated screen events on the Washington, D.C. cultural calendar. The festival takes place annually in the heart of America's capital, showcasing the best in alternative cinema from India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Maldives, and Tibet.

#### How to Dance (Bollywood-Style) at an Indian Wedding

### Friday, March 31, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Free with RSVP Location: Great Hall, Silver Spring Civic Building (One Veterans Plaza, Silver Spring, MD 20910)

Featured event at Silver Spring Town Center Inc.'s Around the World Bazaar. Join The SAPAN Institute for a dance class where you will learn easy and fun steps to use on the dance floor at the next Indian wedding you attend! We will be going through dance steps to popular songs that you will hear at any Indian wedding. No dance experience needed, all levels and ages welcome!

#### South Asian Bookstore Pop-Up: Kahini Books Saturday, April 1, 2023 at 4:00 PM

Free, No RSVP Required Mulitz-Gudelsky Theatre Lab

Ryanna Quazi is the owner of Kahini Books, a South Asianfocused pop-up bookstore based in Washington D.C. Kahini Books has popped up at some of the biggest festivals in the DMV area and has been featured in Washingtonian Magazine.

## **ABOUT OLNEY THEATRE CENTER**

### Mission

Olney Theatre Center for the Arts produces and curates theatrical performance for the diverse audiences in our community, and educates, learns from, supports and inspires a more inclusive generation of theater-makers.

## Vision

We strive to become an arts and culture powerhouse, redefining the American regional theater movement by cultivating and sharing the creativity of our community.

## History

Founded in 1938 as a summer playhouse, Olney Theatre Center (OTC) now produces world and American premieres of plays and musicals, and reimaginings of familiar titles year-round; presents the work of leading companies and artists; tours nationally and locally; teaches students of all ages; and mentors a more inclusive generation of theatremakers. For more than 8 decades, OTC has brought impactful theater performance and education to our community, helping to grow the vibrancy and vitality of our home in the Washington, DC region.

Over the years, some of the biggest names in theater and film have appeared on our stages, including Tallulah Bankhead, Helen Hayes, Jessica Tandy, Hume Cronyn, Bob Fosse, Phillip Bosco, Eve Arden, Eva Gabor, Burl Ives, Jose Ferrer, Carol Channing, Olivia d'Havilland, Tony Randall, Paulette Goddard, Dorothy and Lillian Gish, Jane Seymour, Anne Revere, Frances Sternhagen, Arthur Treacher, James Broderick, Olympia Dukakis, Sir Ian McKellen, Marica Gay Harden, John Colicos, Uzo Aduba, Alan Cumming, Cheyenne Jackson, Robin de Jesus, Wilson Jermaine Heredia, among many, many others.

Olney Theatre is now the cultural anchor of a rapidly changing region and serves one of the most diverse, best educated, and wealthiest counties in the country. Situated on the unceded land of the Piscataway-Conoy people, the Olney area was once a rural farming community with a unique Quaker heritage. Now the area is occupied by every kind of family that makes up 21st Century America, along with major corporations, shopping districts, civic associations, non profit organizations and a diverse collection of houses of worship. Montgomery County's 1 million residents play a dynamic role in the Baltimore-Washington corridor, and are a driving force behind the region's creative economy.

As of September 2021, Olney Theatre Center employed 40 full time staff, 20 part-time positions, 26 early career apprentices and players, and more than 400 professional artists. The Theatre intends to continue expanding to better meet the needs of our community.

For more information, please visit olneytheatre.org/history

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