

# Indradhanush

Cultural Extravaganza of

10th Anjali National Children's Festival 2011

Organized by





# INDRADHANUSH

As part of the 10th year of celebrations, Anjali National Children's Festival featured its first disability cultural festival, Indradhanush. Artists with disabilities, professionals with a pan Indian and global performances to their acclaim, performed. The festival aspires to advance a creative vision of social equality that embraces the difference of disability rather than normalizing it or rendering it invisible within mainstream society. The dream is for the festival to emerge as a unique annual event to serve as a platform for dancers, musicians, theater artists, fine artists, writers, poets from across the world who have a disability, to share their cultural heritage and thrill audience with the triumph of mind over body.

*Disability is not a 'brave struggle' or 'courage in the face of adversity'.  
Disability is an art. It's an ingenious way to live.*





# INCLUSIVE JUGALBANDI

Musicians with visual impairment and those without came together for the first time in an effort by Swabhiman. The evening began with a rendition of the melodious Hamsadhvani raga. The singer was accompanied by visually impaired flutist Jagat Ranjan Patnaik. The spectacular jugalbandi of the flutist, the tabla player and the singer left the audience wanting more.

*Amazingly, the powerful voice and the melodious flute melded seamlessly; the power and poignancy came together beautifully. The mutual admiration between the artists was palpable.*







# SHYAMBAZAR ANNYADESH

## Kolkata

Raktakarabi, a musical based on a play written by Rabindranath Tagore, with dialogues and vocals in true operatic style was performed by artists of Shyambazar Annyadesh. The performance was a saga in aesthetic courage and human resilience - nearly all the performers were visually challenged.

*Subhasish Gangopadhyay's vision of Raktakarabi came closest to matching Tagore's revolutionary stagecraft. ...it could become for this generation what Sombhu Mitra did for his a half-century ago.*





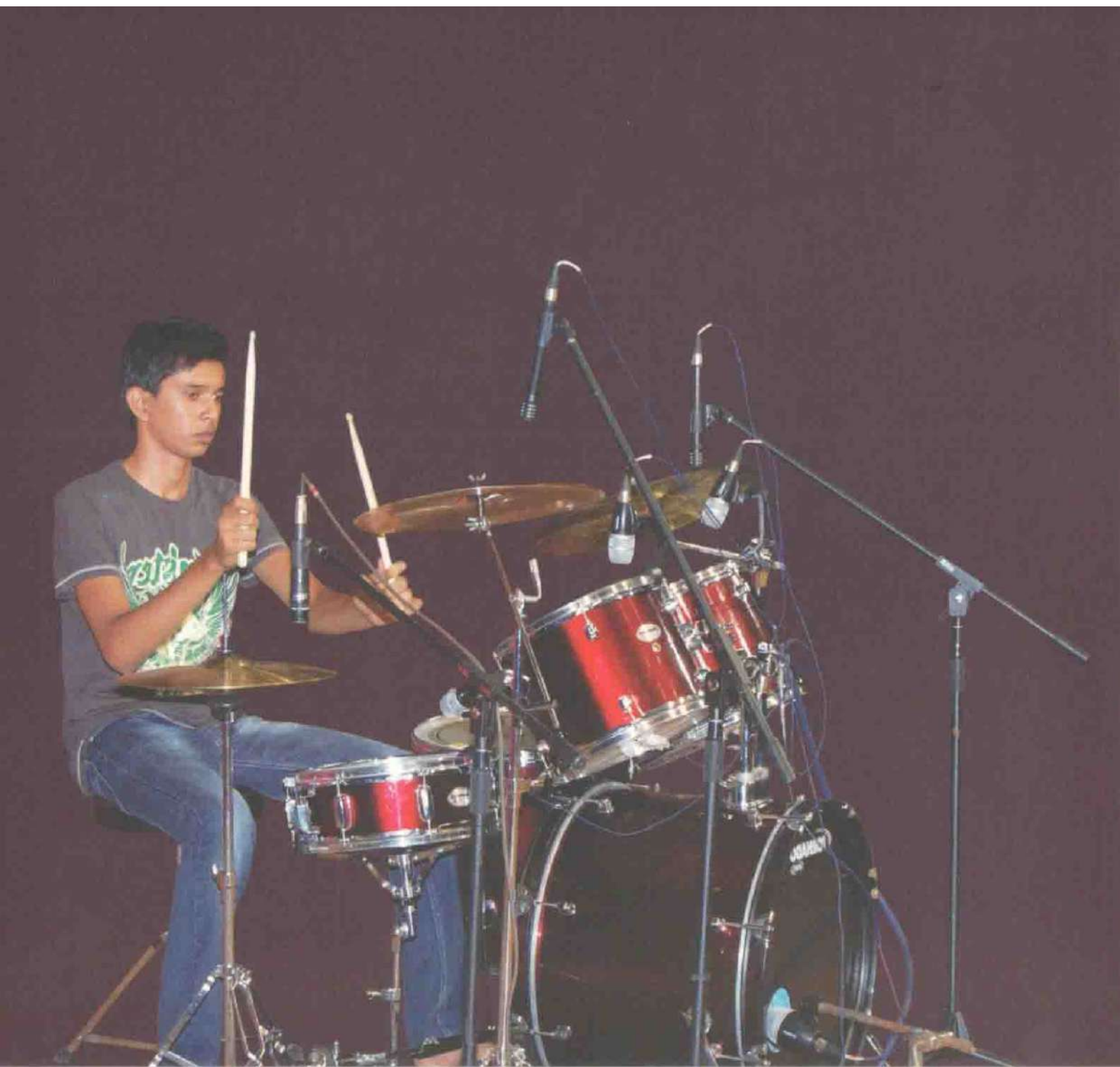
# ARTICULATE

## Bengaluru

No sight, yet graceful and coordinated were the dancers from Bengaluru. It was the gift of the inner vision that led to a flawless Bharatnatyam presentation. Guru Mysore B. Nagraj employs 'touch and feel method' to teach his students, 15 of whom performed. The group has over 1000 stage performances in India and abroad to their glory.

*Then there was a performance where the artist's ability to sustain a repose and tranquility through an unhurried tempo, while bringing out the emotional depths was transcendental.*







# HARIHAR DEO

## Dancer and Comedian

A past scholar of Anjali, Harihar uses his arm stubs to drive, cook, eat and perform other duties that one would be expected to do with their hands. Although he has lived with the disability, he has not allowed it to stand between him and his goals. Has won many awards.

*Even if I was to get arms now, I do not know what I would do with them,"  
says Harihar, a dancer, a comedian and who was born without hands.*





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