



THE KIMMEL CENTER  
ACADEMY OF MUSIC  
MERRIAM THEATER

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@KimmelCenter will explode with sounds of India and Bollywood when vibrant musical sensation “Taj Express: The Bollywood Musical Revue” takes the Merriam Theater stage on 11/14. More Info @Kimmelcenter.org

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**KIMMEL CENTER CULTURAL CAMPUS PRESENTS  
DAZZLING INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL SENSATION  
*TAJ EXPRESS: THE BOLLYWOOD MUSICAL REVUE*  
AT THE MERRIAM THEATER  
NOVEMBER 14, 2019**

**“...the show is a spectacle of light, colour and sound that entertains and entralls right through...”**

**- *London Theatre***

**“...a stage full of dancers, dazzling costumes and quick changes that never fail to amaze...”**

**- *Theater Full Stop***

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** (Philadelphia, PA, October 9, 2019) – The Kimmel Center Cultural Campus presents the dazzling international sensation, ***Taj Express: The Bollywood Musical Revue***, to the Merriam Theater on Thursday, November 14, 2019 at 8:00 p.m. Through a fusion of film, dance, and music, this high-energy production explodes with the sounds of India and Bollywood, capturing the vibrant expressive spirit of the Bollywood movies that have been entertaining billions of people in India for generations.

“The Kimmel Center Cultural Campus’ mission is to engage the region’s diverse communities with art through performance and education, a mission inclusive of the myriad of art forms that flourish

internationally,” said Anne Ewers, President and CEO of the Kimmel Center. “This acclaimed, galvanizing production combines a spectrum of art forms – including film, dance, and live music – in a culturally-lavish musical extravaganza!”

*Taj Express: The Bollywood Musical Revue* is an energetic celebration of new India’s pop music, Bollywood culture, and deep traditions, featuring colorful costumes, joyful dance, and thrilling live music. The revue follows the story of one man’s passion and another man’s genius. Young composer Shankar struggles with his music, and it is only when he begins to follow in the footsteps of his idol A.R. Rahman that he discovers his path to success.

The production reveals the secrets of the world’s most prolific industry and the people behind the screen who make the magic in India’s factory of dreams. *Taj Express* rhythmically blends explosive dance with the hits of India’s most iconic composers and is performed by the stars of Bollywood cinema and its greatest musicians, live on stage.

Director Shruti Merchant aims to immerse the audiences in the heart of contemporary Bollywood in a way that that has never been seen before.

The production features choreography by one of Bollywood’s top young choreographers, Vaibhavi Merchant. Merchant has been the director of choreography for over 75 Bollywood films and has received numerous awards including National Award for Choreography, IIFA, and the American Choreography Award.

The soundtrack features songs by Academy Award® Winner A.R. Rahman – described by *TIME* as one of the world’s most prolific film composers. Rahman has won two Academy® Awards, two Grammy® Awards, a BAFTA, Golden Globe, and four National Film Awards, among others. His extensive body of work across film and stage has earned him the nickname “The Mozart of Madras” and a spot on *TIME*’s “World’s Most Influential People” list.

Other featured upcoming performances at the Kimmel Center Cultural Campus include: **Dena Blizzard: *One Funny Mother*** (October 19, 2019, Perelman Theater), **The Kingdom Choir** (November 1, 2019, Merriam Theater), and ***An Evening with Sutton Foster*** (November 2, 2019, Merriam Theater)

***TAJ EXPRESS: THE BOLLYWOOD MUSICAL REVUE***  
**Kimmel Center Cultural Campus’ Merriam Theater**  
*November 14, 2019, 8:00 p.m.*

#### **Tickets**

Tickets are on sale now starting at \$39.00. Tickets can be purchased by calling 215-893-1999, online at [www.kimmelcenter.org](http://www.kimmelcenter.org), or at the Kimmel Center Box Office. Group sales are available for groups of 10 or more and can be purchased by calling 215-790-5883. See [www.kimmelcenter.org](http://www.kimmelcenter.org) for more information.

#### **The Kimmel Center Cultural Campus**

Located in the heart of Center City, Philadelphia, our mission is to engage the region’s diverse communities with art through performance and education. Our Cultural Campus serves more than 1 million guests per year and includes the **Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts**, the **Academy of Music**, and the **Merriam Theater**- representing more than 160 years of rich history for the performing arts

along Philadelphia's Avenue of the Arts. We are home to eight esteemed Resident Companies: **The Philadelphia Orchestra, Opera Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Ballet, The Philly POPS, PHILADANCO, The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, The Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, and Curtis Institute of Music.** With nearly 9,000 seats per night, we are the region's most impactful performing arts center, and the second largest in the country. Our Cultural Campus serves as a preeminent and inclusive place to enjoy exceptional experiences that reflect the spirit of our region by cultivating a creative and socially-responsible environment where our community shares experiences that are delivered with pride, integrity, and respect. As a 501 c 3 nonprofit organization, we collaborate on, present, and produce a broad range of relevant and meaningful events, we serve as an active gathering space for social and community events, we educate the region's young people through access to quality arts experiences, and we provide support to artists in the creation of new work. TD Bank, America's Most Convenient Bank, is our proud sponsor of the Kimmel Center's 2019-2020 Season. American Airlines is the official airline of Broadway Philadelphia. For additional information, visit [www.kimmelcenter.org](http://www.kimmelcenter.org).

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For photography, please visit <https://kcpres.smugmug.com/>