

Baala Mayabazaar

Director: Surabhi Jayachandra Varma Rekandar

Group: Surabhi Theatre Sri Vijaya Bharathi Natya Mandali, Telangana

Language: Telugu

Duration: 1 hr 45 mins

About the Group

Surabhi Theatre is a family based traditional theatre company which has existed for 133 years. It started in 1885 in Surabhi village, Kadapa District. The founders of Surabhi are Sri Vanarasa Govinda Rao and Sri Chinnaramaiah Garu. Surabhi is a rare institution that leads a nomadic life and performs in different villages. Most of its plays are a compendium from Indian epics and mythology like *Ramayana*, *Mahabharata* and *Bhagavata*. The organisation has given performances in national and international theatre festivals. Surabhi Theatre was invited by Passages 2013 Festival for 13 performances in the cities of Metz and Paris in France.

About the Play

This epic drama deals with the love story of Lord Krishna's elder brother Balarama's daughter Seshirekha, and his sister Subhadra's son Abhimanyu. Balarama is keen to marry his daughter to his nephew Abhimanyu, but his wife comes under the influence of Narada and plans her daughter's marriage with Duryodhana's son Lakshman Kumar. Owing to the pressure from his wife Balaram rejects the proposal to marry his daughter with Abhimanyu.

Dejected Abhimanyu along with his mother Subhadra goes to meet his father Arjun in Agnathavasa. While walking in the forest they come across Ghatodgaja, son of Bheema and Hidenbe. Ghatodgaja invites Abhimanyu for a fight, but due to Subhadra's interference Ghatodgaja comes to know that Abhimanyu is his brother. He takes both of them to his house. Ghatodgaja comes to know of the love story of Abhimanyu and Seshirekha, and also the helplessness of Balarama. Ghatodgaja takes an oath to get them married. He goes to Dwarka and meets Krishna begging him for his assistance. He kidnaps Seshirekha and hands her over to Subhadra, and then disguises himself as Seshirekha and marries Duryodhana's son Lakshman Kumar. On the behest of Krishna Balarama goes to meet Ghatodgaja and renders his apologies to Abhimanyu, Subhadra, Seshirekha and Ghatodgaja. Later on he performs the marriage of his daughter Seshirekha to Abhimanyu.