

Ukhaanu

Writer & Director: Arpita Dhagat

Group: Astitva Art Foundation, Ahmedabad

Language: Gujarati, Hindi, English, Marathi, Sanskrit

Duration: 1hr 5mins

About the Group

Astitva Art Foundation is Navin Dhagat's vision and was formed in 2002. It has been active since then in the field of fine arts, and from 2010 onwards in performing arts. Astitva Art Foundation is a long term commitment in art education and inter-disciplinary art work for children, and it looks at art as the principle agent for an inclusive society. AAF is a group of multi-disciplinary artists coming together and working in the field of theatre and visual arts. The group has also worked as a theatre consultant for MGIS (Mahatma Gandhi International School) in Ahmedabad. It has done 21 productions and many shows, along with 2 art residencies and many art workshops in Ahmedabad.

About the Play

The characters of the story book called *Alice in wonderland* are sleeping along with Alice in a completely empty white space as though in a dreamless sleep. Suddenly Alice gets up in her sleep – a dream – an imagination. She starts drawing a defining line around these characters. As she draws this line, they slowly start waking up. They all have their ways of understanding this space called dream. They all have their very own kind of relationship with this girl in whose dream they are. They have their ways of narrating this relationship with Alice. They have a unique understanding of the dream that is being formed by them and the others (the audience) who are in it. It is an exciting, engaging and interactive journey of riddles, rhymes, stories, poem, games, and recipes of dreams and drawing. We dream a life by living it and live a dream by being in it - both are simultaneous processes just like we create a space and performance by engaging and involving the audience.