

**History
in the
making!**

Dhauri Review Trust

proudly presents

In association with



**A national two-day discourse on
ABHINAYA: Wisdom & Reflections**

on

17th & 18th August, 2024

at

ASBM University, Bhubaneswar.

Programme Schedule

17.08.2024

- 11.00 am: Welcome address by **Manu Dash**.
Inauguration of the conference by
Prof. (Dr.) Biswajeet Pattanayak (President, ASBM University)
- 11.15 - 11.45 am: Release of the book, *Queen of Hearts & Ace of Spades* (original Odia play, Nalipan Rani & Kalapan Tika by Biswajit Das and English translation by Samanjasa Das) by the Guests.
Keynote speaker : **Dr. Mohan Agashe**
The Changing Face of Contemporary Theatre

Morning session will be chaired by Manu Dash

Speakers :

- 11.45 - 12.15 pm: **M.K Raina** , *Traditional Space and Contemporary Theatre*
12.15 - 12.45 pm: **Rajeev Naik**, *Playwright's Expectation from Actors*
12.45 - 1.15 pm: **Udayan Vajpeyi**, *Ontology of Abhinaya*
1.15 - 2.30 pm: Lunch Break

Afternoon session will be chaired by Dr. Sanghamitra Mishra

Speakers :

- 2.30 - 3.00 pm: **Abhilash Pillai**, *Indian Circus and Theatre*
3.00 - 3.30 pm: **Satyabrata Rout**, *Actor as Scenography : Performing the Space*
3.30 - 4.00 pm: **Samanjasa Das**, *Scope of Abhinaya in Theatre*
4.00 - 5.00 pm: Discussions and question answering session is opened to the gallery

18.08.2024

Morning session will be chaired by Udayan Vajpeyi

Speakers :

- 10.30 - 10.45 am: **Udayan Vajpeyi**
10.45 - 11.15 am: **Dr. Sanghamitra Mishra**, *Biswajit Dasanka Natakara Biswa*
(The Universe of Biswajit Das's Plays)
11.15 - 11.45 am: **Dr. Mohan Agashe**, *How I Am Learning Acting*
11.45 - 12 Noon: Tea Break
12 noon - 1.30 pm: **Panel Discussion**, There will be two panels

Panel-1 (12 noon - 12.45 pm)

- Topic: Role of Theatre in Education
Panellists : Dr. Mohan Agashe, Udayan Vajpeyi & Dr. Sanghamitra Mishra

Panel-2 (12.45 pm- 1.30 pm)

- Topic: Theatre and Society : Reflecting, Shaping and Challenging Norms
Panellists : M.K Raina, Abhilash Pillai, Rajeev Naik & Samanjasa Das

Closing speech and vote of thanks by Manu Dash

Session to be closed at 1.45 pm

1.30 - 2.30 pm : Lunch Break

Evening Activity 7 pm - 8.30 pm

Performance of the Play **Mrugaya (The Hunt)** in English

Venue : **Rabindra Mandap** | Original Odia play : **Biswajit Das** | English translation : **Samanjasa Das**

Direction : **Satyabrata Rout** | Production : **Dhauri Review Trust**

in association with **SPACE Academy**, Bhubaneswar

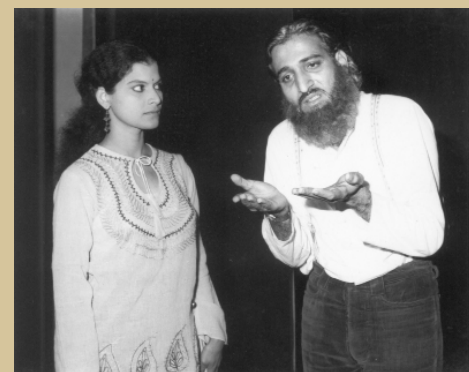
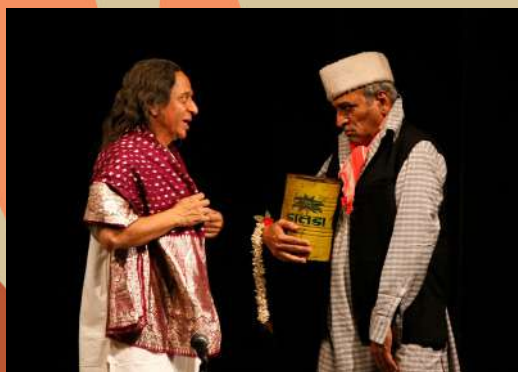
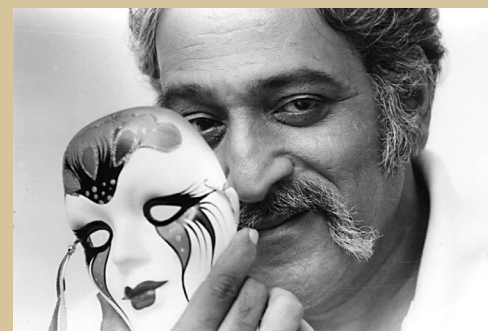
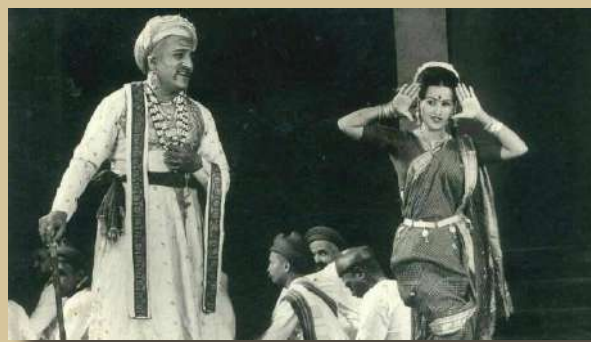


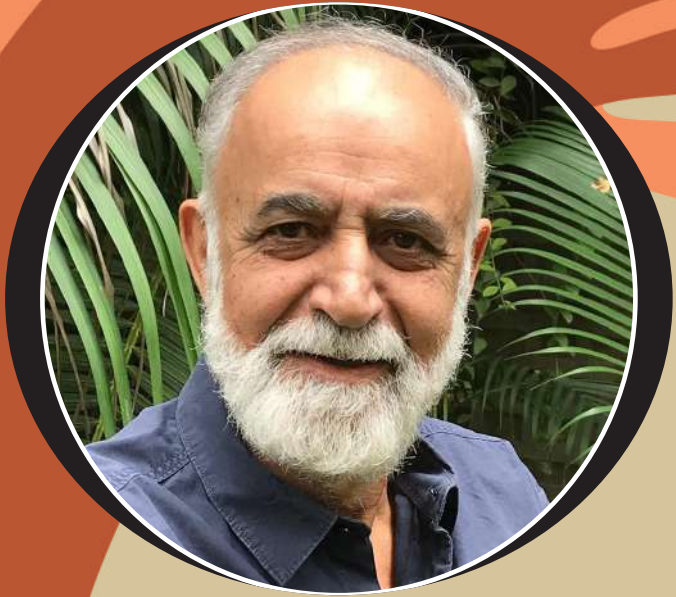
Dr. Mohan Agashe

Dr Mohan Agashe, in addition to being a Psychiatrist & Director-Professor of Maharashtra Institute of Mental Health(1991-97 & 2002-05), has been acknowledged as one of the finest actors on the stage and screen Beginning with an acting tour-de-force as the machiavellian Nana Phadnavis in Vijay Tendulkar's internationally acclaimed play Ghashiram Kotwal, Agashe went on to great heights in a succession of plays and award winning films by masters like Satyajit Ray, Mira Nair, Shyam Benegal, Gautam Ghose and Jabbar Patel.

Recipient of Prestigious 'Bundesverdienskrenz' (The Cross of Order of Merit) from the President of Federal Republic of Germany in 2002 and Sangeet Natak Academy Award for Theatre (Highest National Honour in Arts) in 1996, he was conferred 'Padma Shri' by President of India in 1990

In 1997 Dr. Agashe was invited to occupy the chair of Director of the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, where he continued till April 2002.



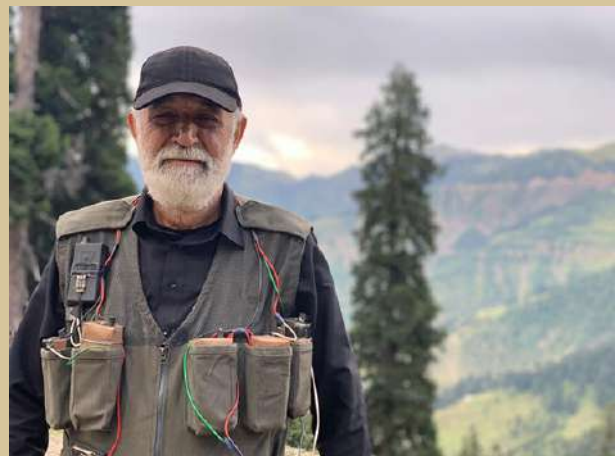
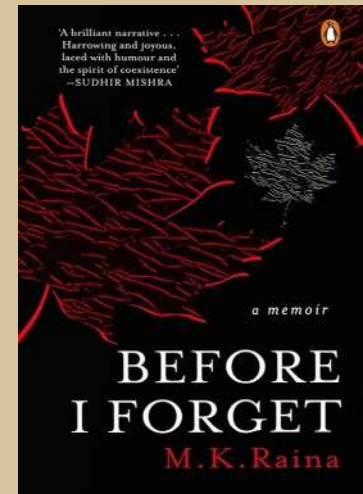


M K Raina

MK Raina is a well-known theatre luminary for over four decades. An actor on stage, films, television and web, he is also a director and filmmaker. He has worked extensively with urban and rural communities in South Asia and has been instrumental in reviving 'Thand Pather', the traditional folk theatre of Kashmir.

He has been a visiting faculty at National School of Drama, Central University Hyderabad; IIT Hyderabad, IIT Bhilai and University of Hawaii. Raina is a Fellow of Stanford University, USA and a Scholar-in-residence at Jamia Milia University, Delhi.

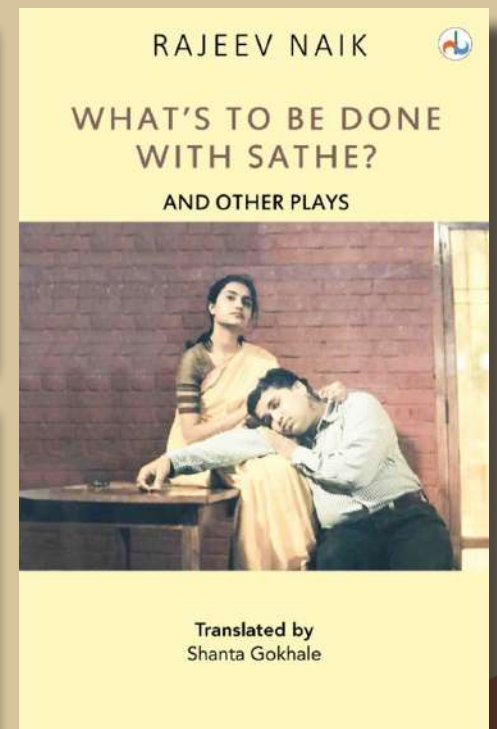
MK Raina is the recipient of the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award; the Sahitya Kala Parishad Samman; the Sanskriti Award; Hindi Academy Award; Badal Sircar Award and BV Karanth Lifetime Achievement Award. He is a well known social and cultural activist and the founder member of Safdar Hashmi Memorial Trust (SAHMAT), a trust formed to promote communal harmony and social equality. He is a trustee of South Asian Foundation, India; and Artistic Director of the theatre group Prayog.

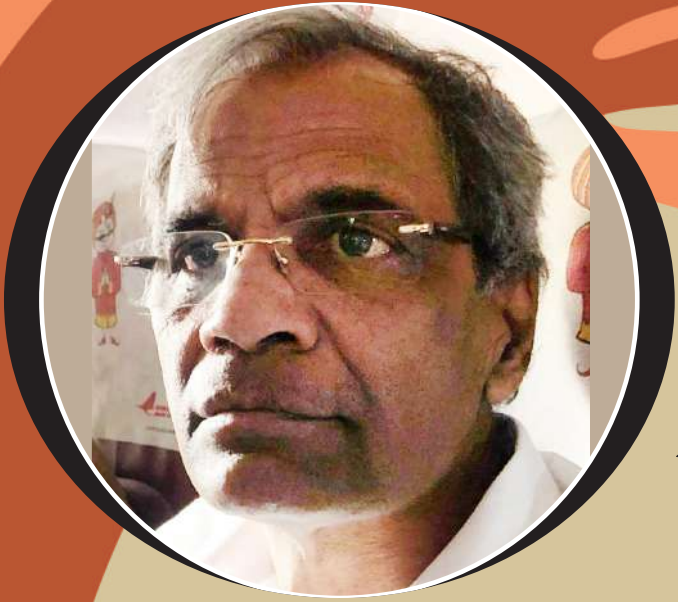




Rajeev Naik

Rajeev Naik (b. 1956) did his graduation in Philosophy, post-graduation in Linguistics and doctorate on 'Aesthetic Terms' from the Mumbai University. He has had a long association with Antarnaatya, a major theatre group of Maharashtra, and has taught linguistics, aesthetics and theatre studies at universities in Mumbai and Pune. He is a playwright, poet, short-story writer, translator, editor, printer and theorist. He has been a recipient of many fellowships and awards including the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for Playwriting for 2018. He writes in Marathi and lives in Mumbai.





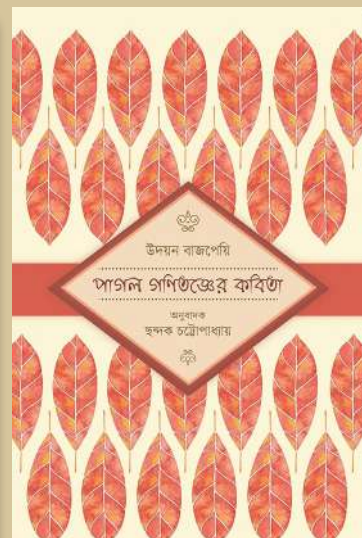
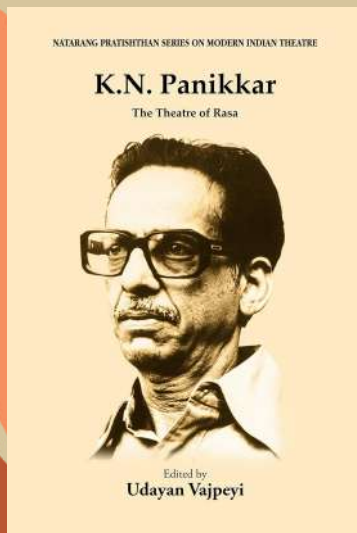
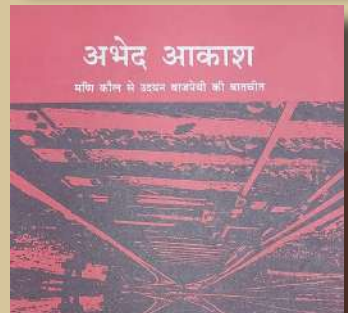
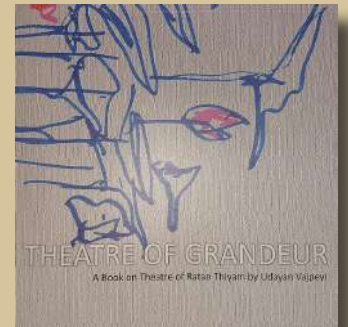
Udayan Vajpeyi

Has published five collections of poems including Kewal Kuchh Vakya and Wah, four collections of short-stories including the book of collected short stories Ret kinare ka ghar, three books of essays including Patjhar ke Paon ki Menhndi, a book on tribal painting and folk tales, Jangarh Kalam. Has written three plays for great theatre director, K.N. Panikkar and a book on his works, Theatre of Rasa. Has written a book on theatre director Ratan Thiyam. Has published book length conversations with film maker Mani Kaul, historian Dharampal, Philosopher Navjyoty Singh, Hindi poet Kamlesh, art historian B.N. Goswamy, filmmaker Kumar Shahani etc. Has recently published a novel, Qayaas. Poems, short stories and essays are translated into around 15 languages including French, Polish, English, Swedish, Odiya, Malayalam etc. Was writer-in-residence in Lavigny (Switzerland), Paris in 2003, and was Fellow at Nantes Institute of Advanced Studies (France) in 2011.

Has participated in various poetry festivals in India and abroad, including Biennale International de poetes in Val-de-Maurne (France) in 1997 and Kavita Shati (Century of Hindi poetry) in Bharat Bhavan, Bhopal) in 1999, in Marche de la poesie, Paris(2008), Vak (Festival of Indian Poetry in New Delhi) 2017, etc.

Has lectured on arts, literature and on Democratic Ethos in Varanasi, Bhubaneswar, Mumbai, Bhopal, Nagpur, New Delhi, Paris(France), Heidelberg(Germany), Kathmandu(Nepal), Moscow(Russia), etc.

Has written texts for many documentary films of many directors including Kumar Shahani, Nandan Kudiyadi, Ashmaki Acharya etc. Has written dialogues for Char Adhyaya (film based on Tagore's novel of the same name) directed by Kumar Shahani.

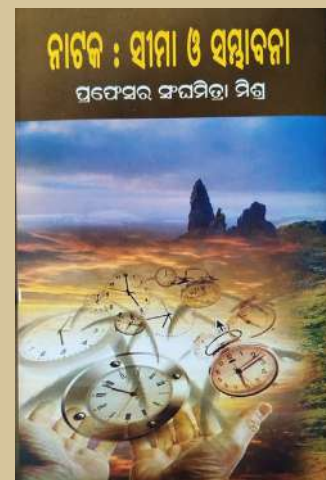
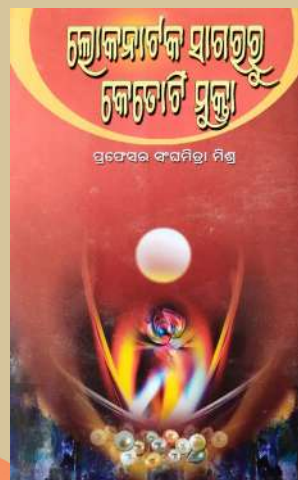
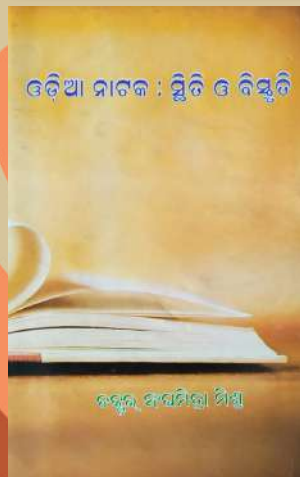
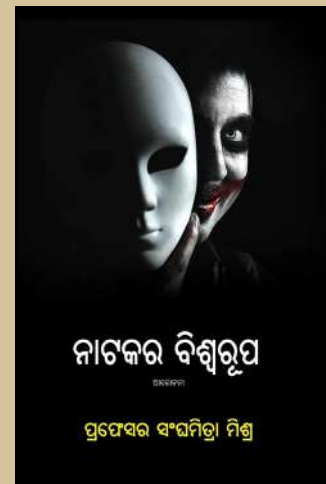
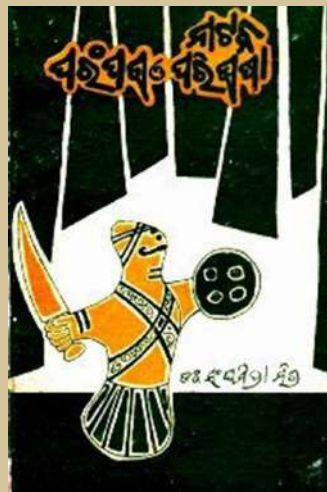




Dr. Sanghamitra Mishra

Dr. Sanghamitra Mishra (b.1953) earned her Post Graduate Diploma (1975), Ph.D. (1986) and D.Litt (1995). She was an academic (1977-2013) in various reputed colleges and PG Department of Odia, Utkal University. She has authored many books on Odia Plays and other genres. She has been felicitated by many institutions and organisations.

She served as a Member of Advisory Committee, Sahitya Academy, New Delhi (2002-2007). Eighteen scholars were awarded Ph.D. and one D.Litt under her guidance.





Dr. Abhilash Pillai

Abhilash Pillai is a distinguished play director, pedagogue, and scholar of contemporary Indian theatre. He has directed over 50 theatrical productions in various Indian and international languages and has contributed articles on theatre to leading publications in India and the UK. He has attended seminars, conducted workshops, and initiated the first-ever collaboration between the National School of Drama (NSD) and the Grand Circus, Kerala, resulting in the production *Clowns & Clouds*, for which he served as the artistic director. Pillai is recognised as a pioneer of digital theatre in modern Indian drama.

His works draw from a wide range of materials, from classical to contemporary plays, all conceived in a cutting-edge, present-day style. He is inspired by Indian classical and folk theatre and is involved in several international and national collaborations. Prof. Pillai strives to create a distinct visual and aural language for each production, imbuing them with social relevance and political thought. His theatre integrates elements of Indian classical and folk traditions with contemporary 20th and 21st-century Indian pop visuals, video, recorded sound, and other technological interventions. He employs new technologies to explore each subject, viewing theatre as an intersection of aesthetics and social science. He emphasises a methodology rooted in the five senses, as demonstrated in all his productions.

Pillai served as the Chief Technical Coordinator of Bharat Rang Mahotsav (BRM). Later, he was invited to the steering committee and then the advisory committee of BRM (International Theatre Festival of India). He has also served as the Curator/Artistic Director for National and International Theatre Festivals in Kerala since 2009.

He served as the Dean of Academics at NSD from 2008 to 2011. During this time, he initiated the first Student Exchange Programme with RADA, London. He was re-appointed as the Dean of Academics from 2019 to 2021. He is the senior-most Professor of Acting and Direction at NSD, New Delhi. Additionally, he was the executive director of the Asia Theatre Education Center (ATEC) at the Central Academy Of Drama, Beijing, China, between 2020 and 2021. Since 2022, he has been on deputation as the Director of the School of Drama and Fine Arts at the University of Calicut in Thrissur, Kerala. Additionally, he serves as the Dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts at the University of Kerala





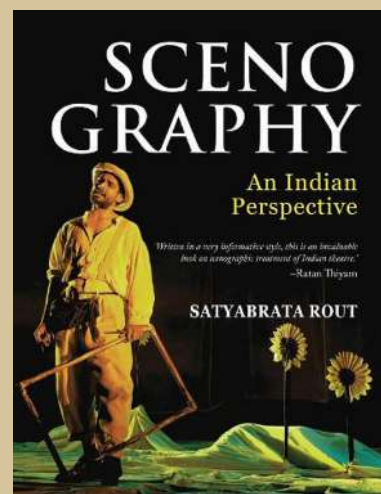
Satyabrata Rout

Professor Satyabrata Rout is a distinguished Indian scenographer, known for pioneering “*Indian Scenography*” and was the former Head at the Department of Theatre, University of Hyderabad. Rout has graduated from the National School of Drama, New Delhi, in 1983, specializing in Design and Direction, and further honed his scenography skills at various theatre institutions worldwide. He holds a Ph.D. on the works of legendary theatre directors B. V. Karanth and a D.Litt. (Doctor of Literature) on ‘New Direction Theories.’

Professor Rout has received numerous accolades for his contributions to design, direction, and writing, including the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award, B.V. Karanth Award, Mohan Rakesh Samman, Manohar Singh Samman, and the Oxford Art Book Award. In 2018-19, he was a visiting fellow at Central Michigan University, USA, under the Fulbright Fellowship.

An eminent academic and scholar, Prof. Rout has authored several significant books on contemporary Indian theatre, such as “*On the Crossroads of Theatre*” (a reference book) and “*Scenography: An Indian Perspective*” (a coursebook), along with plays like “*Tumhara Vincent*” (Hindi), “*The Last Man*” (Hindi), and “*Animal Farm*” (Odia).

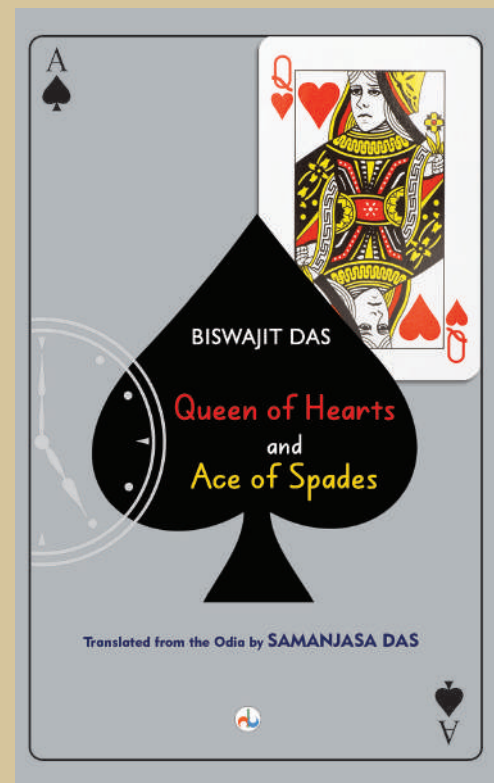
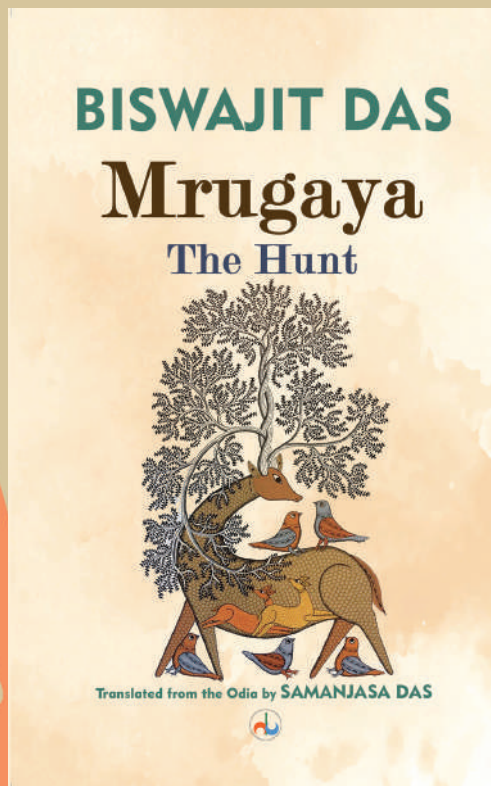
Currently, he leads the School of Performing Arts and Creative Expressions (SPACE) in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, an academy dedicated to training in acting, direction, and scenography.





Samanjasa Das

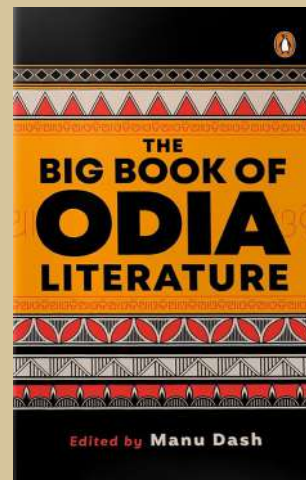
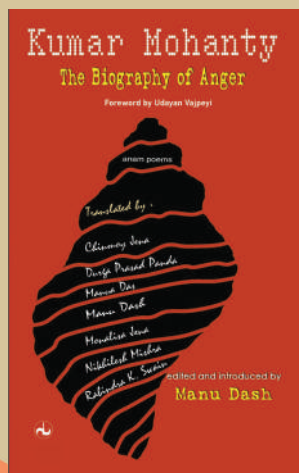
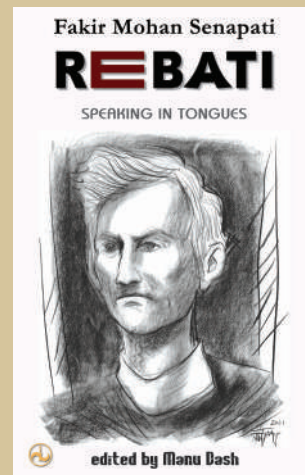
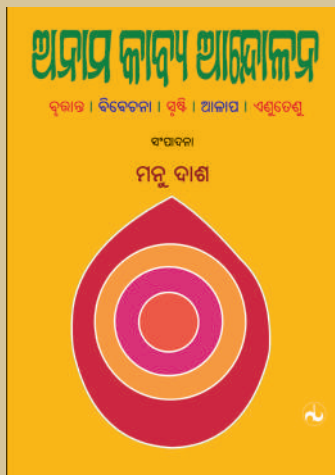
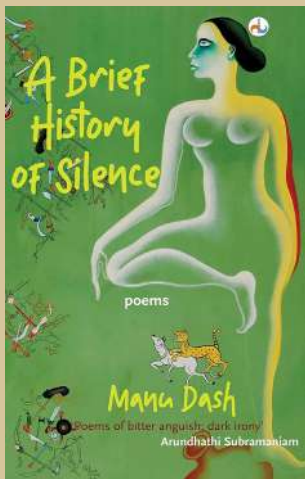
Samanjasa Das (b.1965) has translated some Odia literary work into English. He joined the Indian Revenue Service (Customs & Indirect Taxes) in 1990. He was awarded with the Presidential Certificate of Appreciation for Distinguished Record of Service, on the eve of Republic Day, 2006. He is currently posted as the Chief Commissioner of Delhi Customs Zone. Translation of acclaimed Odia play Mrugaya by Biswajit Das is his major work.





Manu Dash

Manu Dash (b. 1956) is a bilingual poet (*Kala Harina*, *A Brief History of Silence*), editor (*Rebati: Speaking in Tongues*, *Anam Kabya Andolan*), translator (*Bagha*, *Shakuntala*, *Mohan Das*), publisher (*Dhaulti Books*) and director (*Odisha Art & Literature Festival*). An author of almost thirty books, Dash joined the 'Anam Writers Movement' - an anti-establishment movement in Odia literature - shortly before the imposition of Emergency in India in 1975. He is the founder of *Dhaulti Books*, which won the prestigious Publishing Next Industry Award for the Best Printed Book of the Year (Indian Languages) in 2018. He is editing *anam*, an international journal for literature. He has recently edited an anthology *The Big Book of Odia Literature* published by Penguin Random House India (2024).





Biswajit Das

(18.08. 1936- 30.12.2004)

Dhau Review Trust

pays respectful homage to legendary Odia playwright on his 88th birthday !

Biswajit Das (1936 – 2004) was an Odia playwright, short story writer, film and play director and script writer. Das was an experimental and contemporary Odia dramatist and was one of the pioneers of the New Theatre Movement. Biswajit Das wrote more than 60 one act plays which include Chhadmabeshi, Tandra, Dahini, Show, Chief Guest, Probesh-Prasthan, and Kitta.

Das also won the Sangeet Natak Akademi award for his play “Nalipan Rani Kalapana Tika”. Mrugaya was his most acclaimed play.

