



TILTED
AXIS



TILTED
AXIS

Celebrating Adivasi and Dalit Arts and Literature

CADALFEST

Magizhchi!

Email: adishaktiprogram@gmail.com
Whatsapp: +91 6383 070 833
Website: dalitadivasitext.wordpress.com
Instagram: [dalitadivasitext](https://www.instagram.com/dalitadivasitext)
Twitter: [@CADALFEST](https://twitter.com/CADALFEST)

Contact the organisers Nicole Thiara and
Judith Misrahi-Barak via the website
for more information about
CADALFEST

adiShakti
LABORATORY FOR THEATRE ART RESEARCH
EDAYANCHAVADY ROAD, AUROVILLE

16th - 20th
December
2022

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

Project Co-convenors

Nicole Thiara, *Nottingham Trent University*

Judith Misrahi-Barak, *EMMA, Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3*

Local Organisers

Jenni Balasubramanian

Ritu Tyagi

K. R. Rajaravivarma

Project Officer

Bethan Evans

Moderators

Jenni Balasubramanian

Manju Edachira

Gopika Jadeja

Dickens Leonard

Judith Misrahi-Barak

Chandra Sekhar

Nicole Thiara

Host

Adishakti Laboratory
for Theatre Art
Research

Email: adishaktiprogram@gmail.com
WhatsApp: +91 6383 070 833
Website: dalitadivasitext.wordpress.com
Instagram: [dalitadivasitext](https://www.instagram.com/dalitadivasitext)
Twitter: [@CADALFEST](https://twitter.com/CADALFEST)

Contact the organisers Nicole Thiara
and Judith Misrahi-Barak via the web-
site for more information about
CADALFEST

Friday 16th December

- 1530-1600 **Inauguration with Thudumbu Percussions by Unique Folk Son.**
Thudumbu Percussions inaugurate CADALFEST at Adishakti with a musical performance.
- 1600-1700 **Songs to Babasaheb: Musical Performance by Arumugam and Rajeswari / Krishnagiri Makkal Kalai Kuzhu (Krishnagiri People Art Group).**
Krishnagiri Makkal Kalai Kuzhu was founded in 1998. Their motto is creating awareness to common people on the issues of Dalits, freedom for women, and child labourers. They are involved in the Literacy movement all over Tamilnadu. They perform *Songs to Babasaheb* for CADALFEST.
- 1800-1900 **Babasaheb Ambedkar, a play by Avatharungal Kalai Kuzhu.**
The theatre troupe known as Avatharungal was established in 2005 in Pondicherry. Its aim is to raise awareness about various issues in Indian society and breed healthy changes in the field of Tamil drama. The Troupe performs *Babasaheb Ambedkar* for CADALFEST.
- 2100-2230 **Daklakatha Devikavya, a play by the Jangama Collective.**
Directed by Lakshmana KP, this experimental play begins with a re-reading of a cosmogonic myth and evolves through weaving untouchable ritual, belief, hunger, and desire through song and storytelling.

Saturday 17th December

- 1030-1230 **A screening of docu-drama on Therukoothu Thiraivirutham, followed by a discussion with the director Sugumar Shanmugam.**
Thiraivirutham is screened for CADALFEST, followed by a discussion with the director. Sugumar Shanmugam compares Western Acting Theories and Acting Strategies in Therukoothu in this documentary.
- 1530-1730 **Adivasi Round Table discussion with Vandna Tete, Ganga Sahay Meena, Seral Murmu & Ashwini Kumar Pankaj, moderated by Gopika Jadeja.**
A number of writers, activists, artists, academics, and performers discuss the significance of Adivasi languages and their translation into multiple other languages.
- 1930-1800 **Thudumbu Percussions Performance by Unique Folk Son.**
Thudumbattam belongs to the ritual percussion for the folk deity of Pattathulasi Amman of Karamadai village. It is an offering ritual instrumental programme from the Chakliars community. Unique Folk Son performs Thudumbu percussions for CADALFEST.
- 1930-2130 **Sculptors of the Mrdangam – Perumal Murugan and TM Krishna in conversation, moderated by Jenni Balasubramanian.**
TM Krishna is a vocalist, writer, and activist and Perumal Murugan is an author and scholar who writes in Tamil. For this event, they explore the world of these artists, their history, lore, and lived experience to arrive at a more organic and holistic understanding of the music that Mrdangam makes.

Sunday 18th December

- 1000-1300 **Developing an Inclusive Tamil Indie Music Scene Using a Protest Band: A Masterclass with Tenma.** By registration only.
- The Tamil indie scene has always been a volatile and fragmented ecosystem. Despite great talent and popular songs, it has only recently become a sustainable practice. This masterclass involves a deep dive into ways in which we built resilience in the last five years to create the industry, and consideration of how we built the social capital and respect of the art and artists with the Casteless Collective.
- 1100-1300 **All Aboard: A Round Table about Translation – Stakes and Challenges: Perumal Murugan, Gogu Shyamala, Salma, Meena Kandasamy, and Jitendra Vasava.** Moderated by Ritu Tyagi in collaboration with Jenni Balasubramanian and Chandra Sekhar.
- 1530-1730 **Children’s Therukoothu Workshop with the Purisai Therukoothu Troupe.** By registration only.
- The children’s workshop will serve as an introduction of the artform for the young generation and to encourage them to learn and enjoy Therukoothu.
- 2000-2130 **A Concert by Tenma.**
- Tenma is an Artist, Composer and Curator based out of Chennai, India. He is best known for his contribution to the city’s independent music scene. He performs for CADALFEST with a musical concert.

Monday 19th December

- 1030-1300 **Adivasi Art and Culture – Creating a Narrative: A conversation with Ashwini Kumar Pankaj, Seral Murmu, and Jitendra Vasava,** moderated by Gopika Jadeja.
- This event involves bilingual author readings, short film clips, and a trailer for Seral Murmu’s current film project.
- 1530-1800 **The World of Therukoothu: An Introduction – Masterclass #1 with the Purisai Therukoothu Troupe.** By registration only.
- This masterclass serves as an introduction to the basics of the artform. It will cover the Adavus (steps), singing, and singing and dancing together.
- 1530-1730 **Writers’ Round Table with Gogu Shyamala, Salma, and Meena Kandasamy,** moderated by Nicole Thiara, Ritu Tyagi, and Chandra Sekhar.
- Writers read from their work and discuss representations of intimacy and rebellion.
- 1930-2130 **Abhimanyu, or Chakra Vyugam,** a Therukoothu play.
- This play reimagines scenes from the *Mahabharata*.

Tuesday 20th December

1100-1300 **The World of Therukoothu: An Introduction – Masterclass #2 with the Purisai Therukoothu Troupe.** By registration only.

This masterclass discusses the performance and the challenge faced by this ancient artform in today's world.

1030-1200 **Meet Indianostrum: A screening of *Janani's Juliet* and a conversation with Koumarane Valavane and Pankaj Rishi Kumar,** moderated by Judith Misrahi-Barak.

After the screening there will be a conversation between Koumarane Valavane who created the play *Chandala, the Impure* at Indianostrum, and Pankaj Rishi Kumar who directed the 50-minute documentary on the creation of the play.

1230-1430 **Refounding Dalit Aesthetics through Visual and Performing Arts: Lakshman KP and Mohit Kaycee (Jangama Collective), Jyoti Nisha, Tenma, and Pa. Ranjith (TBC) in conversation with Dickens Leonard and Manju Edachira.**

This final event emphasises the Magizhchi perspective of CADALFEST, and involves discussions as well a few short film clips and trailers.