

NAATAK'S 115TH PRODUCTION

SULTANA DAKU



A NAATAK ORIGINAL

ABOUT THE PLAY

NAATAK opens its landmark 30th season with a timeless tale written specially for this occasion: an adaptation of the novel *The Confession of Sultana Daku* (Penguin, 2009), recounting the daring exploits of Sultana Daku – his thrilling raids, imaginative escapes, rise to notoriety, and dramatic capture by Freddy Young, the celebrated superintendent of police who, in 1924, finally put an end to Sultana's reign of terror around Bareilly and Moradabad.

As the first in a long line of notorious dakis, Sultana Daku with his horse-riding gang has appeared in countless films, in Hollywood – *The Long Duel (1967)* starring Yul Brynner – and Bollywood – *Sultana Daku (1973)* starring Dara Singh – with his best-known avatar being Gabbar Singh in *Sholay (1975)*. With an enthralling new script that has never been performed before, the play features live music and dance, wit and humor, and energetic 'swang' performances that evoke 1920s India.

playwright and director: Sujit Saraf

producer and dance director: Soumya Agastya

music director: Nachiketa Yakkundi

in Hindi, with supertitles in English

Run-time: 105 minutes

Children under 7 will not be admitted.

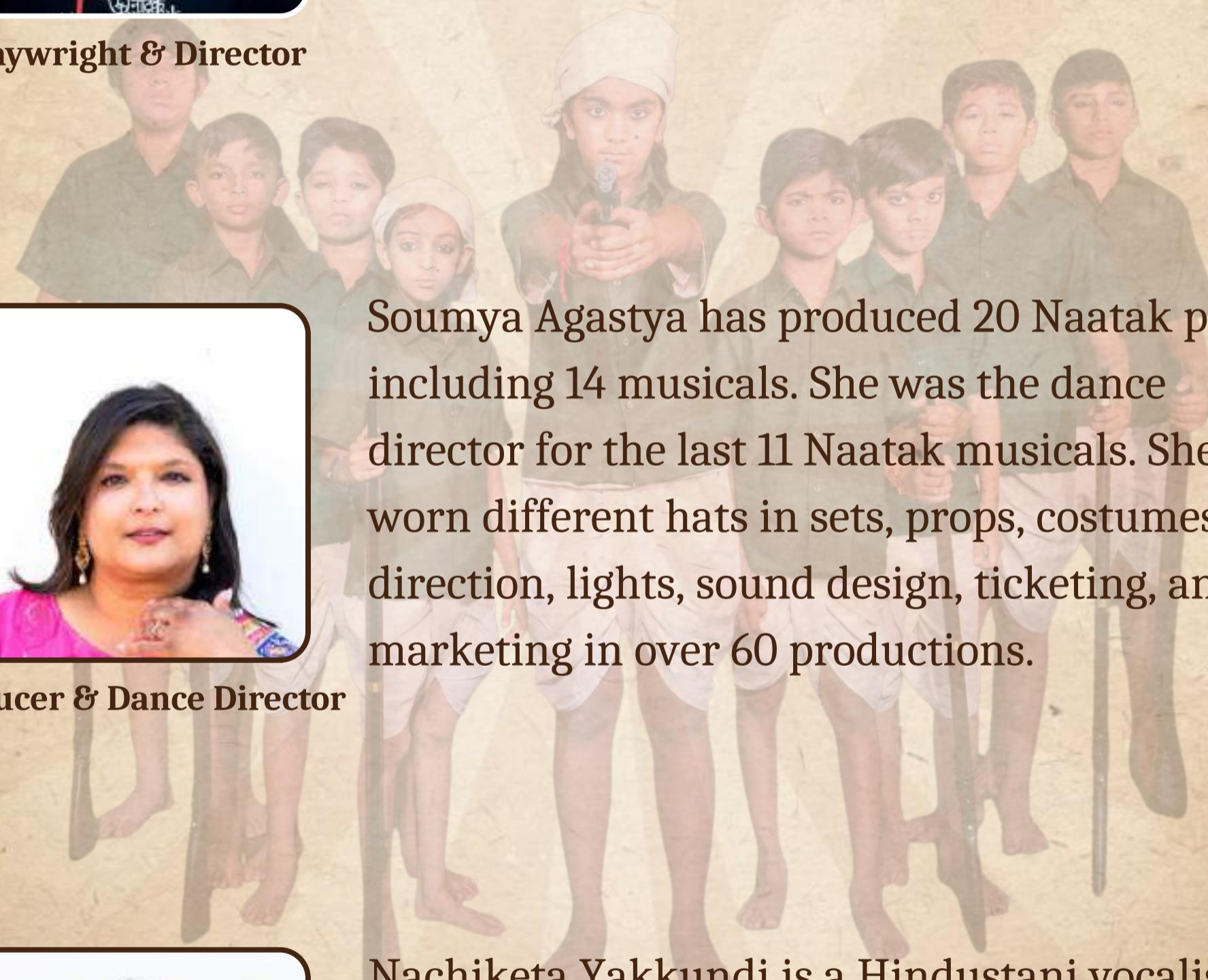
The play has gunshots and scenes of execution.



Sujit Saraf is a novelist and playwright, and the founder and artistic director of NAATAK. His plays have been performed all over the US and India. His latest novel, *Every Room Has A View*, was published in August.



Playwright & Director



Soumya Agastya has produced 20 Naatak plays, including 14 musicals. She was the dance director for the last 11 Naatak musicals. She has worn different hats in sets, props, costumes direction, lights, sound design, ticketing, and marketing in over 60 productions.



Producer & Dance Director



Nachiketa Yakkundi is a Hindustani vocalist who has trained under Pt. Basavraj Rajguru. He is the founder of Rajguru Sangeet Vidyaniketan school of music and has composed music for many performances, including the last 11 Naatak musicals.

Music Director

ON STAGE TEAM

LITTLE DAKUS

<i>Sultana</i>	...	Hemali Chitalia
<i>Bhurey</i>	...	Neeru Kachru
<i>Pitambar</i>	...	Madhav Chaurey
<i>Nagesar</i>	...	Ria Nayak, Avyaan Singh
<i>Sarju</i>	...	Aaron Das, Neel Bhatnagar
<i>Sadiq</i>	...	Kavir Patil, Vihaan Rodge

DAKU GANG

<i>Sultana</i>	...	Rohit Chaurey
<i>Bhurey</i>	...	Ruchir Sutaria
<i>Pitambar</i>	...	Mayank Kedia
<i>Nagesar</i>	...	Suramya Naik
<i>Sarju</i>	...	Gaurav Garhewal
<i>Sadiq</i>	...	Sumedh Deshpandhu
<i>Parsadi</i>	...	Pragya Choudhary
<i>Dalpat</i>	...	Kumaar Dasanur Sampathkumar

<i>Dada</i>	...	Nisha Natraj
<i>Tirath Singh, DSP</i>	...	M Zishan
<i>Syed Abdul Qasim, DSP</i>	...	Kartik Hosanagar
<i>Dayanand Sahu</i>	...	Shashank Divekar
<i>Geetanjali Sinha</i>	...	Arti Raina Bambroo
<i>Congress Party speaker</i>	...	Rima Chakraborty
<i>Hangmen</i>	...	Suramya Naik, Pawankumar Suresh, Vinay Patil

BRITONS

<i>Freddy Young, SP</i>	...	Stefan Fisher
<i>AD Ashdown, IG</i>	...	Patrick Idleman
<i>King George V</i>	...	Stefan Fisher
<i>Brigadier Dutini Bai</i>	...	Sarah Kishler
<i>Adjutant Anand</i>	...	Patrick Idleman

WEDDING

<i>Pandit</i>	...	Suramya Naik
<i>Tirath Singh's wife</i>	...	Rima Chakraborty
<i>Bride</i>	...	Nina Prabhu
<i>Groom</i>	...	Harsh Parikh

SWANG PLAYERS

<i>Phulkanwar</i>	...	Swarada Sontakke
<i>Sutradhar</i>	...	Harsh Parikh
<i>Raja</i>	...	M Zishan
<i>Phul Singh</i>	...	Pawankumar Suresh, Vinay Patil
<i>Munim</i>	...	Manish Sabu
<i>Dholak player</i>	...	Kunal Mamidpalliwar

MUSIC TEAM



Music Director ... Nachiketa Yakkundi

Vocalists ... Nachiketa Yakkundi, Anitha Dixit, Amit Shenoy, Poulomi Sarkar, Poonam Yakkundi, Rochan Yakkundi

Harmonium ... Anand Karve

Tabla ... Ajay Sundar Raj

Dholak ... Kunal Mamidpalliwar



DANCE TEAM



Producer and Dance Director ... Soumya Agastya

Dance Choreographers ... Heli Modi, Swarada Sontakke,
Archana Kamath

Dancers ... Heli Modi, Swarada Sontakke,
Archana Kamath,
Ankita Agarwal,
Manju Batra, Arushi Gupta,
Anoushka Kale, Sruti Kumari,
Preeti Malik-Kale,
Ishani Pandya,
Sriya Mudigonda



PRODUCTION TEAM



SETS DESIGNER

Snigdha Jain

SETS MANAGER

Alka Sippy

PROPS DESIGNERS

Devika Ashok
Anitha Dixit
Saurabh Jain

SETS & PROPS

Rajeesh Tripathi
Juhi Mohan
Saket Karve
Pranav Chandramouli
Surender Singh
Chintan Vora
Gaurav Garhewal
Rohit Sreedhar
Prajwala Ghate
Nishad Phagre
Nupur Mehta
Shama Patki
Ankit Dhingra
Arkadeep Kumar
Nicole Stephens
Michael Stephens

LIGHTS

Vikram Ramanarayanan
Saket Karve
Shreya Dixit
Mugdha Kulkarni
Neeraj Karmarkar

COSTUMES DESIGNERS

Avnika Agarwal
Namita Chaubal

COSTUMES

Rachna Sah
Vineet Mishra
Vidhi Surelia
Mehul Raje
Ramya Ram
Archana Kamath

MAKE-UP

Roshini Sadhwani
Aditi Honawar
Rima Chakraborty
Priyanka Shinde
Tanvi Agarwal
Yachna Ahuja

SOUND

Anitha Dixit

SUPERTITLES

Sachin Ridge
Vineeta Singh
Payal Sanghvi
Divya Nayak

TICKETING

Poulomi Sarkar
Manish Sabu
Vikas Dhurka

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Archana Inamdar, Gauri Bhatia

MARKETING

Vikas Dhurka
Rohit Sreedhar
Harish Agastya
Dhananjay Motwani
Anush Moorthy
Conor Gill
Kyle Adler
Phani Mahavrathayajula

CULINARY TEAM

Rekha Khubhchandani
Prabha Seshadri
Rachna Sah
Poonam Yakkundi
Arti Raina Bambroo
Shashank Divekar
Nisha Natraj

EVENT MANAGEMENT

Rohit Sreedhar
Pratiksha Rao
Nupur Mehta
Abhijeet Vaidya
Payal Sanghvi
Juhi Mohan
Shreya Dixit
Anjali Kirloskar
Karthik Natraj
Abhi Natraj
Pragya Choudhary
Preeti Bhat
Harshavardhana
Shruti Londhe

NAATAK

SEASON 30

नाटक
naatak

30

SINCE 1995

NAATAK celebrates Season 30!

Thank you for watching Sultana Daku! Watch the rest of our season!

Get a 4-Play Pass in the lobby starting at ONLY \$79

UPCOMING PLAYS

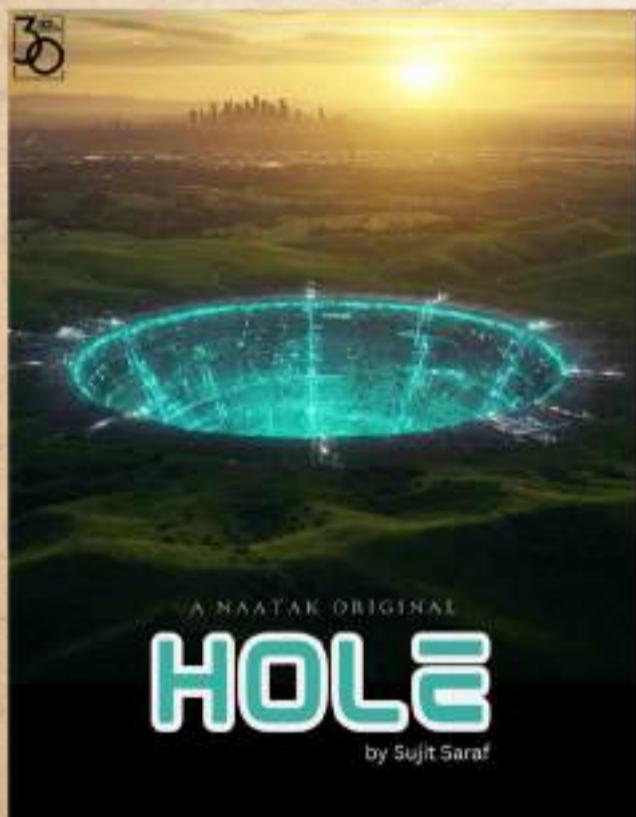


चोर की दाढ़ी में तिनका

November 14 – November 23, 2025 | Palo Alto
adapted by Harish Agastya from Nikolai Gogol's *Government Inspector*
director: Anitha Dixit | **producer:** Abhijeet Vaidya
(in Hindi, with supertitles in English)

Corrupt local officials in a Gujarati town are thrown into a tizzy when word arrives that an Inspector Sahib is on his way to check on them. Adapted from Nikolai Gogol's

The Government Inspector, this hilarious satire has been staged all over the world for nearly two centuries.



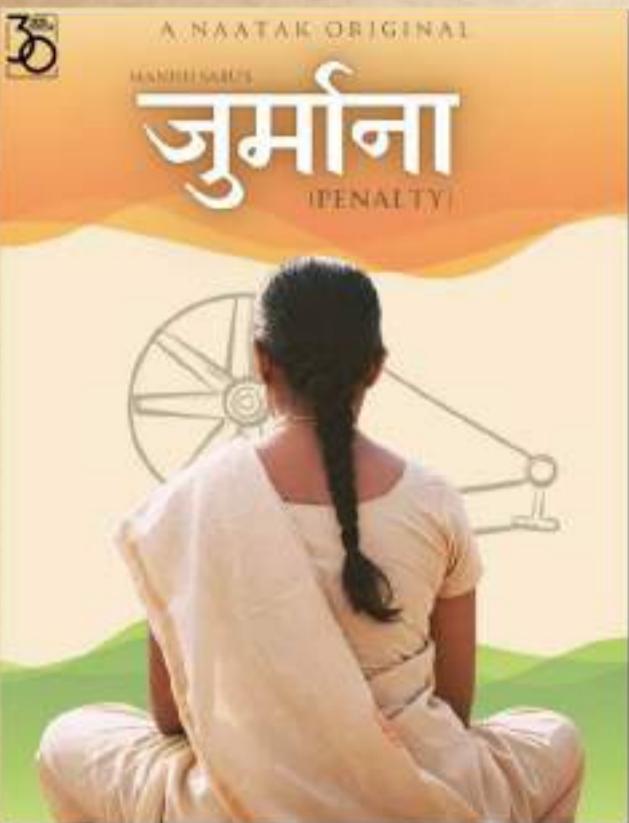
Hole

January 23 – February 15, 2026 | Campbell
written by: Sujit Saraf
director: Poulomi Sarkar | **producer:** Pratiksha Rao
(in English)

A bay-area startup launches the greatest engineering project in human history – a tunnel through the earth in which a train can transport passengers from Cupertino to Delhi in 42 minutes. Driven by the

Silicon Valley ethos of 'move fast and break things', the startup rushes headlong into the project. Part thought experiment, part social satire and part cautionary tale, this is Naatak's foray into science fiction!

UPCOMING PLAYS



जुर्माना

April 3 – April 26, 2026 | Campbell

adapted by Manish Sabu from Munshi Premchand's
तावान

director: Manish Sabu | **producer:** Alka Sippy
(in Hindi, with supertitles in English)

During the Swadeshi movement launched by Gandhi, one shopkeeper commits the crime of selling foreign cloth, earning the wrath of the Congress Party, which levies a जुर्माना (penalty) on him. In response, his

dying wife rises to defend him in spectacular fashion shocking her husband, the Congress Party, and India itself.



The Play That Goes Wrong

June 12 – June 28, 2026 | Palo Alto

written by: Henry Lewis, Jonathan Sayer, &
Henry Shields

director: Vikas Dhurka | **producer:** Alka Sippy

sets manager: Asheesh Divetia
(in English)

A hilarious comedy in which, as its name suggests, everything goes wrong. Seemingly a whodunit involving a corpse, a suspect and a detective, nothing

is as it seems on stage – actors cannot be trusted with their lines, the corpse cannot be trusted to play dead, the set cannot be trusted to hold up, and the production team cannot be trusted to stay off-stage. Until the play ends it is never clear what is 'part of the play' and what has gone 'horribly wrong' in *The Play That Goes Wrong*.

NAATAK OFFICERS



sujit_saraf

❤️ Q ⏲ artistic director



harish_agastya

❤️ Q ⏲ operations director



manish_sabu

❤️ Q ⏲ treasurer



vikas_dhurka

❤️ Q ⏲ marketing director



anitha_dixit

❤️ Q ⏲ props director



saurabh_jain

❤️ Q ⏲ props director



srikanth_srinath

❤️ Q ⏲ lights director



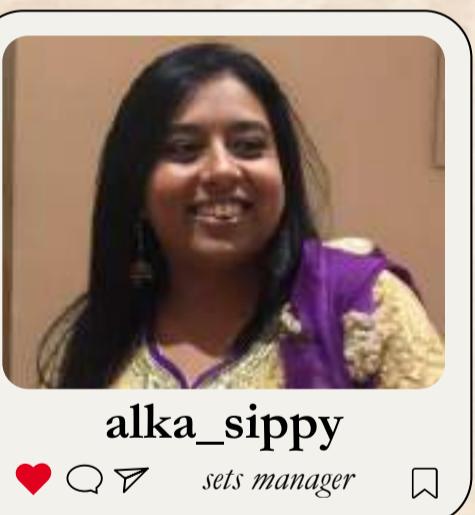
soumya_agastya

❤️ Q ⏲ dance director



snigdha_jain

❤️ Q ⏲ art director



alka_sippy

❤️ Q ⏲ sets manager



rajeesh_tripathi

❤️ Q ⏲ sets manager



ratul_ghosh

❤️ Q ⏲ sets manager



saket_karve

❤️ Q ⏲ sets manager



poulomi_sarkar

❤️ Q ⏲ ticketing manager



vineeta_singh

❤️ Q ⏲ supertitles manager



namita_chaudhary

❤️ Q ⏲ costumes manager

NAATAK OFFICERS



avnika_agarwal

♥ Q ⌂ costumes manager



vineet_mishra

♥ Q ⌂ costumes manager



vikram_ramanarayanan

♥ Q ⌂ lights manager



devika_ashok

♥ Q ⌂ props manager



anush_moorthy

♥ Q ⌂ marketing manager



dhananjay_motwani

♥ Q ⌂ marketing manager



savitha_samu

♥ Q ⌂ make-up artist



roshini_sadhwani

♥ Q ⌂ make-up artist



pratiksha_rao

♥ Q ⌂ event manager



abhijeet_vaidya

♥ Q ⌂ event manager



nupur_mehta

♥ Q ⌂ event manager



rohit_sreedhar

♥ Q ⌂ event manager



sachin_rodge

♥ Q ⌂ supertitles manager





ABOUT NAATAK

Naatak is a theater company dedicated to producing intelligent and entertaining plays in Indian languages. Started in 1995 by students at U.C. Berkeley and Stanford University, Naatak is now the most prominent and biggest Indian theater company in the United States. Our members are drawn primarily from the tech industry in Silicon Valley; so is our audience. Naatak is a 501(c)(3) registered non-profit organization.

NAATAK ON DEMAND

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30
YEARS

115
PLAYS

2000
PERFORMERS

150 000
ATTENDEES