

**Two Powerful Figures from the Thespian World share their path-breaking collaborative work and perspectives on the future of the stage at AVID Online's next LIVE Session**

*"I feel the theatre is the most unique one of all [the arts] for collaboration..."*

*–Theatre Director, Susan Stroman*

**For Immediate Release**

As part of **AVID Online, The Kala Ghoda Association (KGA), Kommune India** and **Avid Learning** present **Creative Collaboration 2020: Technology and the Future of Theatre**, a fascinating live session with *Actor, Writer, Director, Founder, Kommune and Birth Mother, Spokenfest* **Roshan Abbas** and *Theatre Director, Performer and Curator at Kommune* **Sheena Khalid**.

This session is part of **Creative Collaboration 2020 (16<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020)**, a thematised set of programming that will explore perspectives on creative collaborations between the arts and design. This has been a period of extraordinary creativity and virtual rallying- and this programming will trace the efforts, examine final end-products and explore new processes of working and creating- together- in the New Normal.

*Please read on for more details:*

Having conceptualised the collaborative live virtual interactive play *Lockdown Love*, Sheena and Roshan will share fascinating insights and perspectives with respect to not just this innovative project but also the larger context on the collaborative future of Theatre and how all the arts can come together- using the power of technology to reach more and diverse viewers.

*Lockdown Love* is a unique theatre performance that involves working in collaboration with different members of the creative community across geographies, genres and disciplines. Using this project as a case study, Sheena and Roshan will share their own fascinating take on the importance of working in collaboration in the arts now more than ever.

**Highlights to include:**

- Understand how the live component of Theatre has evolved
- Explore how practitioners are leveraging technology for Collaboration
- Discover the new forms of creative collaboration in Theatre and the Arts that have emerged
- Learn about cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary collaboration in the Arts at large
- Delve into *Lockdown Love* and other genre-defying projects made during this time

Join us to understand technology's role in determining the future of live theatre in a Post-COVID era.

**When:** Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> November 2020 | 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

RSVP: [www.avidlearning.in](http://www.avidlearning.in)

Press Email: Ayesha Dadachanji on [ayeshah.avid@gmail.com](mailto:ayeshah.avid@gmail.com)

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#CREATIVECOLLABORATION2020



TECHNOLOGY  
AND THE  
FUTURE  
OF THEATRE

As part of AVID Online, Kala Ghoda Association (KGA), Kommune India and Avid Learning present a fascinating live session. Using their collaborative play *Lockdown Love* as a case study, Sheena and Roshan will share their own fascinating take on technology's role in the future of theatre and on the importance of working in collaboration in the arts now more than ever. This session is part of **Creative Collaborations 2020**, a thematised set of programming that will explore perspectives on creative collaborations between the arts and design.

#AVIDONLINE **LIVE**




Actor, Writer, Director,  
Founder, Kommune  
and birth mother, Spokenfest  
**Roshan Abbas**



Theatre Director,  
Performer and  
Curator, Kommune  
**Sheena Khalid**

DATE: **SAT, 28 NOV 2020**  
TIME: **5:00 PM - 6:30 PM**  
REGISTER: [www.avidlearning.in](http://www.avidlearning.in)

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## About the Speakers

One of India's finest orators and storytellers, **Roshan Abbas** is an actor; TV & radio host; producer; event manager; creative director; film & theatre director; lyricist; CEO; angel investor; serial entrepreneur; author; and public speaking coach. Roshan founded and led Encompass (now

Geometry Encompass) as Managing Director into becoming amongst India's largest, most awarded experiential marketing agency. He was also an initial investor in and continues to be a mentor-partner at The Glitch. Both ventures have been acquired by WPP. Roshan has won seven national-level awards for TV and radio. In 2015, he co-founded Kommune – a performing arts collective for storytellers. He also helped conceptualise Spoken festival, bringing together performers from across the world for storytelling, poetry, spoken word, and song. Roshan continues to inspire by sharing his life lessons on communication and storytelling with entrepreneurs, corporates, artists, and anyone looking to discover a unique voice!

**Sheena Khalid** is a theatre director, writer, actor and drama facilitator based in Mumbai. She is a founding member of the theatre company - Patchworks Ensemble. She has trained in Physical Theatre at the London International School of Performing Arts. With Patchworks, she has co-directed and co-devised the shows "Ila" and "The Gentlemen's Club AKA Tape". Ila won the Laadli award in 2016 for Gender Sensitivity. Gentlemen's Club AKA Tape is a unique cabaret style theatre performance about the lives of various drag-kings. Both Ila and The Gentlemen's Club have travelled to various prestigious theatre festivals around the country. Her latest production "Shikaar" opened in August of 2019 and continues to play at venues around the city. As a freelance director and performer she has worked on numerous collaborations both within the country and internationally. She is a drama facilitator at the Drama School Mumbai where she teaches improvisation and devising. She has spent a lot of time exploring ideas of solo storytelling. She has developed modules which she takes into classrooms and offices around the country. She has conducted training workshops for Axis Bank, Piramal, Kotak Mahindra Bank, BNP Paribas, HUL, S P Jain School of Global Management and other independent workshops for non-actors and working professionals. These training workshops include group building, public speaking, gender sensitivity, creativity in the workspace and understanding body language. She also conducts personal one on one sessions for private clients on public speaking and presentation making. More recently she has developed a workshop series called "Captive" which focuses on public speaking and confidence building skills for working women. Sheena is a story-teller with Kommune, where she also works part-time. At Kommune, she is part of the curatorial team of Spoken Fest (Indian's largest storytelling, spoken word and poetry festival). She was one of five fellows (in the year 2016) for the "Tendulkar-Dubey Fellowship" for young theatre artist of outstanding talent. In the summer of 2017, she attended the "Lincoln Centre Directors Lab 2017" in New York (fully funded thanks to the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Arts). On a personal note, Sheena Khalid continues to deepen her exploration into performances and stories about and by women. She strives to create content that is relevant, engaging and humorous.

## **Partner Information**

### **Kala Ghoda Association and Festival**

Website: <http://www.kalaghodaassociation.com/>

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### **Avid Learning**

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