

A multimedia evening celebrating Artist Satish Gupta at the Royal Opera House Mumbai

For Immediate Release

Join us for *Wings of Eternity*, an immersive and unique art installation and dance performance, at the **Royal Opera House, Mumbai**.

Details of the event are as below:

Artist and Poet **Satish Gupta**'s masterful work will serve as muse and centerpiece for this one-of-a-kind event in which sculpture, contemporary dance, poetry and gestural painting come together in a unique manner.

A specially curated selection of auxiliary art from the artist's ZEN portfolio will be on display around the venue.

The occasion will be marked with the launch of Satish's latest book, '**Zen Whispers**', which gives insights into his artistic oeuvre and spiritual philosophies.

Dancer and Choreographer **Daksha Sheth** will read excerpts, poetry and musings from the book.

Actress and Contemporary Dancer **Isha Sharvani** will perform a beautifully orchestrated dance and performance art piece around the work.

Satish with skillful calligraphic brushwork will inscribe original Haiku poetry as part of the performance and both artists will match strokes in tandem.

Read on below for art critic, Uma Nair's insights on the art work to be showcased:

"This sculptural installation in the incarnate residue of an eagle's wing is an emblem of reverie", she writes. "In sculpture, Satish seeks above all the purity of forms. When he recreates the wing

in copper, he wants to find the balance between the quasi- abstract, and the real,” she continues. “He gives it a majestic mould in the way he fashions the veins of the feathers to create a signature that is most symbolic, and he wants to be able to shape it as he pleases... passionately to create his ideal.”

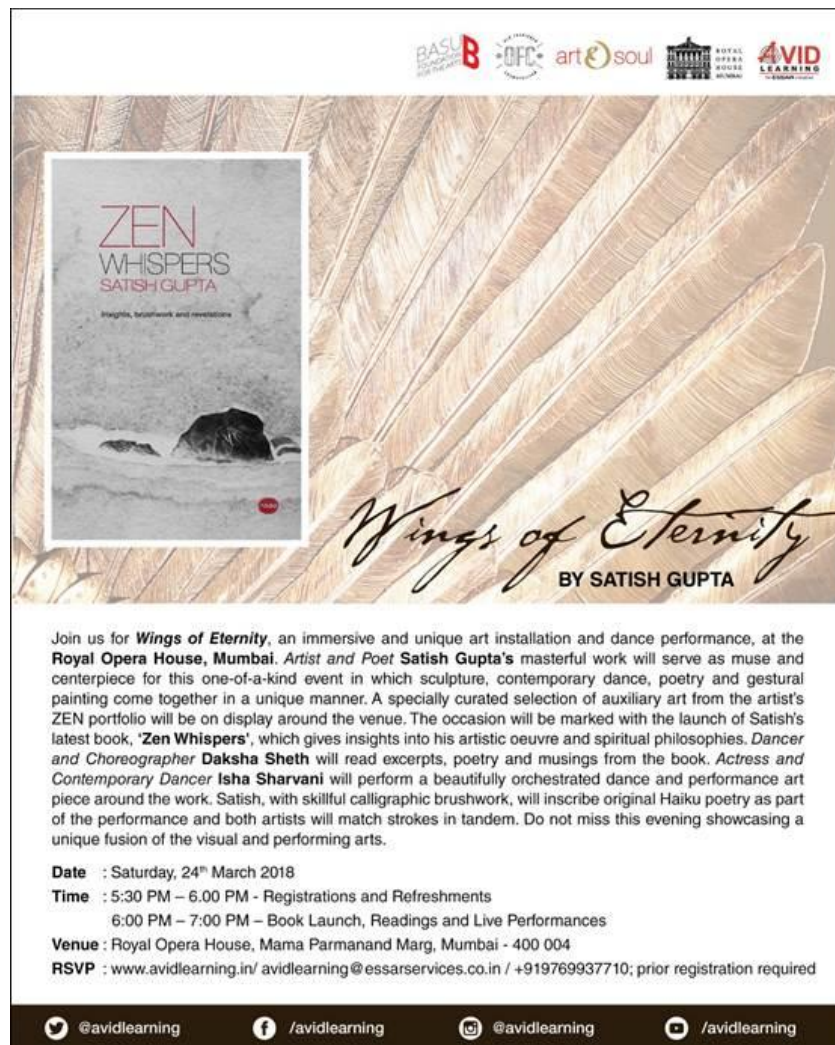
Do not miss this evening showcasing a unique fusion of the visual and performing arts.

Where: Royal Opera House, Mama Parmanand Marg, Mumbai - 400 004

When: Saturday, 24th March 2018 | 5:30 PM – 6.00 PM - Registrations and Refreshments | 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM – Book Launch, Readings and Live Performances

RSVP: www.avidlearning.in/ avidlearning@essarservices.co.in / +919769937710; prior registration required

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Join us for **Wings of Eternity**, an immersive and unique art installation and dance performance, at the **Royal Opera House, Mumbai**. **Artist and Poet Satish Gupta's** masterful work will serve as muse and centerpiece for this one-of-a-kind event in which sculpture, contemporary dance, poetry and gestural painting come together in a unique manner. A specially curated selection of auxiliary art from the artist's ZEN portfolio will be on display around the venue. The occasion will be marked with the launch of Satish's latest book, '**Zen Whispers**', which gives insights into his artistic oeuvre and spiritual philosophies. **Dancer and Choreographer Daksha Sheth** will read excerpts, poetry and musings from the book. **Actress and Contemporary Dancer Isha Sharvani** will perform a beautifully orchestrated dance and performance art piece around the work. Satish, with skillful calligraphic brushwork, will inscribe original Haiku poetry as part of the performance and both artists will match strokes in tandem. Do not miss this evening showcasing a unique fusion of the visual and performing arts.

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About the Artist

A versatile artist, **Satish Gupta** is a painter, sculptor, poet, writer, printmaker, skilled draftsman, muralist, designer, calligrapher and ceramicist all in one. Winning the Sanskriti award at an early stage in his career, his work, honed through a deep engagement with mysticism and Zen spirit, has been exhibited in more than 33 solo shows at important art galleries within the country and abroad. Satish has created a 13 feet high Surya sculpture in copper, for The Indira Gandhi International Airport in New Delhi. A monumental five piece metal sculpture ranging in height from 8 feet to 22 feet weighing over 10000 kilograms, and inspired by the five primal elements, is located in the atrium at the Jindal Centre in New Delhi. He has also done a 30 feet long mural for the Bengaluru International Airport. Gupta's sculptures, wall murals and paintings are the signature works at the Leela Palace Hotel in New Delhi and the Ritz Carlton Hotel, Bengaluru. Satish's Utsav Murti of the Goddess Linga Bhairavi, for Sadhguru's ISHA foundation in Coimbatore resides in the main temple and is taken out in a procession on full moon nights and venerated. Satish was invited to create a lithograph as part of the official Beijing Olympic Portfolio as the only Indian artist, amongst other international artists -Sandro Chia, Janis Kounellis and Mimmo Paladino. Known for its special meditative quality, Satish Gupta's art, that he creates working from his studio in Gurgaon on the outskirts of Delhi surrounded by a Zen Garden of his own design, is held in important public and private collections including the National Gallery of Modern Art in New Delhi. The artist collaborated with Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, on a sculpture-painting (OM NAMO SHIVAYA) for the charitable cause of educating the underprivileged children for the NGO, Khushii, which was auctioned by Sotheby's.

About the Performers

Daksha Sheth carved a prestigious reputation for herself in the world of Kathak for 20 years before she began to explore a range of movement idioms and performed with excellence in so many diverse styles. Today, being in the field of dance since 45 years, she draws from her experience in Kathak, Mayurbhanj Chhau, Martial art of Kalaripayattu from Kerala, aerial technique of Mallakhamb to aesthetically combine tradition with Contemporary Indian Dance. She was awarded the Sangeet Natak Akademi for her creative and experimental explorations in the field of dance in 2010.

Each of her dance productions has been a product of such experiments and together they represent a continuous evolution of a dance language. This evolving dance vocabulary is the signature of her work : Daksha Sheth is the first to introduce aerial technique (since 1996) in the Indian dance and she blends it beautifully into her own productions. Moreover, each production has radical changes in the context of: music costume, staging, themes, music, lighting design etc. Daksha Sheth's choreography has seen the birth of some of the most exciting and visually spectacular productions to have come out of India, which have earned critical acclaim both in India and abroad. As a dancer and choreographer, her strength comes from her command and love of rhythm, a natural flexibility and balance and an instinctive capacity to project a range of emotions from sheer joy to vibrant power. She wants to capture the vitality and rawness of folk and ritual performing arts, and combine this with the sophistication and precision of the classical forms and has developed an entirely original movement vocabulary over the years.

Isha Sharvani is a multi disciplinary artist, who works as a Choreographer, Dancer, Aerialist, Actress and Yoga teacher. Her goal as an artist is to always come from a place of truth, to offer with humility and integrity engaging physical art, to use her skills to connect with people in

meaningful ways that break down separating barriers. Isha began her journey in dance at the age of 9 under the guidance of her mother and teacher, Daksha Sheth. Her training deeply rooted in the Indian arts of Kalarripyattu, Kathak, Chau, Yoga and Malkhamb rope. Wanting to grow further she started studying Aerial Circus Arts, Western Contemporary dance, Ballet and Noongar Aboriginal Dance in Australia, Finland and New York. A dance career spanning twenty-four years has given her the opportunity to perform all over the world, in 25 Major Dance festivals, mainly as principal dancer with the Daksha Sheth Dance Company. Today, she is one of India's leading aerial dancers and a well known Bollywood actress. Isha is also one of the principal dancers of Ochre, a Perth-based aboriginal contemporary dance company, and is a lead collaborator in their upcoming Indo- Australian dance production "Sand". She is also currently creating a new show "Siblinks" with her brother Tao, which is due to tour in 2019.

About Partners

Art & Soul is an art space in the heart of Worli, Mumbai and enjoys the privilege of working with a huge cross section of artists. Founded in 2004, Art & Soul is recognized and acknowledged by the artist community for its varied programs, uniquely conceptualized, frequent and well executed art events. This is reflected in their large database of artists and the gallery showcase of works of over 100 established artists, spanning 8 decades. The artist relations are fostered through reputable tie-ups in the domestic and international art scenarios. Art & Soul's responsibilities to their clients are met by raising art consciousness and awareness amongst primary investors, through consultations, workshops and dialogue with artists, art historians and art critics and through a unique format of social initiatives involving artists of different genres.

Basu Foundation for the Arts is a not-for-profit foundation that encourages, promotes and supports innovative work in the field of the visual and performing arts. Organise Exhibitions & Performances (Music, Dance, Theatre) in India and other Countries creating a platform for Local and International artist community to exhibit their works Globally. A platform for Art Collectors to exhibit their collections across Continents by connecting them with appropriate Corporates/Foundations & Institutions that would provide support to such exchanges. Organise Workshops for specific groups within the art community such as students, writers, and emerging artists, bringing together small groups to exchange ideas and their work, and critically reflect on their own practice. Invite artists, curators and researchers for art residencies to share their work with a local audience, and engage in dialogue about ideas and concepts that are shaping their practice and the larger domain of contemporary art. Arrange Talks which are designed around ongoing exhibitions and events in India and elsewhere by bringing together panels of speakers with specialised knowledge and experience in areas such as curation, institution building, public/community-based art, and the like, these events become important public platforms for exchange of ideas and constructive debate.

Avid Learning, a public programming platform and cultural arm of the Essar Group, has conducted over 850 programs and connected with more than 95,000 individuals since its inception in 2009. Driven by the belief that Learning Never Stops, AVID's multiple formats like Workshops, Panel Discussions, Gallery Walkthroughs, and Festival Platforms create a dynamic and interactive atmosphere that stimulates intellectual and creative growth across the fields of Culture & Heritage, Literature, Art and Innovation.

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The Royal Opera House, Mumbai is widely touted as Mumbai's Cultural Crown Jewel and India's only surviving Opera House. The original idea for the space was conceived of in 1908, inaugurated in 1911 by King George V, and eventually completed in 1916. The design incorporated a blend of European and Indian detailing. The space became a cinema in later years before falling into disrepair and shutting by the 1990s. Fittingly, the space has been owned by the Royal Family of Gondal since 1952 and was eventually restored by conservation architect, Abha Narain Lambah under the leadership of the current Maharaja of Gondal, Shri Jyotendrasinhji. The Royal Opera House Mumbai, now one of the last remaining Baroque structures in the city, reopened after 23 years in October 2016. The building was included on the 2012 World Monuments Watch to raise awareness about its history and significance, and support preservation efforts. The building has since been recognized with an Award of Merit in the 2017 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation. The restored facilities feature a 574-seater 3-level auditorium with an orchestra pit and state of the art technological upgradations, including acoustics, stagecraft, lighting and air-conditioning, alongside retaining the old world charm of the proscenium stage, the royal boxes and the magnificent regal chandeliers. Some more enhancements to the venue include a motorized screen, co-axial ceiling speaker system, Four-zone volume control and all round wifi access. Today, it stands as a key performance and creative hub in the city's cultural landscape, while being a premier heritage landmark. *Facebook:* www.facebook.com/royaloperahousemumbai/ *Twitter:* @MumbaiOpera *Instagram:* @mumbaiopera