

Recent Performing Arts - December 2021

Southeast Asia Head Office  
Blk 231, Bain Street  
#03-05, Bras Basah Complex  
Singapore 180231  
Tel : +65-6883-2284/6883-2204  
Fax : +65-6883-2144  
info@marymartin.com  
www.marymartin.com

South Asia Head Office  
8/123, Third Street,  
Tatabad, Coimbatore 641012  
India  
Tel : +91-422-2499030/2495780  
Fax : +91-422-2495781  
info@marymartin.com  
www.marymartin.com

Rameela in Trinidad: 100 Years of the Felicity Open-Air, Folk Theatre Tradition /  
Satnarine Balkaransingh

Vani Book Company, New Delhi, India 2021

288p.

Includes Index and Bibliography

9789389563269

\$ 40.00 / null

738 gm.

Ramleela is the story or Leela ('play') of the legend of Prince Rām of Ayodhya, India, battling demi gods, demons and king Rawan to rescue beautiful Princess Sita from Lanka. This ancient, epic story of the Ramayana; later narrated in Tulsidas's Ramcharitmanas, and introduced to the Caribbean by Indian, indentured workers, it has been flourishing as Ramleela, folk theatre, in Trinidad for over 130 years. It is performed continuously in the village, now town, of Felicity for over 100 years. The residents of Felicity-a village carved out of former sugarcane lands, at the edge of the Caribbean Sea-have been performing their Ramleela annually for eleven consecutive days with the grandeur and panache of village pageantry. This particular production has been mentioned by two Nobel laureates; Sir Vidya Naipaul and Derek Walcott. Part I of the book deals with the issues that the immigrant East Indian community grapples with, in establishing their space and identity within the new landscape. Part II is centered in Felicity with its unique history, geography and demography. Part III documents the story, as dramatised; the circumstances of Rām's birth, his education and training, marriage, exile, trials and tribulations, battles, overcoming magic and illusion, his victory over king Rāwan and his triumphant return to rule the Kingdom of Ayodhya. The story is presented through a combination of acting, vocal and instrumental music, supporting props, décor, lighting and costuming. Its multi-layered meanings have been explained through the use of masks and forms of masking, guise and disguise, at the physical and metaphysical levels. The pageant incorporates burlesque, humour, satire, village commerce and entertainment on the fringe, a complete mela, attracting young and old, the religious and the secular. These multiple features have expanded the annual audiences of the Leela while enhancing the rich, diverse heritage of Trinidad and Tobago's cultural landscape in the 21st century.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=778335>

-----  
Nigerian Dances and Theatre : National Theatre II / S. J. Timothy Asobele

Latderaj Printing, Lagos, Nigeria 2021

xii, 236p.

Includes Bibliography

9789789960392

\$ 35.00 / null

350 gm.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=783360>

-----  
Collaborative Conversations : Celebrating Twenty-One Years of The Mothertongue Project / (Ed) Alex Halligey and Sara Matchett

Modjaji Books Pty Ltd, Cape Town, South Africa 2021

256p.

9781928433163

\$ 45.00 / null

510 gm.

To celebrate Mothertongue's 21st anniversary, Collaborative Conversations weaves together the reflections of a group of artists, scholars and writers who have journeyed with the organisation over the last two decades.

Since its inception in 2000 with What the Water Gave Me, The Mothertongue Project has used participatory, integrated arts methods to create theatrical works that strive for personal and collective dialogue and healing in South Africa.

In poetry, scholarly writing and transcribed oral conversations, the contributors now think and feel their way through the aspirations and achievements – and the alchemy – of The Mothertongue Project's work. Accompanied by photographs of performances from across the 21 years, this book provides a sense of what a Mothertongue theatre piece does: it draws audience and performers into transformative, embodied conversations.

Includes work by Awino Okech, Genna Gardini, Koleka Putuma, Makgati Mokwena, Malika Ndlovu, Mwenya B Kabwe, Nicosia Shakes, Nina Callaghan, Ntomboxolo Makhutshi and Rehane Abrahams.

<https://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=782893>

-----

#### HOW TO ORDER BOOKS FROM US :

##### Institutional/Individual Libraries

Please send us your official purchase order by e-mail/fax/post. We shall despatch the books to you. On receipt of the books in good condition, you can send us your Payment by Cheque/Wire Transfer. Credit Card Payments are accepted through paypal. For Postage & Packing - Actuals are charged. You can check the Postage at [www.singpost.com](http://www.singpost.com). If you need any further clarification, please do contact us.

-----