

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 15, 2023

Rovaco Dance Party 2023

Evening of live music, dance, cultural experiences, snacks & drinks, and DJ

Saturday, September 9 | 5pm - 9pm EST Brooklyn Ballet & Mark O'Donnell Theater 160 Schermerhorn St, Brooklyn NY 11201

<u>Brooklyn, NY</u>: Rovaco Dance Company presents our fifth annual Rovaco Dance Party on Saturday, September 9th in Downtown Brooklyn. This evening of music, dance, and cultural exchange begins with an informal social at the Brooklyn Ballet Studio inspired by Indian hospitality traditions. Guests are tied an auspicious red thread called "Kalava" when they arrive, and complimentary Indian snacks and drinks are served. After the social, we transition next doors to the Mark O'Donnell Theater for live music and dance performances, curated and MC'ed by Rovaco's Artistic Director, Rohan Bhargava. The evening ends with a DJ dance party for all!

NOTE: Doors open at 5pm and performances begin at 7:00pm. All attendees are required to check-in at Brooklyn Ballet by 6:30pm at the latest. Our box office will close early to ensure a smooth transition to the theater space.

Rovaco Dance Party is sponsored, in part, by the Greater New York Arts Development Fund of New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, administered by Brooklyn Arts Council.

Dance Programming: Mixed Repertoire from Rovaco Dance

Aaiye (Welcome)

Dancers: Siddharth Dutta and Devika Chandnani

The Devil's Advocate Dancer: Nico Gonzales

Sex Robot (Excerpt from KAMA)

Dancers: Isabele Rosso, Karma Chuki, and Devika Chandnani

Choreography: Rohan Bhargava in collaboration with dancers

Resident Composer: Saúl Guanipa

Live Music Programming

Beatboxing: Arabelle Luke

Saxophone: Max Bessesen

Drums: Stephen Boegehold

DJ: Cameron McKinney/DJ KAZVMA

Indian Snack & Drink Station

Hosted and designed by Chef Ashmita Biswas

Tickets available here.

Rohan Bhargava, Founder & Artistic Director of Rovaco Dance Company, was born in New Delhi, India and relocated to New York in 2012 to receive a BFA in Dance from NYU. Featured in Dance Magazine's "25 to Watch 2021," Rohan has showcased work in New York, New Jersey, Texas, Massachusetts, Vermont, and Minnesota. Rovaco has been commissioned by Mare Nostrum Elements, Dance Gallery Festival, Rhythmically Speaking, Making Moves Dance Festival, and Mannes School of Music. Additionally, Rohan has been a resident artist for Dancewave, Sam Houston State University, Periapsis Music & Dance, and CUNY Dance Initiative.

Operating since 2015, Rovaco produces immersive contemporary dance, music, and theater with the goal of sparking social, cultural, and interpersonal conversations. Transforming quotidian gestures and motions into fully embodied phrases, our movement aesthetic aims to unearth the cathartic in the everyday.

In the past, our work has found thematic context in the power dynamics of relationships, addiction under capitalism, sex, and the queer experiences of each. Since 2020, the company has also researched cultural narratives with a focus on the Indian sub-continent. Our dissecting and celebrating of Indian culture intends to create a safe space for contemporary Indian artists to explore their identities and artistic voices. Simultaneously, it is our duty to provide authentic cultural experiences to audiences, allowing them to examine their own embodiments of culture, and how they interact with those of others.

In cultivating this relationship with audiences, Rovaco seeks most broadly to increase viewership and appreciation for contemporary performing arts. By striking a balance of rigor and accessibility, we hope to bring disparate communities together to ignite conversations that might not otherwise take place.

For more information, please contact:
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