

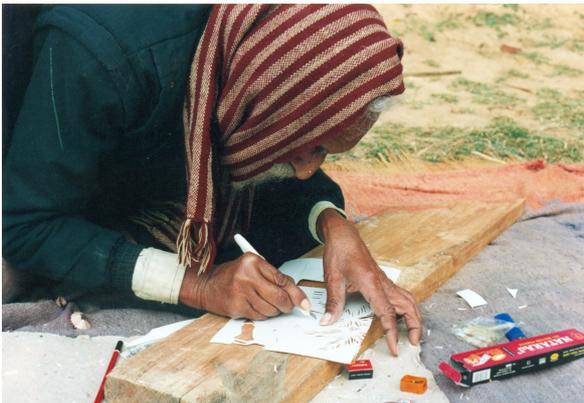
Saṅdhyā Mela 2013



artistic and cultural workshop in West Bengal

Shadow puppetry and indian music
at Milon Mela Theatre House - Shantiniketan

Albero Baniano is a cultural association based in Italy and engaged in promoting some indian classical arts such as music and puppetry. Six years ago, and before, we have done few workshops in Shantipur (Nadia) and Shantiniketan (Birbhum), and also in Orissa, involving indian puppeteers, schools and villages.



Shadow Puppetry

In connection with the previous experience we are now happy to present you a new workshop with an old master of *shadowgraphy*, Radhakumr 'Daju' Sharma from Nalanda, now based in Shantiniketan at Milon Mela Theatre House, and Silvia De Ambrogi, an italian puppeteer who has developed Daju's design in few stories, including Buddha Charita, Shakuntala and The Christmas story.

The aim of the workshop is to involve students and researchers, teachers and artists both from India and abroad, for joining the work with Daju and Silvia, while we shall offer the activities to a group of children from the tribal villages of the area.

The shadowgraphy workshop is divided in two main targets: work with adults and work with children. the adults who would like to help in the children workshop can do it according to the needs.

Another important objective is to create a condition of economic and artistic feedback for some old artists without a socially recognized status.

Sandhya means to join, and indicates twilight or simply the evening, but is much related with the metamorphosis of light into darkness and viceversa. It is the time for giving offers (arati), singing chants and play the 'sandhya prakash' ragas, the specific melodies for the twilight. We also refer to

'sandhya' or evening as the time for the projection of shadows.

Indian Music

The other main activity we are going to organise in Shantiniketan is a practice session for indian music students. We are focusing on the practice of the **bansuri flute**, since we are already promoting this simple but great instrument in Italy, **tabla and vocal music** also for every instrumentalist.

We are bringing different artists for the practice, such as Khayal singers, Indian flutists and Tabla players. The workshop is not intended as a music course only. It is more an occasion for living together in a sort of artistic ashram, where we can absorb the natural atmosphere and dedicating to our practice after sharing the classes with versed musicians.

Along with the dip into indian classical music we would like to share the association with some great Baul artists, folk singers and musicians from Nodia. It will be a great occasion for a grasp of an ancient and wonderful Bengali tradition and another side of our 'joint venture' or sandhya.



Time

we will be working with the artists in the following days

15th – 23rd january

Music Workshop: Khayal vocal music, bansuri flute and tabla
+ Baul Samgit

[**second session** from 18th to 25th february]

23th – 31st january

Chayabaji: Shadow puppetry

[**second session** from 18th to 25th february]



Location

Milon Mela Theatre House is working from over 20 years with traditional performing artists from India. We will be guests at their place, in a natural surround and a simple but efficient home organisation.

The House is very near to Vishva Bharati University Shantiniketan, West Bengal, India (only 3 hours from Kolkata).

Please check the website: <http://digilander.libero.it/milonmela/>

For any question please contact Igor Orifici - Albero Baniano Associazione Culturale
via Caprera 5 - Laveno (VA) Italy email: alberobaniano@gmail.com
website: www.alberobaniano.weebly.com ph. +39 0332 669588 mobile +39 377 4388814