

Herald Cafe



AIZ MHAKA FALEA TUKA: FIRST KONKANI HIP-HOP GOSPEL ALBUM



BBVM STUDENTS HOLD THEIR GOLDEN JUBILEE REUNION

The Promise of Easter

Every year, millions around the world gather to celebrate **Easter Sunday**, the most important feast in the Christian calendar. For Catholics, it is not just a holiday marked by customs or traditions—it is the heart of the Christian faith



Br Malvino Alfonso

Easter proclaims that Christ is risen, that life triumphs over death, hope over despair, and light over darkness. But Easter isn't just about something that happened 2,000 years ago. It's also about what continues to happen in our world, in our communities, and in our hearts today.

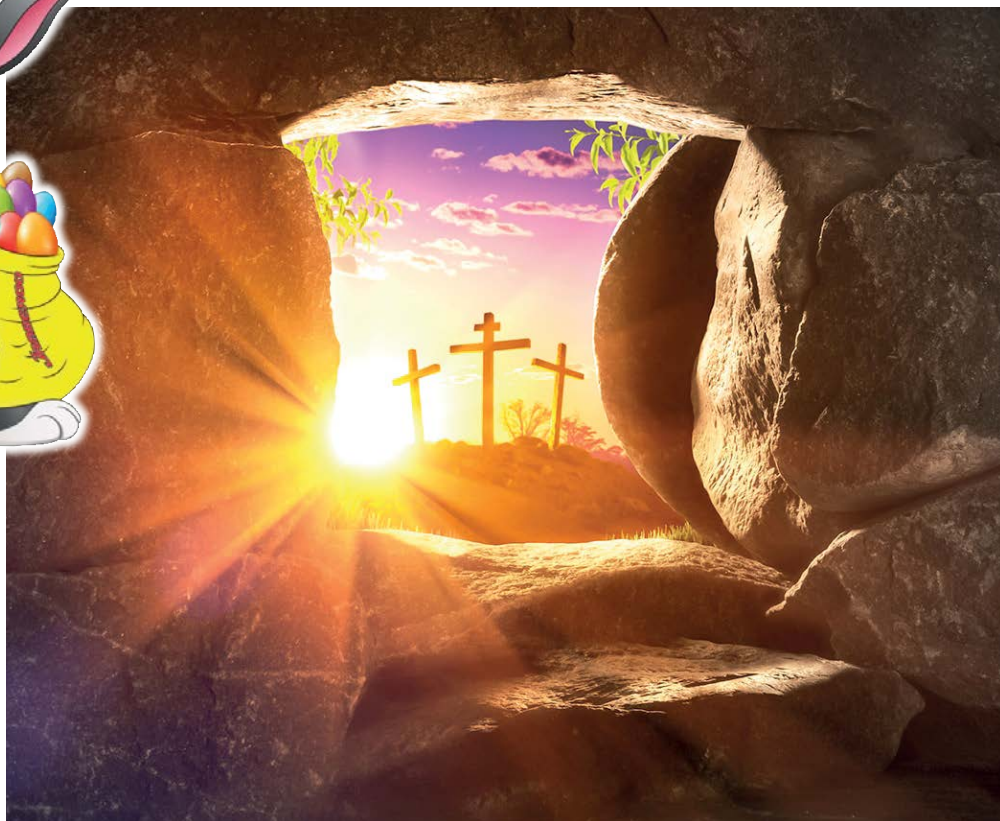
THE HISTORICAL AND LITURGICAL ROOTS

The Easter celebration begins on Holy Saturday night with the Easter Vigil, often called the "mother of all vigils." Rich in symbolism, the liturgy begins after nightfall with the blessing of fire and the lighting of the Paschal (Easter) Candle, symbolizing Christ as the light that shatters the darkness. A procession leads the congregation into the church, now illuminated by this one flame, and the ancient hymn Exultet is sung in praise of the risen Christ.

A series of readings from the Bible follow—stories that trace God's love and salvation throughout history. Then, joyfully, the Gloria is sung, and the Alleluia rings out for the first time since the beginning of Lent. If there are baptismal candidates, they are welcomed through the Sacrament of Baptism. Otherwise, the congregation renews their baptismal promises, affirming their faith in the Risen Christ. The Mass then continues with the celebration of the Eucharist, the heart of

Catholic worship.

On Easter morning, the joy continues with the Resurrection Mass, where churches bloom with flowers, and the songs resound with Alleluia.



A SEASON OF JOY, NOT JUST A DAY

Interestingly, Easter isn't just one Sunday. In the Catholic tradition, it marks the beginning of a 50-day season, culminating in Pentecost. As early as the third century, the Church described these fifty days as "one great Sunday." Every Sunday during this season reflects a different encounter with the risen Christ—from His appearance to Mary Magdalene in the garden, to His walk with the disciples on the road to Emmaus, and finally, the gift of the Holy Spirit.

This extended celebration reminds us that resurrection is not a moment—it's a movement, one that continues through our lives and into the world.

WHAT EASTER TEACHES US

While Easter is deeply rooted in Christian theology, its message speaks universally. Whether you're a person of deep faith or just someone looking for meaning in a troubled world, Easter offers a powerful and timely lesson.

LOVE CONQUERS HATE

The Resurrection affirms that love—sacrificial, selfless, enduring love—has the final word. The Cross, once a symbol of death and cruelty, becomes a symbol of victory through the Resurrection. It's a reminder to respond to hatred not with more hatred, but with mercy and compassion.

LIFE DOESN'T END AT THE GRAVE

For Christians, Easter is not just about metaphorical resurrection—it is the promise of eternal life. But even for those less religious, Easter points to the power of renewal, second chances, and the enduring value of every human life.

WE ARE CALLED TO RISE TOO

Easter isn't just about Christ rising. It's about

us rising—from the things that weigh us down: fear, guilt, division, and sin. It invites us to be renewed in heart and spirit, to live differently, to forgive more freely, and to walk with a lighter step into the world.

EASTER IN THE WORLD TODAY

In an age of fast news, growing division, and uncertainty, the message of Easter is not outdated. It is more relevant than ever. It teaches us that goodness is never wasted, that suffering is never the end of the story, and that change—real, transformative change—is always possible.

Easter urges believers and seekers alike to live with greater compassion, to be people of light in dark times, and to recognize that every small act of kindness, forgiveness, and truth participates in the resurrection.

A DAY THAT NEVER ENDS

Easter Sunday is a day that changed history, and for those who believe, it continues to change hearts. It's a call to celebrate

life, to rise above despair, and to witness to a the world continues to deeply need or long for hope

Whether you're lighting a candle in church, singing an Alleluia, sharing a meal with family, or just stepping outside to greet the dawn—Easter invites you to believe in the possibility of something more.



SYMBOLS THAT SPEAK

One of the most prominent Easter symbols is the Paschal Candle, blessed during the Vigil and lit at every Mass throughout the season. Its flame represents the Risen Christ and remains burning in churches until Pentecost. After that, it is placed near the baptismal font and used during baptisms and funerals—marking the beginning and end of our earthly journey with the promise of resurrection.

The Easter egg symbolizes new life, resurrection, and hope—ideas central to the celebration of Easter.

HOPE IS STRONGER THAN DESPAIR

The story of Jesus rising from the dead is a powerful declaration that no night is so dark that it can extinguish the light of dawn. In a world facing war, injustice, suffering, and loneliness, Easter calls us to believe that hope can rise again, even from the most broken situations.



Every misdeed will carry punishment

Tiatr: 'Hi Amchea Patkank Sojea'

Cast: Evon, Risma, Jones, Ivon, Nazario, Anif, Celina, Ali, Manu, comedian Lino, Lanesha, Jonas

Director/Writer: John Miranda

Band: Edrol/Megan (trumpet), Cryuf (keyboard), Mariano (bass), Macmillan (drums)

Stage/Lights: Pedro Santan, Sunny

Pio Esteves

The story revolves around Bruto Moraes (Anif), a landlord with a generous heart and a passion for social service. However, despite his good deeds, his involvement with a married woman, Landrita (Evon), overshadows his virtues, and his misdeeds begin to dominate his reputation.

Pedru (Jose), his wife Reema (Celina), and their daughter Sheela (Jones) live together as a humble family. Due to financial struggles, Pedru decides to start a business and approaches Bruto for assistance. Rather than offering direct financial help, Bruto suggests a practical idea: he offers to buy a trawler for Pedru. The deal includes sharing the profits, with Bruto claiming two shares and Pedru settling for one. The arrangement is accepted, and Pedru's business begins to flourish.

Bro. Garry (Ivon) enters the picture and



urges Bruto to end his relationship with the married Landrita, reminding him that such behavior goes against God's law. However, blinded by his wealth, fame, and pride, Bruto refuses to change his ways.

Meanwhile, Reema and Sheela try their best to convince Pedru to reflect on the direction his life is heading, warning him that his current path may lead nowhere. Yet, as the head of the family, Pedru remains unmoved.

What unfolds between Bruto and Landrita

in the second half of the drama is worth watching. Will Pedru's rise from poverty lead to lasting success, or will his journey from the gutters to the top take a different turn?

Tiatr Review

HI AMCHEA PATKANK SOJEA

thought-provoking messages. Interspersed throughout the play are Biblical scenes that encourage the audience to reflect on the

Word of God. The final scene, depicting the crucifixion of Christ, is particularly powerful and has been portrayed with great care.

All the artists deliver commendable performances in their respective roles. Anif impresses as the conflicted landlord, while Jose brings simplicity and honesty to the character of Pedru. Evon takes on a negative role as Landrita with convincing flair. The main cast is well-supported by Nazario Pinto, Ali as a lawyer, and Manu, who plays both a priest and another supporting role. In the Biblical scenes, John Miranda appears as Jesus and delivers a moving performance—especially in the concluding scene.

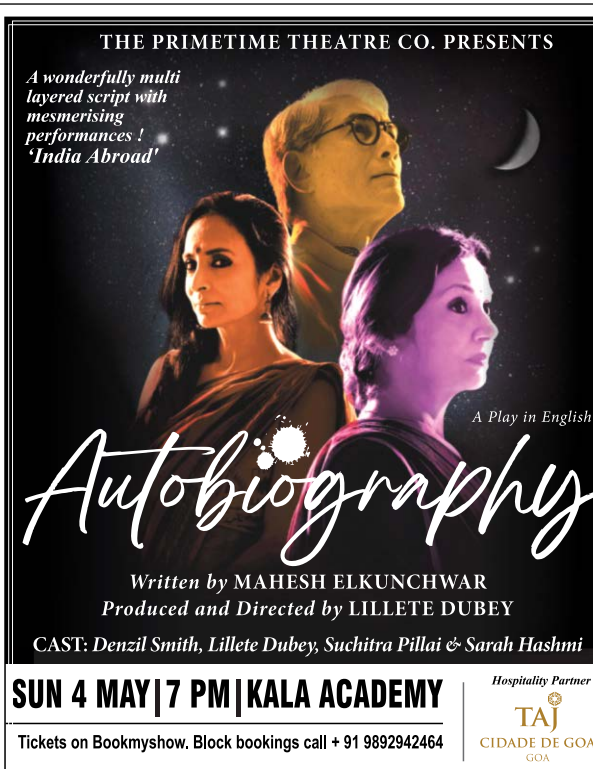
For lighter moments, comedians Lino, Lanesha, and teenager Jonas bring a generous dose of humor. However, the comedic segments sometimes lean more toward pure entertainment than spiritual reflection, which may feel slightly off-tone for the Lenten season.

The musical aspect of the show is strong. Jose opens with a solo, followed by songs from Nazario Pinto, Ivon, Anthony San, Risma, and various group performances by Ivon, Jose, Celina, Jones, Anif, Evon, and others. The live band—featuring Edrol/Megan on trumpet, Cryuf on keyboard, Mariano on bass, and Macmillan on drums—provides solid musical support to all the singers.

Stage sets were effectively managed by Pedro Santan, while lighting was expertly handled by Sunny.



Anne Hathaway, 42, sparks plastic surgery speculation as she debuts a very taut face at Ralph Lauren fashion show



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