

## Theatre Review: 'Treya's Last Dance' at FringeNYC

Posted By: Jacquelyn Claire on: August 15, 2016

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Shyam Bhatt in *Treya's Last Dance*. Photo by Abhishekhaaree Parthasarathy.

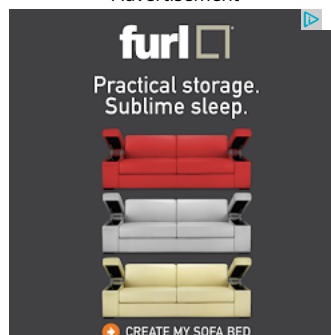
*Treya's Last Dance* is a meaty one-woman show that is the perfect vehicle for Shyam Bhatt to show her extraordinary talent.

**“...with more layers than a Magnolia Banana pudding.”**

We're in Croydon, London, and Treya has resorted to speed dating after feeling the pressure from her parents to find a man. As each new potential partner parades past her we get 5 minutes of concentrated gut punching episodes from her life. The innocuous questions elicit fragments of her unraveling world, which are both hysterically funny and dev circled she becomes a spinning top, unable to stop herself from losing control.

We will meet her parents, extended family, and friends, but her primary relationship is with her brother, who brings an eccentric elegance into her life. She colors each vignette 21<sup>st</sup>-century London, with all of its accents and cockney slang. Treya personifies the first generation immigrant condition, where she is required to straddle both the British born the Indian cultural heritage of her immediate family. She often falters around their expectations.

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She expertly addresses issues from office politics to eye shagging in Harrods, from culturally stagnant rhetoric to individual fall out, from homophobia to the claustrophobia of she lures us into her world with the skill of an adroit fly fisherman.

Bhatt is an electric performer, showing her intelligence in every emotional gear shift and in her ability to play superb comedy, as well as complex grief. She is an accomplished j to inhabit the many characters she plays with believability and well-observed characterization. She has funny bones that make you snort with laughter, and then she takes you spots that leave you bereft. And on top of everything, she dances beautifully! She is also a powerful wordsmith, able to craft a text of funny self-effacing humor, as well as mom agony.

Director Tiffany Nicole Greene has ensured there are not only moments of frenetic hilarity, but also ones of stillness and shattering honesty, with more layers than a Magnolia I

This production is essential festival fare, which has great acting, a brilliant script, well-executed direction, and left me with tears rolling down my face at the end.

Running Time: 50 minutes, with no intermission.

*Treya's Last Dance* plays through August 23, 2016 at the Abrazo Interno Gallery Theater at the Clemente as a part of FringeNYC. For tickets, [click here](#). For more information on [Fr](#)