



'GANAPATI STORIES' offers a fresh spin on Hindu myths at Toronto Fringe Kidsfest

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Broken Tusk Creations is excited to announce its debut production, *Ganapati Stories*, in association with the 2021 Toronto Fringe Festival. Part of the 2021 Fringe Digital Kidsfest, *Ganapati Stories* reinterprets three classic tales of the beloved elephant-headed god Ganapati (also known as Ganesha) for an all-ages audience: *How Ganapati Raced Around the World*, *Ganapati Looks for Love*, and *How Ganapati Broke His Tusk*. It will be available to watch online from July 21-31, 2021.

Among the larger-than-life characters of Hindu mythology, the sweet-toothed, mouse-riding, elephant-headed god Ganapati, deity of new beginnings and remover of obstacles, is the largest and liveliest of all. In *Ganapati Stories*, audiences will get to know one of the most popular gods in the world alongside a cast of unforgettable characters, brought to life by a single storyteller.

Director and creator Jackson Nair grew up hearing the adventures of Indian gods and heroes in bedtime stories told by his family, who emigrated from Kerala, India, to Canada. Each of the three tales in the production is inspired by the versions told in his family and other sources, including India's classic Amar Chitra Katha comics. In telling these stories, Nair aimed to tell funny, charming, accessible versions suitable for everyone - and, like all good storytellers, add his own twist. His lively, captivating reinterpretations will appeal to young lovers of comic books and Greek and Roman mythology, introducing new fans to an ancient world of heroes.

The 45-minute production contains three stories, as told by Nair.

- In *How Ganapati Raced Around the World*, listeners will meet a quirky, loving divine family as young Ganapati and his brother Kartikeya take on the ultimate challenge in pursuit of a juicy mango.
- In *Ganapati Looks for Love*, audiences will join the god as he searches for the perfect person to spend eternity with ... and learns a little something about himself on the way.
- *Why Ganapati Has A Broken Tusk*, the final story in the trilogy, explains the night sky and one of Ganapati's defining features, the broken tusk that gives Broken Tusk Productions its name.

Whether listeners have heard these tales a hundred times over or are meeting Ganapati and his family for the very first time, we hope they'll be charmed and delighted by *Ganapati Stories*.

Broken Tusk Creations is actor, director, and theatremaker Jackson Nair. He is a mixed-race member of the Indian diaspora living on the traditional territories of the Wendat, Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, and the Mississaugas of the Credit. Jackson is a proud graduate of the theatre program at Bishop's University and of the TENT program at the Toronto Fringe Festival. His previous directing credits include *Frostbite* by Carey Bray (The Villains Theatre: Isolate Nights, 2020), *Just In Love* by Richard Ellen (New Ideas Festival 2020), *A Wolf at the Oasis* by Douglas Tindal (InspiraTo Festival, 2019) and *Outside Looking In* by David Healey (New Ideas Festival, 2019). *Ganapati Stories* is his first Fringe production.

Broken Tusk Creations

in association with **The Toronto Fringe Festival** presents

Ganapati Stories

Written, directed, and performed by Jackson Nair

Digital editing by Jed Kevin Perada

Streaming July 21 – 31, 2021

Online at <https://fringetoronto.com/digital-fringe/kidsfest/show/ganapati-stories>

Tickets and Memberships: [Available from the Toronto Fringe Festival, starting at \\$5.](#)

Toronto Fringe Communications Manager: Claire Wynveen, communications@fringetoronto.com

Contact, Broken Tusk Creations: Jackson Nair, jacksonnair9@gmail.com