

### **Nautanki Bazaar:**

Nautanki Bazaar is newly formed collective by Neha Poduval and Himanshu Sitlani in Toronto, Canada with a mandate that focuses on South Asian Artists and Arts.

Their debut production “An IMM-Permanent’ Resident” was scheduled to open at The Theatre Centre in Toronto in April 2020, but has been on hold due to COVID-19.

Their first digital play ‘Stories of a Dish’ was presented at the Mississauga and Edinburgh Fringe Festivals in August 2021 and now the Next Stage Festival in January 2022. The play was also performed in London, UK and Mumbai, India.

### **Bio:**

**Himanshu Sitlani (he/him)** - Himanshu Sitlani is a thespian, originally hailing from Mumbai. Foraying his way into theatre as an actor, he progressed on to other creative aspects and worked as a Stage Manager and Producer. He co-founded Le Chayim Theatre Productions in Mumbai in 2006 where he eventually made his directorial debut in 2013. Since immigrating to Toronto Canada, Himanshu’s been immersed in supporting the creative arts, working as Patron Services Manager at Factory Theatre, while penning down his ideas towards his goal of creating a bridge between creative artists in Canada and India.

**Neha Poduval (she/her)** - Neha Poduval is a trained actor, with several feathers in her creative hat, having performed in various theatre plays, corporate films and TV shows across India. A post-graduate in Acting from the reputed Film and Television Institute of India, she continued her association with the performing arts since moving to Canada. Neha has worked with DLT Theatre (The Stranger / Summerworks 2015, Off Limits Zone / Luminato 2016) and Alumnae Theatre (Granite Girls / New Ideas Festival 2017).

In January 2021, she launched her YouTube Cooking Channel “Mustard Tempered Dreams” where she shares her love for food with easy to make Indian and global vegetarian recipes.

Neha is also a certified Yoga Teacher and has been teaching Yoga across various studios, community and senior centres in Toronto.