

WHAT TO EXPECT

Garbh is an **outdoor performance**



Garbh is 25 minutes long, with no intermission.



The levels of sound go between loud and very quiet. You will hear dancers breathing heavily together, clapping and clicking their fingers, and at times loudly yell to cue each other or release energy. You will also hear the sound of the dancers' feet against the sand and of the sand falling on the set floor.



You can arrive and leave the performance area at any point.



You are free to sit or stand all around the stage. There will also be some chairs available if preferred.



The performers are OK if you make noise
They enjoy it!



This show will be audio described, please ask a member of staff for a headset if you would like to hear the audio description.

ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE



Garbh is an in-the-round outdoor dance performance that blends Garba (Gujarati Folk Dance) and more contemporary choreography, co-created by Shyam Dattani and Mira Salat.



Garbh means Womb. Honouring divine feminine energy 'Shakti', Garbh embodies the source of life, force of transformation, and essence of motherhood. The performers, orbiting a central clay lantern (Garbo) that signifies life within the womb, explores themes of community, creation, resilience, and unity, transforming public spaces into vibrant sites of shared celebration and embodied ritual.



There are 6 performers on-set in Garbh. There is also a 7th older performer, that joins the rest of the cast shortly at the beginning, and in the middle of the piece.

GARBH



The performers wear earth toned costumes that have form fitting blouses (backless for the female performers) and ankle-length cotton skirts.



The set is a circular solid base that has been set directly on the ground, and it is 8 meters in diameter. It is covered in a terracotta coloured fabric. On the set are piles of golden sand, that are spread across it during the performance. In the middle, a central sand pile with a large Garbo (terracotta coloured clay pot) sitting on top of it.



The set is covered in a mix of sand and fine cork, that the performers dance on, interact with, and throw in the air. The sand is always thrown towards the inside of the set but some sand might fall outside of this, closer to the audience.



Garbh includes scenes of burial/death.