

# DERBY SEASON OF LIGHT

October - December 2023

[www.surtalarts.co.uk](http://www.surtalarts.co.uk)



Celebrating our city's dazzling diversity





# Welcome to Derby Season of Light 2023!

Derby's annual celebration of our city's dazzling diversity and creativity, brought to you by Surtal Arts.

This autumn experience 'light' in new and illuminating ways.

Between October to December we've planned a wonderful series of events for you and the whole family, in partnership with arts and cultural partners across Derby and Derbyshire.

Whether you want to watch professional artists create amazing new work, or get stuck in with hands-on workshops creating lanterns and shadow puppets. You could immerse yourself in a unique exhibition or take part in the ever-popular annual Lantern Parade featuring spectacular performances from around the world.

Derby's Season of Light has something for the whole family to enjoy and bring in the warm glow.

This year we're also proud to celebrate some of India's sustainable indigenous crafts, kept alive by women in rural villages there. We shine a light on their talent and the organisations who support their creative livelihood.

Though Derby Season of Light is spearheaded by Surtal Arts, we're a charity and the festival is only made possible with the generous support of our funders, venue partners, volunteers, board and ambassadors.

Thanks to all of our supporters and you, fans of Derby Season of Light - let's get creative with light!

Find out how you can become a supporter or volunteer for Derby Season of Light, email [info@surtalarts.co.uk](mailto:info@surtalarts.co.uk)

# EVENTS



## The Hidden Stories of Kantha

-  Fri 6 Oct to Sat 30 Dec
-  Mon to Sat 9am-4pm (Sun closed)
-  Deda, Chapel Street, Derby DE1 3LU
-  Free



**This textile exhibition takes us on a journey into the heart of rural India** through the eyes of She-Kantha Foundation\*.

Witness the magic of Kantha, an ancient stitching technique from West Bengal and Orissa, that intricately weaves stories of village life and mythological tales on sustainable fabrics.

Though this thousand-year-old upcycling handicraft is once again popular worldwide, we shine a light on it's traditional roots as a canvas for ordinary rural women to tell their stories, express their fears, hopes and dreams.


This is a unique exhibition that must not be missed!

\*She-Kantha Foundation is an NGO based in Kolkata, India, dedicated to supporting the women in rural India who keep the ancient art of Kantha alive at its roots.







## Madhubani Art Workshop

 Sun 22 Oct

 11am-1pm

 Online

 £3

 Suitable for age 7+


*Please book your tickets at [surtalarts.co.uk](https://surtalarts.co.uk)*


**Learn to create a traditional Madhubani painting** - one of the most popular forms of folk art from Bihar, India.


Surtal Arts have teamed up with MITHILAsmita Trust, Delhi to bring you this special workshop run by the talented local women who practise the artform. The learn how to paint unique Madhubani forms of people, nature and symbols of ancient Indian tales.

Workshop fee doesn't include materials – please check [surtalarts.co.uk](https://surtalarts.co.uk) to find out what you need. Upon request, we can also provide materials for a little extra cost.

## In conversation with: Malika Dudeja Varma

 Fri 20 Oct

 7-8pm

 Deda, Chapel Street, Derby DE1 3LU

 Free

 Age 10+

*Please book your tickets at [deda.uk.com](https://deda.uk.com) or [surtalarts.co.uk](https://surtalarts.co.uk)*

**Step into a world of creativity and empowerment** with social entrepreneur and Artistic Director of She-Kantha Foundation, Malika Dudeja Varma.

Be inspired by her story and the impact her organisation has on the women who keep the ancient textile art of Kantha alive in rural India. We talk about Kantha's global popularity and presence in mainstream wearable fashion too. The evening includes a sari catwalk showcasing the elegance and grace of unique Kantha saris.

This is a chance to also view the 'Hidden Stories of Kantha' exhibition at Deda.

This a free event but booking is essential as places are limited.





## Lantern Making Workshop

- Mon 30 Oct** 11am-1pm
  - Artcore Gallery, 8 Osnabrick Square  
Albert Street, Derby DE1 2DS
  - £5 per person Suitable for all ages
- Please book at [surtalarts.co.uk](http://surtalarts.co.uk)*

- Thurs 2 Nov** 10am-12pm
  - QUAD, Market Place, Derby DE1 3AS
  - £10 per person Suitable for age 7-11
- Please book at [derbyquad.co.uk](http://derbyquad.co.uk)*

- Wed 29 Nov** 10.30am-12.30pm
  - QUAD, Market Place, Derby DE1 3AS
  - £10 per person Suitable for age 50+
- Please book through [derbyquad.co.uk](http://derbyquad.co.uk)*

**Create your own magical glow** to light up the autumn evenings. Join our ever popular lantern making workshops, with expert artists, to create your own sustainable lanterns using willow and tissue paper.

The lanterns use energy-efficient LED lights (not included) and will be held up on biodegradable bamboo sticks\*. Finished lanterns can be carried triumphantly in the Derby Lantern Parade on 2 December.

Places are limited, so early booking is essential. If full, please email [info@surtalarts.co.uk](mailto:info@surtalarts.co.uk) to be put on the waiting list.

\*no flames permitted, no lanterns released into the air



## Shadow Puppet Making Workshop

- Sun 4 Nov**
  - Deda, Chapel Street, Derby DE1 3LU
  - £5 per person Suitable for age 4-11\*
  - Session 1: 12.30pm-1.30pm
  - Session 2: 2pm-3pm
  - Session 3: 3pm-4pm
- Please book through [deda.uk.com](http://deda.uk.com)*

### Where crafting and storytelling meet.

Come and create your very own shadow puppet characters with our artist from Vagabonds. From enchanting Snow White to Diwali's demon king, to forest animals and mythical creatures, the possibilities are endless.

Take your puppets home and create your own shadow puppet show for your family and friends.

Spaces are limited, please book early.


*\*Under 6 must be accompanied by a parent.*






## The Magic of Bollywood Dance

 **Sat 4 Nov**

 Deda, Chapel Street, Derby DE1 3LU

 Children free / Adults £5

 Suitable for age 3+

 Sessions at: 12.30pm, 2pm and 3pm


*Please book at [deda.uk.com](http://deda.uk.com)*

**Step into the captivating world of Bollywood dance**, where every movement tells a story.


Our professional dance artist will guide you and your child through a fun interactive workshop, teaching everyone a simple dance routine using hand gestures and body movements with colourful props.

## The Story of Diwali

 **Thurs 9 Nov**  5pm-6pm

 Kedleston Hall, Kedleston Road,  
near Quarndon, Derby DE22 5JH

 Free

 Suitable for age 5+

*Places are limited, booking essential.*

*Contact [kedlestonhall@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:kedlestonhall@nationaltrust.org.uk)*

**Come and celebrate Diwali**, the festival of light that welcomes good fortune, family, and friendships into our lives.

Using Indian Classical dance style of Bharatnatyam, dance artist Priya Sundar brings the mythological story of Diwali come alive through intricate rhythmic footwork, movements, facial expression and hand gestures called mudras.


At the end of the storytelling performance you can have a go learning some of the hand gestures and movements.



## Apple 'N' Spice

 **Sat 4 Nov**

 11.30am & 2pm

 Deda, Chapel Street,  
Derby DE1 3LU

 £8 (children £6)

 Suitable for age 3+

*Please book at [deda.uk.com](http://deda.uk.com)*

**Introduce your children to Indian storytelling, dance and shadow puppetry** with Apple 'N' Spice, an original, interactive, and multi-cultural dance performance.

This intriguing new fairytale tells the story of two stepmothers; one from the East and one from the West, watch the plot thicken as their stories entwine. Then join the cast on stage for an Indian party to remember.







## Derby Lantern Parade

A spectacular of colour  
and culture

- Sat 2 Dec**
- 3.30pm-4.30pm approx
- St. Peters Church, St Peter's Street,  
Derby DE1 1SN
- Free
- Suitable for all

## Enchanting Raga

An evening of Indian Classical Music

- Sat 25 Nov**
  - 7pm-9pm
  - Strutts Community Centre, Derby Road,  
Belper DE56 1UU
  - £12 / £10 (concession) Age 10+
- Please book at [surtalarts.co.uk](http://surtalarts.co.uk)*

Enjoy this special music concert for Diwali.

The classic combination of sitar, sarangi and tabla with rising stars on Britain's Indian classical music scene, Akash Parekar (sitar), Sandeep Singh Kandola (sarangi) and Harkiran Singh Sahota on the tabla.

Together, the trio will treat you to a mesmerising evening of Hindustani classical Ragas to semi classical repertoire - perfect for both Indian classical connoisseurs or those experiencing something new.

This concert will include an interval, when authentic Diwali snacks will be available.

Presented in partnership with Fleet Arts.

Join in the **Derby Lantern Parade**, the city's most dazzling spectacle, as families, children, and young people from schools and the community unite to light up the night with vibrant lanterns.

Experience enchanting global performances, from the mesmerizing Chinese Dragon dance to the thunderous beats of the Dhol drum, and from the colourful world of Bollywood to high-energy Bhangra dances.

Bring your own lantern (no glass lanterns or real flames will be allowed) or make your own lantern at one of our workshops and join us with your friends and families and have fun!



For more information  
and booking scan the QR  
or visit [surtalarts.co.uk](http://surtalarts.co.uk)



# #DERBYSEASONOFLIGHT

Tag us in your photos when you come along to the events and tell us what you thought - we'd love to hear all about it! Share your experiences and creations on social media using:

**#DerbySeasonOfLight**

Tag us and follow to stay up to date:



@SurtalArts



@SurtalArts



@Surtal\_Arts



## SURTAL ARTS

Surtal Arts is a Derby based non-profit combined arts organisation specialising in South Asian Arts and creating wonderful cross-cultural experiences that enrich peoples lives.

[www.surtalarts.co.uk](http://www.surtalarts.co.uk)    [info@surtalarts.co.uk](mailto:info@surtalarts.co.uk)

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Tickets and information at [surtalarts.co.uk](http://surtalarts.co.uk)

