



ECTA

Presents

MINI THEATRE FESTIVAL

Featuring

Five Grains of Rice

(A Play in English)

&

Abelar Golpo

**(A Story of the Waning
Day)**

(A Play in Bengali)

Dates:

May 1, May 2

and May 3 (2026)

At

**The Historic Edison Valley
Playhouse**

2196 Oak Tree Rd, Edison, NJ-08820

**Parental discretion is advised.*

Five Grains of Rice (A Play in English)



**Script, Design, and Direction:
Arindam Ghosh**

**Story Idea and Additional
Writings:
Shampa Basu**

CAST

Mitu Raphael Tiwari as Damini

Shampa Basu as Ela

Arindam Ghosh as Jayant

**Acknowledgement:
Nicholas Horner**

Website:

<https://www.ebongtheatrix.org/fivegrains>

Five Grains of Rice

Synopsis:

Five Grains of Rice is a taut, intimate drama about love, memory, and emotional survival.

Over the course of one evening, a married couple's carefully constructed world is disrupted by the arrival of a former lover, forcing all three to confront unresolved desires, buried resentments, and the fragile truths that hold relationships together.

What begins as a courteous dinner slowly turns into a psychological reckoning. Old wounds surface. Power shifts quietly across the table. A seemingly trivial challenge — centered around five grains of rice — becomes the catalyst for exposing past betrayals and present insecurities. As the night deepens, the characters must decide whether truth liberates or destroys.

At its core, the play explores how ambition, love, and moral compromise intertwine — and whether intimacy can survive once the stories we tell about ourselves begin to unravel.

Five Grains of Rice

CAST



Shampa Basu is a DC-area actor and board member of Ebong TheatriX. Her recent credits include *Enough to Let the Light In* (Silver Spring Stage) and *Five Grains of Rice*, for which she

earned Outstanding Actor at the 2024 Maryland Theater Festival. She is also a member of The Theater Lab–DC.



Mitu Raphael Tiwari brings twenty years of theatre experience as actor, playwright, and director. Her notable acting credits include *Adhe Adhure* and *Yayati*.

Her directorial works — *Let Me Flow*, *Silences & Echoes*, and *Iktara* — reflect her vision of immersive theatre that awakens the senses beyond the stage.



Arindam Ghosh co-founded Ebong TheatriX in 2014 and serves as its co-Artistic Director. As playwright and director, his works have earned multiple awards including the Cliff Smith Memorial Award for Excellence

in Directing and the Spencer C. Watson Jr. Award for Excellence in Technical Theater. His play *Avinash* represented the Eastern States region at the AACT National Festival.

Five Grains of Rice

Sudipta Majumdar: Stage Manager

Ilina Ghosh Sanyal: Sound Operator



Ilina has been drawn to dance, vocals and theatre since a young age. She made her acting debut in Pandamonium, directed by Arindam Ghosh, and recently appeared in her school production of Robin Hood and an Unnecessary Rescue.

Five Grains of Rice (Awards)

The play has garnered significant acclaim, earning several awards:

- **Maryland Community Theater Festival Association:**
 - Outstanding Production (Runner-Up)
 - Outstanding Ensemble Performance
 - Outstanding Costumes
 - Outstanding Performance (Shampa Basu)
 - The Cliff Smith Memorial Award for Excellence in Directing (Arindam Ghosh)
- **Silver Spring One Act Festival:**
 - Fan Favorite (Based on Audience Vote)
 - Outstanding Performance (Shampa Basu)
 - Outstanding Technical

The Telegraph India featured the play's debut at Kolkata's Academy of Fine Arts on January 19, 2024, highlighting its exploration of complex interpersonal relationships. The article commended the production for its engaging narrative and strong performances.

Abelar Golpo

(A Story of the Waning Day)

(Written by Sudipta Bhawmik)



**Directed by
Sudipta Bhawmik & Surath Sinha**

**Original Musical Score by
Anirban Chakrabarty**

Synopsis:

An aimless afternoon becomes a quiet reckoning when a wandering backpacker and a sanyasi, untethered from desire—cross paths with strangers driven by powerful dreams and unfulfilled longings.

In fleeting encounters, lives intersect, questions surface, and time presses in, forcing each of them to confront what truly matters before it slips away.

Abelar Golpo is a cerebral play, crafted by Sudipta, that delves into a multifaceted exploration of unfulfilled dreams, lost time, and undying hope.

Abelar Golpo

DIRECTED by Sudipta Bhawmik & Surath Sinha



Sudipta Bhawmik is a playwright, actor, and director who has written numerous plays in Bengali and English. His works explore the struggles of first-generation immigrants and their children.

He also writes, directs, and performs the podcast "The Stories of Mahabharata," and "The Stories of the Ramayana." Sudipta is member of the Dramatist Guild of America.



Surath Sinha is a theatre enthusiast and has acted in multiple plays under ECTA including Cold-fusion, Bhalobasa, Nagorik, Apaharan, Agnes, Paul O Vincent and The Infestation.

He has directed ECTA production Khela and has simultaneously captivated the audience playing as a lead actor in the same.

CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Rana Ray as Dhiman

Debasish Chaudhuri as Sanyasi

Manjuri De as Manasi

Ranojoy Ghosal as Siddheshwar

Sanjukta Bera as Pallabi

Dwaipayan Mukherjee as Surja

Shrabani Alo Nandi as Kalyani

Sudipta Bhawmik as Samaresh

Abelar Golpo

CAST



Rana has worked in Anahuta Sandhya, Bhalobasha, Ami Jagadish, Agnes, Beej o Brahma and Jonmantor for ECTA. He has performed in Shorshe, Eta Byaktigato under EPIC and has worked in Megh, Ekti Rajnoitik Hatya, Tin Paishar Pala.



Debasish has been passionate about stage acting since his school days and has performed with BCS Natyoghosthi since 2008. He recently played lead roles are in Adaab, Tiktiki, Tulkalam, Indur Kol, Mrityur Chokey Jol, Monipishi, and more. He has also directed multiple productions and appeared in the film Aguntuk(2022).



Manjuri is driven by a passion for learning, and exploring diverse perspectives like dance, music, and acting. She believes that live performances have the power to leave a lasting impact on audiences. She is committed to create magic through her craft.



Ranojoy started with ECTA 2025 and in 12 months performed in 3 Bengali/English plays for ECTA, SATF, and ICST. Offstage he loves photography and actively volunteers in the community. He is excited to join this new project.

Abelar Golpo

CAST



A dedicated performer skilled in sruti natok, recitation, and anchoring, Sanjukta has participated in several productions and now steps into her first major stage performance. She strives to connect deeply with audiences through her art.



Dwaipayan has been involved with ECTA since 2011 in various roles as an actor and technical support. He has performed in Ekti Gnaye Thaki, Dance pe Chance and Palok. Dwaipayan finds joy in every aspect of the theatre.



Shrabani is an ardent theatre lover and passionate supporter of local theater. She has worked with ECTA and SATF for over two decades, bringing enthusiasm and dedication whether on stage, backstage, in the sound booth, or in the audience.

Special thanks to all our CREW members and volunteers.

**Special thanks to Rich Monteiro
(The Historic Edison Valley Playhouse)**

Abelar Golpo

CREW

Aparajita Das: Music

Subhudev Das: Music & SuperTitles

Abhijit Neogy: Lights

**Pratapaditya Mallick: Set & Stage
design**

Surath Sinha: Stage Manager

Prasun Sarkar: Stage

Debojit Mukherjee: SuperTitles

With best Compliments...



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