

JAIVANT PATEL DANCE



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ARTIST

Producer Sarah Shead, Spin Arts | jaip@hotmail.co.uk | www.JaivantPatelDance.com

Jaivant Patel is an unapologetic Gujarati queer dancemaker and is currently one of the leading voices in amplifying LGBTQ+ South-Asian narratives.

ABOUT

Jaivant's artistic journey seeks to authentically assimilate kathak into a creative practice that compliments a contemporary dance background. Jaivant's approach to kathak integrates a curiosity in understanding the classical form's unique nuances rooted in diaspora, heritage and relationship to his own British-Indian identity. Jaivant is Artistic Director of the award-winning Jaivant Patel Dance. Creating bold work that reimagines pertinent global intercultural narratives and joyfully celebrates the intersectionality of modern lived experiences. Previous works include the award-nominated production *YAATRA* and dance film, *I Am Your Skin*. A new work entitled *Waltzing The Blue Gods* will tour from 2023.

Jaivant Patel Dance is a member of the Midlands Area Council for Arts Council England, Associate Artist/Company at Arena Theatre (Wolverhampton UK), Midlands Arts Centre (Birmingham UK) and Kala Sangam (Bradford City Of Culture 2025 UK).

Jaivant Patel Dance was a 2020 finalist for Eastern Eye's ACTA Award in Dance for *YAATRA* production. Named on Akademi's 2019 powerlist of '40 Under 40' South-Asian dance artists to look out for in the UK and also named on India Gazette London's 2018 'High & Mighty' powerlist of individuals, "you should know," in the UK-India corridor.

WORK

Jaivant Patel Dance's productions have a unique role in the UK dance ecology as currently being the only independent company that is touring work nationally. Amplifying South-Asian LGBTQ+ narratives, with Queer, Transgender and Intersex People of Colour (QTIPOC) perspectives as a priority.

Jaivant Patel Dance's bold works provoke a dialogue in their reinvention and reimagining of contemporary narratives that recontextualise the queer body space. They reclaim inherited notions and stereotypes surrounding contemporary British South-Asian identity.

Tour ready works include the award-nominated production *YAATRA* and dance film, *I Am Your Skin*.
Available to book now.

New work entitled, *Waltzing The Blue Gods* (with live music).
Available for touring from May 2023.

These works advocate for change in the global visibility, creative process and artistic practice of South-Asian artforms. South-Asian dance forms/aesthetics inform the creation of multi-layered contemporary work with its own idiosyncratic, modern language to re-imagine the artform in saying something powerful and resonant for audiences used to a diversity of cultural influences.