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Unveiling new talent amid twirls & tresses

By Archana

It has been famously said that at the root of all things stupendous is a brilliant idea. The thought kept coming back as one watched the contemporary dance/drama production, *The Veil*, at Religare Arts 1 gallery, Kasturba Gandhi Marg on Sunday afternoon. Only someone with immense creative potential could have turned something as abstract as a veil into a choreography that delisted a young mind's tangle with the past and the future.

The 15-minute production bore the stamp of youthful freshness and writhed with issues typical of those who have escaped the immaturity of early adulthood but are not quite middle-aged yet. Issues, perhaps, that can be most easily associated with someone in her late 20s, quite like the show's director and choreographer Charu Shankar.

The creators of the show, headed by Poetry and Contemporary Arts in Performance, Artwork, is now a mélange of dialogues, contemporary dance, music and a beautiful set, all tracing their origin to a poem. The Veil that Shankar had written in 2006. It began with a poem I wrote at a workshop by Dilip Shankar — A hair veil dranks before me, tresses in, and I stand on one side. My tomorrow stands on the other's just the squirrel of time, and I'll cross over to the other side. Surely, it developed into a script for a production that we have debuted here," said Shankar, an IIT graduate and a contemporary dance, music and set designer.



(Above) Kribi Pant and Anant Dayal in *The Veil*, which is based on a poem by Charu Shankar, the director (left)

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