

Abigail Banerji

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he city is slowly opening up and people are finally making their way to live events after being cooped in for almost two years. Theatre enthusiasts, too, have a variety of plays to attend across the city. One such offering is *The 6pm Struggler*, a one-act play by the Bombay Theatre Company. To be staged on December 11 and 12, the play will be performed at the Veda Factory in Versova.

Conceptualised by Prachi Sharma, the play is based on the life and times of her husband, Raveesh Jaiswal, who's the sole protagonist of the act. The idea of his character, Mragank, came to Sharma while she observed her husband juggle his work life and passion projects.

"I realised that this was not just our story, but there are so many people out there who are living dual lives — balancing their passion with profession," she says.

The 6pm Struggler hopes to show the obstacles and dilemmas people face when trying to fulfil their daily duties and what is expected of them while also trying to pursue their dreams. I'll face a challenge of engaging audiences as a solo performer, but I am up for it.

RAVEESH JAISWAL, Actor

This will be the first in-person play by the company that has taken part in several virtual plays in India, Los Angeles and New York City in USA, England and Sweden.

While the play was originally scheduled to be staged in April 2020, it was put on hold because of the pandemic.

Asked about performing in front of a live audience amid the pandemic, as a solo artiste, and Jaiswal says, "I am excited as this play will give me a chance to perform at a stretch for an hour. I will face a challenge of engaging the audience as a solo performer, but I am up for it."