

03 June 2026



For immediate release

Booking now open for [Humare Tumare \(Your Way, My Way\)](#) by Sharmila Chauhan, directed by Jatinder Verma, at Tara Theatre

What: A feature length original audio drama telling a unique true love story.

When: Live launch and gathered listening event on **Saturday 11 July 3pm-5pm.**

Where: [Tara Theatre](#), Earlsfield, SW18.

Who: [Applied Stories](#), commissioned by Iqbal Singh.

Book: Online at bit.ly/humaretumare (£10 + £1 booking fee)

Digital production company Applied Stories is delighted to announce the launch of *Humare Tumare (Your Way, My Way)* a unique independent audio drama commissioned by a son about his parents.

The play tells the epic true story of Surjeet and Iftikhar Husain, a love story from either side of the India-Pakistan border, playing out in 1960s London.

Commissioned sixty years on by their son Iqbal to commemorate his parents' unique true story, this bittersweet biopic is magnificently scripted by award-winning writer Sharmila Chauhan and directed by founder of Tara Theatre, Jatinder Verma.

With sound design by the acclaimed Farokh Soltani, the play features extracts of original recordings of the musical couple performing live. An audio trailer can be heard online at appliedstories.co.uk/humare-tumare

The cast features a roster of up-and-coming British Asian talent including Adwitha Arumugam (*Life of Pi*) and Robby Khela (*Bombay Superstar*, *Aladdin*), plus a stunning central performance by eleven-year old Skanda Arun, playing the young Iqbal, and undoubtedly a star of the future.

This truly unique project launches with a live listening event at Tara Theatre, Earlsfield on **Saturday 11 July 2026 at 3pm** with online distribution thereafter. The live event includes an onstage Q&A with the creative team about the challenges and responsibilities of turning lived experience into drama, chaired by Applied Stories' artistic director, and the project's producer, playwright Fin Kennedy.

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Iqbal Singh said: “This is a story I have literally carried all my life and for decades I have dreamt of publicly sharing it as a way of being finally seen in all my complexity. A chance encounter, while in therapy, with an object from my past, unlocked the hook for a story that will make audiences laugh and cry!”

Fin Kennedy said: “It has been a huge privilege and responsibility to be entrusted with Iqbal’s personal family story, both he and his mother Surjeet have been such wonderful collaborators as we developed this uniquely personal project. I can’t think of a better medium than audio to cover the epic sweep of this musical love story, it’s the sort of project which might have been commissioned by the BBC in a time before all the cuts to broadcast audio drama. *Humare Tumare* shows there is another way for diverse audio work to reach audiences, it’s at the intersection of theatre and independent audio drama, which this project represents.”

Booking is now open at bit.ly/humaretumare

Ends.

Notes to Editors

If you would like to run a piece about Humare Tumare (Your Way, My Way) both Iqbal Singh and writer Sharmila Chauhan are available for interview.

Audio clips of the play can be made available for radio stations.

Iqbal Singh is Regional Community Partnerships Manager at The National Archives (TNA) and has worked with Fin Kennedy / Applied Stories for ten years commissioning audio dramas about different periods of history as part of TNA's public engagement work. This is the first time he has commissioned a private audio drama about his family.

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/people/iqbal-singh>

Sharmila Chauhan is a screenwriter, playwright and prose writer: Her work is often a transgressive meditation on love, sex and an exploration of the diasporic experience. She is particularly interested in the intersection of sex, power and gender.

<https://sharmilathewriter.com/about>

Jatinder Verma is one of the pioneers of British Asian Theatre, who founded Tara Arts in 1977 and was awarded an MBE for services to arts in 2017.

<https://jvproductions.co.uk/about>

Fin Kennedy is an award-winning playwright and producer, and formerly artistic director of Tamasha theatre company. His digital production company, Applied Stories, specialises in place-based audio drama with social impact. This is his first private audio drama commission for an individual rather than an organisation.

<https://appliedstories.co.uk/previous-work>

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