

Girish Bhaban

BINODINI MONCHO - Named after the renowned Bengali theatre actress Binodini Dasi, this is an open circular stage nestled under a mango tree. Binodini Dasi (1862-1941), better known as Nati Binodini, was a leading stage actress of her time, who started acting at the tender age of 12 and gave it up at 23 in spite of her enormous popularity and renown. Girish Chandra Ghosh was her mentor. Despite the constraints she suffered in a straitlaced and oppressive society which looked down on and ostracised actresses who were all recruited from the red light districts, Binodini is still remembered for her enthralling performances in a variety of leading roles. This stage was built in Girish Bhavan in 2004 and ever since has witnessed the evolution of Jana Sanskriti's theatre practice with marginalized communities. Nestled under a mango tree, this stage is suited for theatre, music, dance, literary discussions, meetings, workshops and every other activity suited for open spaces.

BOAL AUDITORIUM - Inaugurated in 2015 as part of the Jana Sanskriti International Research and Resource Institute, this performance space is named after Augusto Boal, the Brazilian theatre practitioner and founder of Theatre of the Oppressed movement. This auditorium is fully air conditioned and is equipped with a wooden gallery seating which can accommodate 100 guests comfortably. This space can also be used for closed door meetings, seminars, rehearsals, workshops and many more. Acoustics are apt for staging mic-less plays. This is a compact space equipped with basic light and sound system.

AMULYA GANGULY MEMORIAL LIBRARY – A collection of 1000+ titles was opened for the public in 2017. Books spanning a wide range of themes such as theatre, English and Bengali literature, philosophy, politics, history, ancient Indian text and children literature are available here. The vision of providing access to this library is primarily directed to inculcate reading habit among the communities, especially children residing around Girish Bhavan. Otherwise, this library has always been a rich source of research materials for interns, artists and academics visiting Jana Sanskriti.



HOSTEL FACILITIES – Girish Bhavan provides clean, simple, spacious hostel facilities.

There are 8 Non-A/C rooms (twin sharing), 1 Dormitory (14 beds), 8 Common bathrooms WCs, 24 hrs running water, wifi and 24hrs power backup. This space is best suited to host artists and academics looking for a creative, serene environment to pursue their ideas. Small groups from voluntary organisations, looking for a peaceful meeting space are also availing these facilities. Jana Sanskriti's 3 decade old community kitchen caters to the food and beverage requirements of all guests. Most of the produce used here is organic. Fresh home cooked food is served in the open mango garden.