

## Arts » Theatre

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### Where's the drama?

Akila Kannadasan



Travails of a family. In 'Neenga Yaar Pakkam'. Photo: S. Siva Saravanan

The Hindu

*Fourth Dimension Media Solutions organises a theatre festival to revive Tamil theatre*

The audio system spoilt the day. Those who walked in to Perks Auditorium on a Sunday evening with high expectations to watch the play 'Neenga Yaar Pakkam' featuring veteran actor Kaathaadi Ramamoorthy, were let down. "I can't hear the dialogues properly" and "They could've used collar-mikes" was a common refrain among the audience. Some even walked out half-way through.

The play was staged as part of 'Nataka Vizha', a drama festival organised by Fourth Dimension Media Solutions.

'Neenga Yaar Pakkam' is a story about an upper-middle class family in Mylapore. Life is good at the Sivaraman household. But things change after his retirement. His son, who is settled in the U.S., wants Sivaraman and his wife to join them. But the man just wouldn't leave India, let alone Chennai.

That's when things go awry at home. His friends and family come up with several ways to make him leave the country, but in vain. Finally, his wife decides to go by herself. Sivaraman's failed cooking expeditions at home, his wife's mental-breakdown owing to loneliness in a foreign land and her subsequent return to India form the rest of the story.

The play did manage to make a few people laugh. It might have been enjoyable for those with a taste for old-fashioned Tamil dramas. If only the audio was better!

Initiated to revive Tamil theatre, 'Nataka Vizha' is a five-day event. The other plays in the line-up include:

Y. G. Mahendran's 'Nadagam' on July 28 at Corporation Kalaiaragam, R.S. Puram.

Mappillai Ganesh's 'Aavi Vandha Mappillai' on July 29 at Purandaradasar Auditorium, R.S. Puram.

Crazy Mohan's 'Chocolate Krishna' on August 4 at Corporation Kalaiaragam.

T. V. Varadarajan's 'Endru Thanियum Indha Sudhandhira Dhagam' on August 5 at Purandaradasar Auditorium.

For free passes, call 87545-74330.

Keywords: [Coimbatore theatre festival](#), [Tamil theatre](#)