



# Manipal International Literature and Arts Platform

## 6 - 8 April 2023



# In Conversation with Bengaluru

## Spaces. Intersections. Transitions. Imaginaries. (SITI)

Masterclasses . Panel Discussions . Workshops . Book Exhibitions . Film Screenings . *Pratibimba* - Short Film Competition

**Inauguration of m.i.l.a.p. 2023**



Lamp lighting ceremony



Dignitaries on the stage



Ganesh Devy being felicitated

**Aryaka Srivastava, Arjun Kumar**

Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE), Bengaluru, hosted the Fourth Edition of Manipal International Literature and Arts Platform (m.i.l.a.p.) on the theme, "In Conversation with Bengaluru". The event was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Ganesh N. Devy, in the presence of Neeta Inamdar, Jayashree Kasaravalli, Madhu Veeraraghavan, Raghavendra Prabhu, and Shilpa Kalyan.

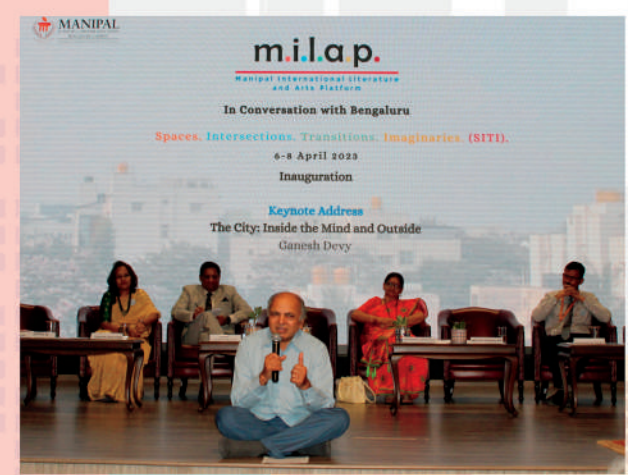
Two books that were published by Manipal Universal Press — *Malekaadina Kathegalu - Stories of the Rainforest* by Malvika Tewari and the Kannada translation of Michael Ende's *MOMO* by Jayashree Kasaravalli, were unveiled. The keynote address by Ganesh Devy, was titled - "The City: Inside the Mind and Outside".



Book release



Sunayan Bhattacharjee introducing the Chief Guest, Ganesh Devy



Ganesh Devy addressing the audience



## Bengaluru in the Cultural Imaginary of Kannada

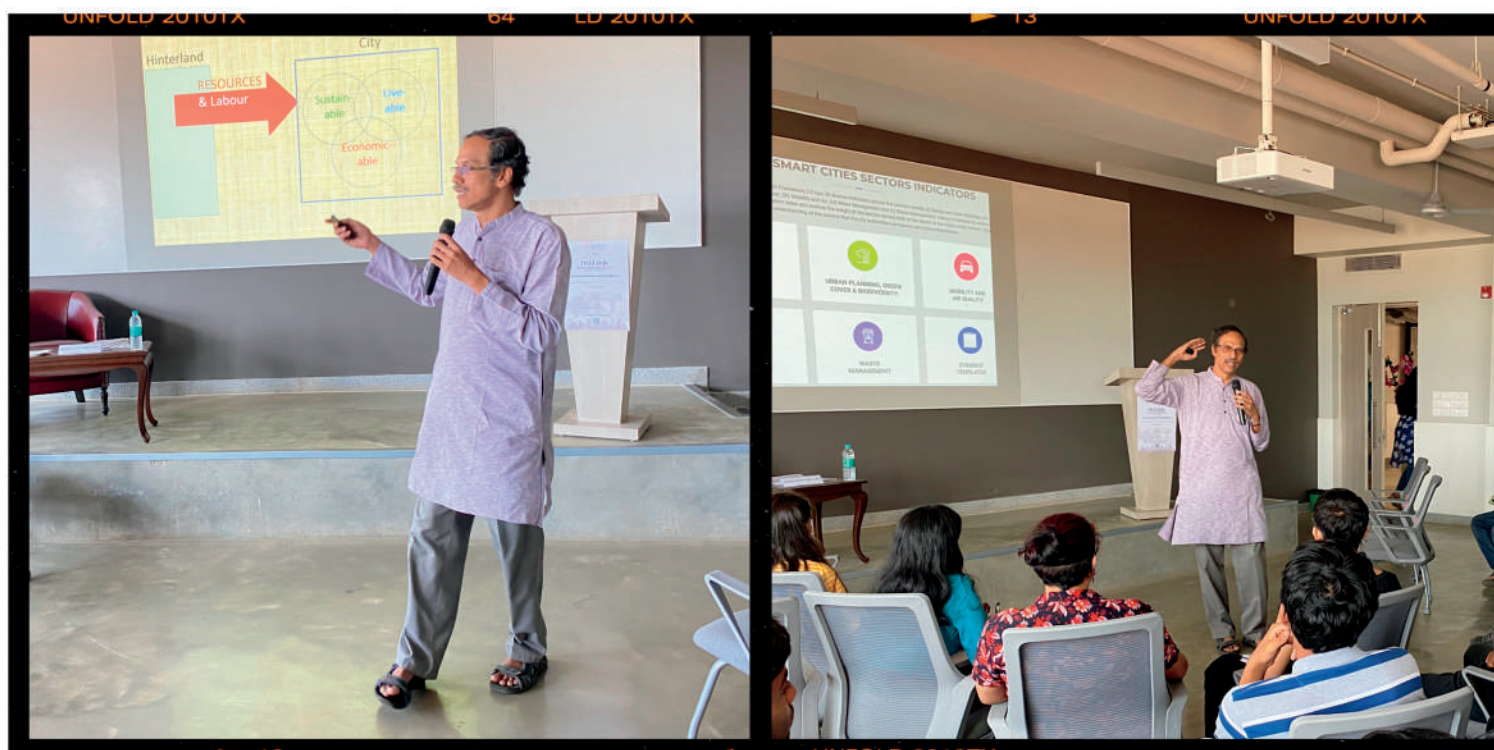
*Ajitesh Menon, Shiwangi Verma*

Rajendra Chenni, the Director of Manasa Centre for Cultural Studies, conducted a masterclass on 6 April under m.i.l.a.p. at MAHE Bengaluru to understand the city of Bengaluru as an overdetermined symbolic object in Kannada imagination. It was an attempt to revisit Kannada literary texts in order to comprehend the many overlapping histories of Bengaluru that are embedded in them.



Rajendra Chenni addressing the audience

## Ecologically Responsible Citizen: An Oxymoron



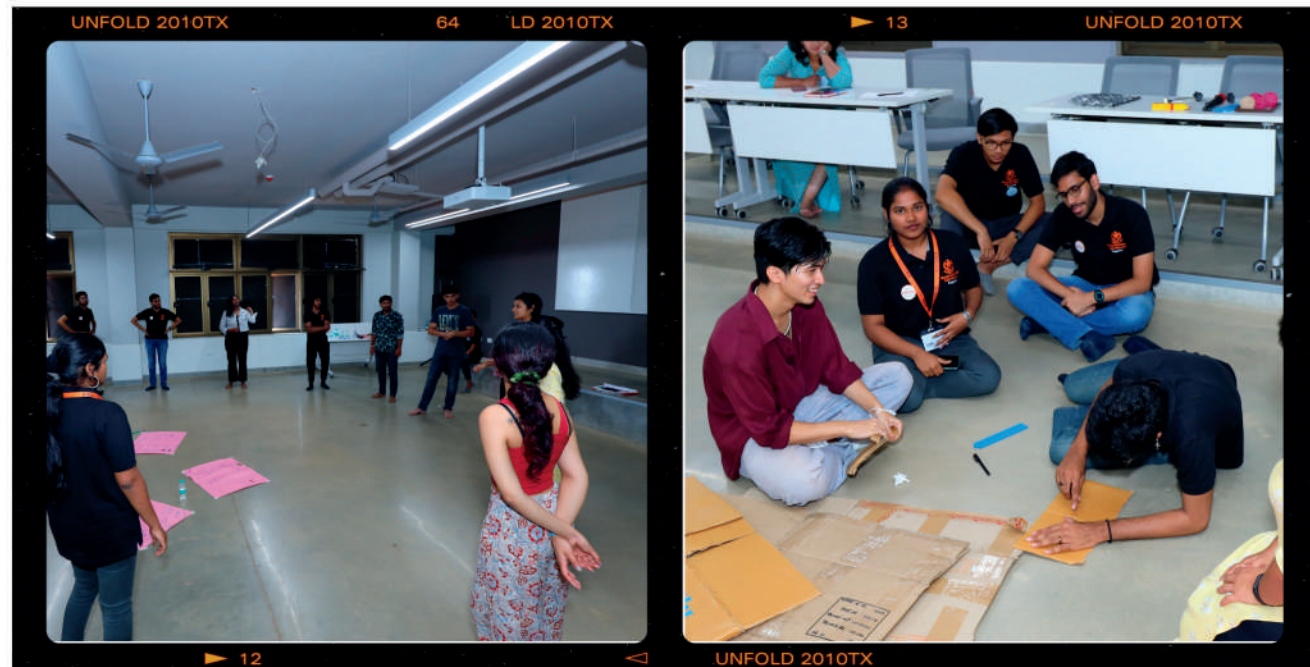
Sharachchandra Lele addressing the audience

*Ajitesh Menon, Ashwajeet Nair*

Sharachchandra Lele, a distinguished Senior Fellow and Convenor of the Centre for Environment and Development at the Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment, conducted a masterclass at MAHE Bengaluru. His talk covered the concept of an ecologically responsible citizen, during the occasion of the Manipal International Literature and Arts Platform (m.i.l.a.p.) on 6 April, 2023.



## An Exploration of Body Expression, Self and Stories through Theatre



Participants engaging in the activities during the workshop

*Tanay Kothiala, Mick Mendonça*

m.i.l.a.p.'s very first workshop was conducted by Nisha Abdulla, theater maker and Debosmita Dam, multimedia artist. The workshop explored the relationship between one's body with the city, the experiences we carry, and the memories we hold. Expressions, sights, sounds, lights and shadows were used to explore the meanings and definitions participants held of the city.

## Screening and Masterclass: *Hadinelentu*



Prithvi Konnanur addressing the audience

*Viha Disley, Rakshana Shivakumar*

Prithvi Konnanur's fourth feature film, titled *Hadinelentu* (Seventeen), was released in 2022. The movie revolves around two college students who discover a video of their private classroom moments uploaded online. When the issue of their caste comes to light, things spiral out of control. The movie explores the concepts of consent and legality.

This deeply moving film reminds us of the power of storytelling, how small divisions evolve into bigger hierarchies, and how its repercussions slip through our fingers.



## Fidelity and Freedom: Literary Translation as a Form of Creative Expression



Banu Mushtaq, Deepa Bashthi and Maitreyi Karnoor (from left to right)

**Maulik Pal, Aryaka Srivastava**

Banu Mushtaq's prominent journey and experiences have inspired people of all ages and demographics and helped hundreds of women, said renowned translator Maitreyi Karnoor at a panel discussion, organized during m.i.l.a.p 2023. She moderated a panel comprising of Mushtaq and Deepa Bashthi, a well-known translator.

## Desdemona Roopakam by Nalanda Arts Studio



M D Pallavi and Bindhumalini Narayanaswamy performing

**Shiwangi Verma**

*Desdemona Roopakam*, a theater performance centered on the character of Desdemona from Shakespeare's *Othello*, was directed by playwright Abhishek Majumdar and performed by acclaimed musicians M D Pallavi and Bindhumalini Narayanaswamy at m.i.l.a.p. 2023. The sound design was arranged by India's well-known sound artist, Nikhil Nagaraj.

It examines the absence of female voices in the play as well as in traditional Indian mythology. It combines musical scores, comprising Hindustani and Carnatic music, and folk forms such as *Hari Kathe*, *Yakshagana*, and *Yellamma Aata*, spoken word poetry, dramatic scenes, and Tishani Doshi's poem *The River of Girls*.