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Installations, social media, live projections — all of these are now part of a theatre performance.

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ht Subuhi Parvez  
Hindustan Times





# THE NEW MEDIA THEATRE

Amitesh Grover, 33, has been associated with this stream of theatre for a while now. He started to explore this form of art in 2006.

"We are surrounded by media. We've grown up watching more movies and TV than theatre, this is the reality. The way our imagination works includes mediatised images, sounds and experiences, and this is exactly why I started to include technology within theatre," he said. A lot of his work involves cameras which capture the image of a body in different ways and projects them back onto the set design.

Grover is ecstatic about the response he gets today. Whenever he's held a show, it's no less than a full house. But it wasn't easy initially.





**When I first used camera in my work, people came to me and said it is a waste of time and how I am killing theatre**

**Amitesh Grover, director**

**I discovered that when the camera, live action and lights are juxtaposed, it creates its own kind of content**

**Maya Rao, artist**

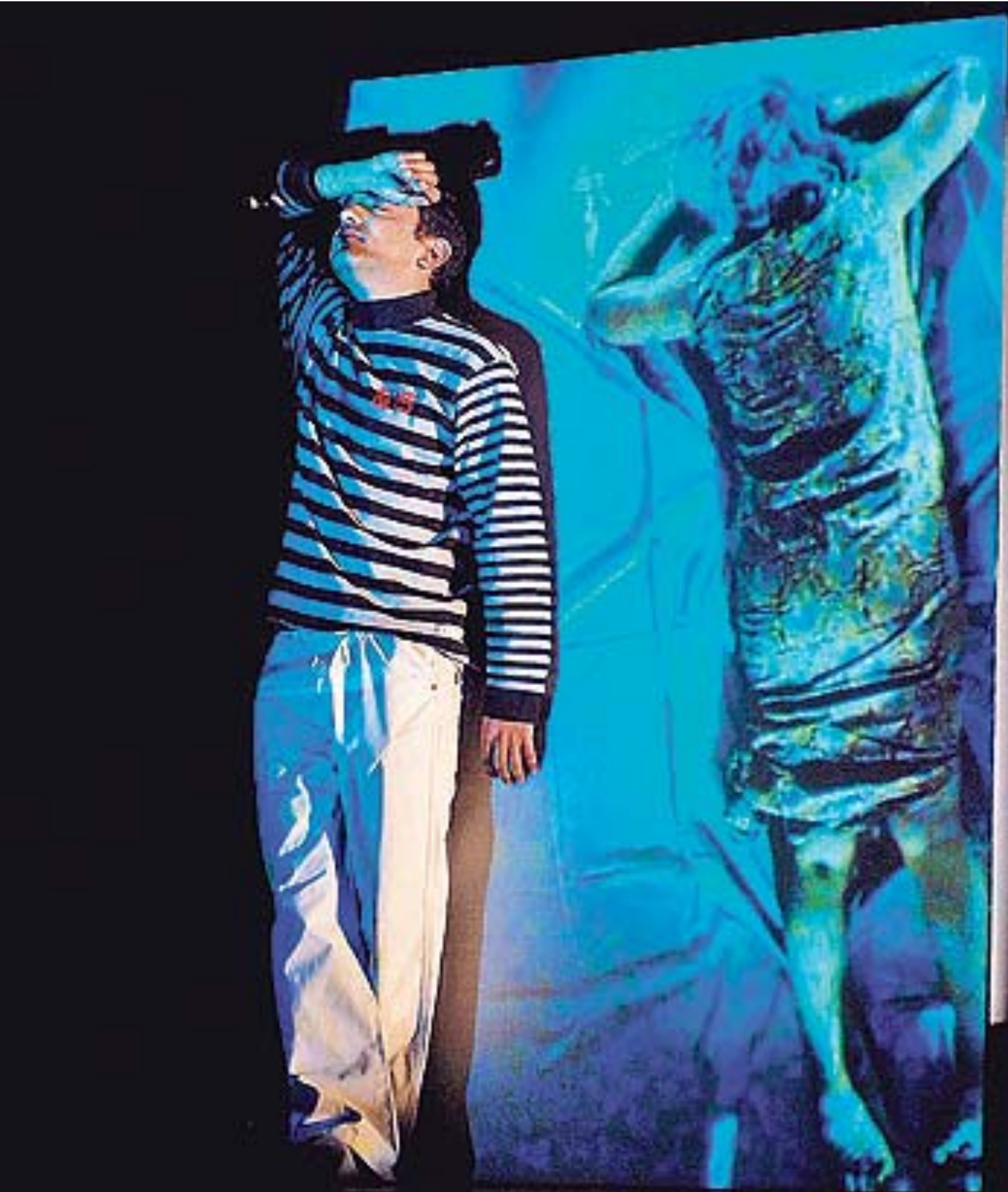
Social Gaming is another interesting platform, ideated by Grover, where people get to interact and have cerebral discussions. The artist uses mobile and social apps that are already available on the Internet. This is either done by Twitter, Facebook or a Skype video conference.

Maya Rao, 60, has been doing this kind of work for the past 35 years. Her performance revolves around music, camera and live body.





"I started years ago, in 1999, and experimented with cameras, live cameras etc. Luckily, I happened to meet some people from films. We discovered that when the camera, live action and lights are juxtaposed, it creates its own kind of content which is very different from what you go through in a theatre process," said the veteran artist.



## NEW MEDIA PLAYS

- Strange Lines by Amitesh Grover — graphics/videos
- Lady M performed and directed by Maya Rao - use of multimedia and live feed by Amitesh Grover
- Hand Over Fist — video by Amitesh Grover
- Electronic City by Amitesh Grover
- Memorable Equinox by Amitesh Grover — use of animated video
- Audio Science: Daughter of actor Shannyn Sossamon