Players gear up for classical act

Manhattan in the second week of February. rat Kadwani and Kesav Murthy Wable, will be staged in BENEATH the Banyan Tree, a new play written by Our-

within their reach as long as their hearts remain pure. guide the youngsters and show them that miracles are and its friend, a young, but wise mystic. These characters braced by magical elements such as a talking banyan tree stingy landlord. To aid them in their journey they are emincludes, among others, an evil stepmother, a demon, and a are forced to fend for themselves in a dangerous world that tales have been fused with Kathak combat dances and masked actors. The plot revolves around two orphans who The play is set in pre-colonial India and classical folk-

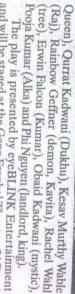
says: "These folktales are just a stepping stone to examine edge of the human classical tradition expanded to include acquainted with the Greek classics. It is time our knowl-South Asia's classical heritage." Everyone at one point or another has studied or have been the beauty that is present in the South Asian culture. Asked about the significance of the folktales, Kadwani

more scenes, including battle scenes with elements of Kathak, staged last year to include many choreographed by Rachel Wahl. worked the play from the one There is also ballet movement choreographed by Ishrat Hoque Kadwani and Wable have re-

with special attention to visual as-pects," says Kadwani. wards a move to Off-Broadway "This production is geared to-

(chef), Jenny Tibbels (Ogress The cast includes Joan Fishman

> Right: Team of the play: rehearsal (from left) Phi Nguyen as the landlord Rainbow Geffner as the (left to right) Wable, Qurat and Obaic demon and Pooja Kumar as Alka.



www.eyeblinkentertainment.com. dents it's \$15. For details contact 212-868-444 or ary 15 at 3 p.m. The tickets are priced at \$19 and for stu-Street, NYC, from February 11-14 at 8 p.m. and Februand will be staged at the Gene Frankel Theatre, 24 Bond

