

John Hansard Gallery



Workshops with John Hansard Gallery and Abeer Kayani

11am-3pm (workshops begin on the hour)
Free, family-friendly, suitable for ages 4+

Join John Hansard Gallery and artist Abeer Kayani for a day of free, family-friendly workshops. Part of Co-Creating Public Space, a two-year initiative funded by Arts Council England inviting communities to creatively engage with artists to rethink the use of the public space in Southampton, and beyond. Abeer Kayani is a local artist who uses hand dyed and printed textiles to create bold and intricate patterns exploring her cultural identity



Solent University is an official sponsor of the Southampton Mela Festival and this year's festival goers will be able to immerse themselves in all things Solent as, for the first time ever, the institution introduces their Pop Up University to the festival.

Solent's annual Pop-Up University showcases the wide range of real-world learning courses on offer at the university through fun, engaging and interactive stalls.

The Pop-Up University has a number of specific aims and objectives all focussed on widening participation in Higher Education amongst specific localities within the city of Southampton.

In addition to Solent's interactive demonstrations and information stalls the University is also offering registered attendees of the Pop Up the chance to win a family Paulton's Park ticket worth over £150!

Find out more about Solent University, Southampton at www.solent.ac.uk



SOLENT UNIVERSITY SOUTHAMPTON

Nutkhut & The Mela Partnership*

The Mela Partnership, led by Nutkhut, is a diverse, national membership network of festivals, volunteers and producers. It develops high quality creative programming, shares learning and builds capacity.

The Partnership supports the commissioning and touring of new and innovative outdoor arts productions, facilitates networking events and seminars and supports the professional development of the next generation of Mela makers. Our strength, impact and growth is a result of our diversity of faith, class and gender.*

A new report on Mela was launched earlier this year, Simmy Gupta & Ajay Chhabra share why this is such a milestone.

The report by Nutkhut & The Mela Partnership was launched in the House of Commons by Leo Docherty MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, with Lord Dholakia, Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrats in the Lords, and Darren Hedley, CEO of Arts Council England, and attended by Mela producers and policymakers.

"Mela is the meeting, the coming together, the mix, the blend of unique aspects of our society - creative, resilient, spiritual. It comes from the Sanskrit 'to meet', related to 'milana' the verb to mix, to tune, to come together and is used to describe a large gathering of people, a fair or a festival." ©

At a time when understanding of each other, of difference matters so much - particularly with face-to-face opportunities, Mela plays an important role.

"This is a watershed moment in the UK for public celebration and the coming together of diaspora communities. Mela, so intrinsically part of our arts and cultural life but so easily ignored, The Mela Report attempts to address this." Lord Dholakia.



Photocredit: Kois Miah

Simmy Gupta & Ajay Chhabra are Artistic Directors of Nutkhut. www.nutkhut.co.uk/mela



Working with Communities

Art Asia is proud to work with different communities in Southampton and beyond. The glue that holds everything together is the passion and celebration of the arts, culture, and heritage. Over the last 42 years, we have worked with most communities who call Southampton home. Whether you are from South Asia, Spain, Hungary, China, Africa, Iran or Ukraine we have collaborated, created and performed together!



Visit Southampton is the go-to tourist information platform promoting our vibrant city. Showcasing top attractions, exciting events, delicious dining options, historic tours, offers, cultural activities as well as all the information you need for a memorable stay in the city. Start planning your visit now at visitsouthampton.co.uk.

GO! Southampton is the Business Improvement District for Southampton City Centre. Our mission is to continuously improve the city centre by delivering relevant services, providing a voice for our businesses, influencing strategy and being a catalyst for positive change. The BID represents over 630 businesses from a wide range of sectors across the city.

Make sure to check out the Arts Bazaar Marketplace sponsored by GO! Southampton featuring lots of creatives and designer makers selling their beautiful wares!



Celebrating South Asian Arts, Culture and Community

FREE ADMISSION

Saturday 15th July 2023
Hoglands Park,
Southampton SO4 1JZ
12 - 9pm | artasia.org.uk



Around the Site

- 1 Performance Area 1
- 2 Performance Area 2
- 3 Fairground
- 4 Community Stage
- 5 World Stage
- 6 The Arts Tent
- 7 Solent University Showcase
- 8 Go! Southampton Art Bazaar
- 9 The Mela Marketplace
- 10 Delicious Food Zone
- 11 Desserts and more
- 12 Hospitality and Bar
- 13 Sport and Activity Zone
- 14 Scouts Climbing Wall
- 15 The Stalls Zone
- 16 Main Stage
- 17 Workshop Tent
- Toilets
- Information
- First Aid

Performers Around the Site

- 12:30 - 13:00 Walkabout to the Precinct WESTQUAY RAJASTAN HERITAGE BRASS BAND; CHINESE DRAGON AND MOGHUL PEACOCKS
- 13:30 - 13:40 Drumming and Dance from Tamil Nadu DANDANAKKA KALAI KUZHU
- 14:00 - 16:00 The Old Thumper Jazz Band
- 14:30 - 15:00 Sonia Sabri Dance Moghul Miniatures
- 15:15 - 15:45 Gatka SIKH MARSHALL ARTS
- 17:30 - 18:00 Sonia Sabri Dance Moghul Miniatures
- 18:00 - 18:10 Chinese Group Tai Chi
- 19:15 - 19:45 Pantheatrix FireShow Performance
- THROUGHOUT THE DAY Pantheatrix Walkabout Theatre
- THROUGHOUT THE DAY Dhol Drumming by Ricky Kasba
- THROUGHOUT THE DAY Scouts Climbing Frame
- THROUGHOUT THE DAY Solent University Activities

Main Stage COCOP AND DJ KIZZI! FROM BBC ASIAN NETWORK

- 12:00 **Rajasthani Folk Music** RAJASTHAN HERITAGE BRASS BAND
- 12:20 **Boom Band** SOUTHAMPTON MUSIC HUB
- 12:45 **Garba Raas, Folk Dance from Gujarat** THE BANJARAN COLLECTIVE POOJA RAJGURU HEMA CHHANIYARA CHANDNI PREMGI CHANDNI MAISURIA
- 13:15 **Indian Classical Music** PANDIT SANJU SAHAI - TABLA JAYMINI SAHAI - KATHAK DANCE DEBIPRIYA SIRCA - SITAR SANCHITA PAL - VOCAL
- 13:50 **Mela Opening** THE LORD MAYOR OF SOUTHAMPTON
- 14:10 **Kathak Dance** RAKHI SOOD AND THE TMC DANCERS
- 14:45 **Inner Vision Orchestra** UTTARA JOSHI - INDIAN SINGER FERESHTEH KHOSROUJERDY - PERSIAN SINGER TAKASHI KIKUCHI - VIOLA PLAYER AND SINGER FROM JAPAN GHOW RATNARAJAH - PERCUSSIONIST AND SINGER FROM SRI LANKA ZIAD SINNO - SINGER AND OUD PLAYER
- 15:25 **Srishti, A Celebration of Life** ODISSI, BHARATNATYAM AND KATHAK DANCE IPSITA ROY, ABANTI CHAKRABARTY SUMAYA JAMIL
- 15:55 **Indian Classical Music** PANDIT SANJU SAHAI - TABLA JAYMINI SAHAI - KATHAK DANCE DEBIPRIYA SIRCA - SITAR SANCHITA PAL - VOCAL
- 16:35 **Bollywood Dance** RAKHI SOOD AND THE TMC DANCERS
- 17:10 **Bollywood Songs** POOJA ANGRA & KARAN RANA
- 18:15 **Qawalli Music** KHAN BROTHERS
- 19:00 **Bhangra Artists** HAPPE SINGH, POJI GILL AND SHIN DCS



World Stage MADAN VASHISHT AND FRANK MANGENA

- 12:00 **Rock Band** SHERBORNE HOUSE SCHOOL
- 12:25 **Contemporary Jazz and Bollywood Dance** K.V. DANCE COMPANY
- 13:00 **Inner Vision Orchestra** UTTARA JOSHI - INDIAN SINGER FERESHTEH KHOSROUJERDY - PERSIAN SINGER TAKASHI KIKUCHI - VIOLA PLAYER AND SINGER FROM JAPAN GHOW RATNARAJAH - PERCUSSIONIST AND SINGER FROM SRI LANKA ZIAD SINNO - SINGER AND OUD PLAYER
- 13:45 **African Dance and Music** AFRICAN ACTIVITIES
- 14:40 **Chinese Music** CHINESE ARTS SOUTHAMPTON
- 15:20 **Colores Mexicanos** DANCE
- 16:00 **Funky Fitness** FRANK MANGENA
- 16:40 **Rajasthani Folk Music** RAJASTHAN HERITAGE BRASS BAND
- 17:00 **Spoken Words** ISSA LOYAN FARRAH-KELLY
- 17:25 **Chinese Music with Guzheng, Flute and Drum** CHINESE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHAMPTON
- 17:35 **Garba Raas, Folk Dance from Gujarat** THE BANJARAN COLLECTIVE POOJA RAJGURU HEMA CHHANIYARA CHANDNI PREMGI CHANDNI MAISURIA
- 18:00 **African Dance and Music** AFRICAN ACTIVITIES
- 18:45 **Music from Afghanistan** AJMAL BAND

Workshop Tent

- 13:00 **Dhol Drumming** RICKY KASBA
- 13:40 **Yoga Workshop - Limited Capacity (first come first served)** VINOD BHALLA
- 14:20 **Dhol Drumming** RICKY KASBA
- 15:00 **African Drumming** AFRICAN ACTIVITIES
- 15:40 **Yoga Workshop - Limited Capacity (first come first served)** VINOD BHALLA
- 16:20 **African Drumming** AFRICAN ACTIVITIES

Community Stage WITH PREETI NAYYAR AND RANJAN PATEL

- 12:00 **Bollywood Dance Performance** MOUNT PLEASANT JUNIOR SCHOOL
- 12:05 **Classical and Folk Dance** LAASYA - SOUTH INDIAN ARTS & CULTURAL SOCIETY
- 12:17 **Kuchipudi - Indian Classical Dance from Andhra Pradesh** RASHEEDA
- 12:32 **Indian Classical and Bollywood Songs Performance** ART ASIA STUDENTS OF POOJA ANGRA
- 12:55 **Belly Dancing Performance & Workshop** MYSTIC FUSION
- 13:25 **Punjabi Folk Dance Giddha** ANJALI DANCING DIVAS
- 13:40 **Flamenco and Spanish Dance** SABOR FLAMENCO
- 14:00 **Mayflower Youth Theatre** IN COLLABORATION WITH RAKHI SOOD
- 14:15 **Bharatanatyam Dance and Caranatic Music** SHREE (ART ASIA) AND PRITHVI YOUTH GROUPS, STUDENTS OF VIDYA THIRUNARAYAN
- 14:35 **Bengali Music and Dance performance** HAMPSHIRE PUJA AND CULTURAL ASSOCIATION
- 15:00 **Bollywood Fusion** RITIKA ARORA
- 15:15 **BollyDance** SHREYA CHUGH
- 15:30 **Gujarati Folk Dance Garba** VEDIC SOCIETY GARBA GOUP
- 15:45 **Chinese Dance** CHINESE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHAMPTON
- 16:00 **Odissi, Bharatanatyam and Carnatic Dance** TARANGINI DANCE GROUP - DALIA PATHAK
- 16:15 **Bharatanatyam Dance** MALAYALI ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHAMPTON
- 16:35 **Drumming and Dance from Tamil Nadu** DANDANAKKA KALAI KUZHU
- 16:50 **Dance, Music and Spoken Words of Rabindranath Tagore** ROBIMOY

Sports Zone Stage

- 12:00 **Mr FunkyFit Opening Motivation** OPENING
- 12:20 **Zumba with Marta** DEMO AND WORKSHOP
- 12:40 **Southampton Gymnastics** DEMO
- 13:00 **Zumba with Marta** DEMO AND WORKSHOP
- 13:20 **Southampton Gymnastics** DEMO
- 13:40 **Mr FunkyFit Boxing** DEMO AND WORKSHOP
- 14:00 **Zumba with Marta** DEMO AND WORKSHOP
- 14:20 **Southampton Gymnastics** DEMO
- 14:40 **Zumba with Marta** DEMO AND WORKSHOP
- 15:00 **Southampton Gymnastics** DEMO AND WORKSHOP
- 15:20 **Zumba with Marta** DEMO AND WORKSHOP
- 16:00 **Mr FunkyFit Boxing** CLOSING

Visual Arts Workshops (ALL 12:30 - 17:30PM)

- Make Your Own Mela Flag ARTS UNIVERSITY BOURNEMOUTH
- Hair and Makeup Design, Art Design and Illustration SOLENT UNIVERSITY
- Rangoli Arts SHYAM KARODE AND CHAYYA KARODE
- Paper Craft RAJESHWARI MAHAJAN
- Arts and Craft HELEN SANGER
- Chinese Calligraphy MICHAEL NG
- Mask Making AFRICAN ACTIVITIES
- Weavers and Spinners SHOBNA PHILLIPS
- Visual Arts JOHN HANSARD GALLERY
- Learn to take, edit and upload pics from your phone OUR VERSION MEDIA
- Flower Making from Recycled Paper SARIKA KHURANA
- Masterclass in Friendship Bracelets SOUTHAMPTON UKRAINIAN NETWORK (SUN)

Our Version Media* CIC is a Southampton-based community media enterprise that's amplifying the voices of black and minorities communities.

Founded by an ex-TV news journalist, OVM teaches people digital media and journalism skills to tell and share their own, authentic stories.

OVM is delighted to be at this year's Southampton Mela, running our fun and interactive Roving Reporter workshop. This workshop teaches festival-goers how to use their smartphone to film, edit and present event footage, just like a pro, to capture the fun and excitement through their eyes!

It's one of our many workshops that's equipping people with skills to use digital media to rightfully control the narrative of stories told about them.

Keep in touch with us on social media @ourversionmedia



Sonia Sabri – Mughal Miniatures



Mughal Miniatures is a lively outdoor performance, perfect for families, that pays homage to the beautiful Indian and Persian miniature painting tradition. The performers, dressed extravagantly, bring to life enchanting miniature scenes through dance, music, and puppetry. Transport yourself to the royal court, dance in the rain, befriend mischievous peacocks, and embark on a forest hunt. However, our characters are tired of their confines and seek liberation with your assistance. Join us to witness their liberation from their traditional frames!

14:30 AROUND THE SITE
17:30 AROUND THE SITE

Bhangra Artists - Shin DCS, Happe Singh and Foji Gill



Don't miss the grand finale festival! Experience DCS The Band's electrifying Modern Bhangra sounds and Shin's versatile vocals. Chart-topper Foji Gill brings a fresh and authentic performance, while Happe Singh showcases his unique blend of Punjabi Bhangra and Sufi influences. It's an extraordinary night of music and a glorious celebration of the arts!

19:00 MAIN STAGE

Sanju & Jaymini Sahai



Sanju Sahai is a renowned Tabla artist known for his captivating performances worldwide. He has accompanied legendary musicians and dancers, including performances for Queen Elizabeth II and King Charles. Sanju actively promotes music through residencies, workshops, and teaching. Jaymini Sahai, a passionate Kathak artist, is part of this traditional classical Indian music performance. Kathak, known for its storytelling, intricate footwork, and graceful expressions, will be showcased alongside Sanju's mesmerizing Tabla playing, with Sitarist Debipriya Sircar and vocalist Sanchita Pal.

13:15 MAIN STAGE
15:55 MAIN STAGE

Pooja Rana Angra & Karan Rana



Join us in celebrating the return of the phenomenal British Asian vocalists, Pooja Rana Angra and Karan Rana. Prepare to be enchanted as they transport you into the mesmerizing realms of Bollywood and Sufi music. With their exquisite voices, they seamlessly blend classical Indian repertoire with contemporary compositions, creating a harmonious fusion of tradition and innovation. Get ready for a captivating experience filled with soul-stirring melodies and modern musical marvels. Don't miss this opportunity to witness their extraordinary talent.

17:10 MAIN STAGE



Thank you for inviting me to this celebration of Asian Culture in Southampton.

It's a real honour and a privilege to be able to take part in and support such an outstanding occasion which brings together a wonderful blend of music and dance, food and fun.

We are extremely blessed to have such diverse communities throughout our villages, towns and cities. This event is a snapshot of that rich and diverse culture, and a chance for us all to share who we are and what we are about, to experience and learn about our different cultures. To build and strengthen our relationships, to catch up with old friends and to make new ones.

Events like this help to develop and strengthen that sense of community cohesion which helps us all to be good neighbours and warm, welcoming communities.

I am proud to lead Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary, proud that you invite us to be part of your day.

Chief Constable Scott Chilton

Rakhi Sood & TMC Dancers



Experience the vibrant world of Rakhi Sood & TMC Dancers as they mesmerize audiences with the enchanting fusion of Bollywood and Kathak dance. Rakhi Sood, a professional dancer and choreographer, brings the perfect blend of contemporary Hip hop and traditional Indian dance styles. Explore Bollywood dance, deeply rooted in Indian cinema, and the grace and elegance of Northern Indian Classical Kathak dance. Rakhi Sood also imparts her expertise through Art Asia's Bollywood and Kathak dance classes, inspiring aspiring dancers.

14:10 MAIN STAGE
16:35 MAIN STAGE

Inner Vision Orchestra



The Inner Vision Quintet's unique fusion of joyful music from India, Sri Lanka, Iran, Lebanon, and Japan captivates audiences. As part of the Inner Vision Orchestra, they tour top venues in the UK and have released music with Arc/Naxos. Uttara Joshi brings soulful Hindustani vocals, Fereshteh Khosroujerdy mesmerizes with Persian singing, Takashi Kikuchi showcases his virtuoso viola skills, Ghosh Ratnarajah enchants with South Indian drums and captivating Tamil and Hindi tunes, and Ziad Sinno, a skilled oud player and singer.

13:00 WORLD STAGE
14:45 MAIN STAGE

Dandanakka Kalai Kuzhu



Parai is sometimes associated with a negative stigma. The traditional players, known as "Paraiyars" in Tamil and "pariah" in English, were considered outcasts at the bottom of the caste hierarchy. Despite the abolishment of untouchability, some societal prejudice remains. To challenge this stigma, the Dandanakka Kalai Kuzhu, a group of amateur folk artists, learn and perform Parai in their community. They aim to reclaim and celebrate the instrument's cultural value, believing that music transcends boundaries and unites people.

16:35 COMMUNITY STAGE
13:30 AROUND THE STAGE

Rajasthan Heritage Brass Band



Rajasthan, the epitome of regality, shines like a precious gem amidst the golden expanse of the barren Thar Desert. The enchanting melodies of the Rajasthan Heritage Brass Band resonate through the air, blending the soul-stirring notes of Gypsy music with the grace of North Indian classical tunes, the charm of Bollywood hits, the essence of Rajasthani folk melodies, and the rhythmic vigor of spiritual Qawwali and Bhangra beats, creating an irresistible musical fusion.

12:00 MAIN STAGE
12:30 AROUND THE SITE
16:40 WORLD STAGE

Khan Brothers



Khan Brothers' experience has honed their understanding of Qawwali's essence, ensuring an authentic performance. Collaborating with renowned artists globally, they have developed a unique style that blends traditional elements with innovative interpretations. Alongside performing, they actively participate in educational initiatives, conducting workshops and seminars to preserve and promote Qawwali. With their expertise, creativity, and dedication, they enhance the Qawwali performances every time.

18:15 MAIN STAGE



Child Bereavement UK is delighted to help Southampton Mela 2023 with volunteer support.

Child Bereavement UK helps families to rebuild their lives when a child grieves or when a child dies. We support children and young people (up to the age of 25) when someone important to them has died or is not expected to live, and parents and the wider family when a baby or child of any age dies or is dying.

For confidential support, information, and guidance, call our Helpline on 0800 02 888 40.

To donate or find out more about the charity, please visit www.childbereavementuk.org

Celebrating South Asian Arts, Culture and Community

Art Asia is proud to continue celebrating South Asian culture, encouraging greater involvement within the community through creative activities and providing numerous opportunities for increased understanding and enjoyment of South Asian arts in the city of Southampton.

The Southampton Mela Festival is the celebration showcase of this year-round activity through Art Asia, which has been made possible by our funders and sponsors.

Art Asia is officially part of the National Portfolio of organisations across the U.K., funded by The Arts Council England over the next three years and continues to be supported by Southampton City Council.

We would like to thank our Board of Trustees, our team, our members and volunteers, and of course our key sponsors of the event; Go! Southampton / Visit Southampton, Solent University Southampton, Hampshire & IOW Constabulary and Arts University Bournemouth.

Please share all your Southampton Mela photos, videos and selfies with us by using the hashtag #SouthamptonMela throughout the day! If you would like to know more about Art Asia you can find us on social media or find out more at artasia.org.uk

"As the Chief Executive of Art Asia, I am delighted to welcome you to the Southampton Mela Festival 2023, a vibrant celebration of music, culture, and community. This established festival, deeply rooted in our local community for over 25 years, fosters a sense of belonging, unity, and inclusivity. It serves as a platform for both established artists, like the mesmerising Sonia Sabri, and emerging talents, providing them with a space to showcase their artistry. The Mela is not only a showcase of artistic excellence but also an environmentally conscious event, dedicated to minimising our ecological footprint. By participating in the Mela, you are embracing a culturally diverse experience while supporting local businesses. We hope you enjoy this whole day filled with music, food, arts, and family fun!"

Dahlia Jamil
CHIEF EXECUTIVE AT ART ASIA

School & Community Workshops

Would you like to experience the magic of South Asian Arts in your own school or venue?

Art Asia's experienced tutors will deliver lively workshops in music, dance and visual arts to motivate learners of all ages. We offer workshops all over the South region and have worked with Pre-School groups to over 80's community groups and all in between.

"SUCH a brilliant experience for the students (and, if I'm honest, for me too!) So a huge thank you to you guys, also for lending us the Tabla – as predicted the students are beside themselves that they'll get to practice what they learnt yesterday."

"I just wanted to say a massive thank you to Rakhi for leading the Bollywood workshop today, the children and everyone else involved had a great time and it was brilliant to see how much they learnt in such a small amount of time!"

Art Asia Classes

Art Asia runs a thriving programme of weekly music and dance classes in Southampton. Classes run across 10 lessons, are very reasonably priced, and cater for adults and children. Fancy giving any of these a try...?

Dhol Drumming / Kathak Dance / Tabla Drumming
Bollywood Dance / Bharatanatyam / Dance Indian
Classical and Bollywood Singing / Harmonium

Contact Us

Contact Art Asia to find out more:
02380 226 212 or 07484 097 641
education@artasia.org.uk
www.artasia.org.uk

Photography, Filming & Sound Equipment

Please note that cameras and CCTV will be present at the event and the site of the event is being used to photograph and record video and film footage. All Festival Goers (including all minors) give their express consent to the use of the actual or simulated likeness in connection with the production, exhibition and/or advertising of any photos, film, video and/or audio recording of this event and/or any element thereof in any/all media throughout the world.

By entering the event and by your presence at the event site, you acknowledge that you may be photographed and recorded as part of such footage and its use in distribution (commercial or otherwise) without any payment.

If you do not want your photograph taken, please make the Southampton Mela Festival Official Photographer aware. We ask that attenders and press are respectful of other attenders and seek permission where appropriate.

ARTS UNIVERSITY BOURNEMOUTH



The flag project is a collaboration between Arts University Bournemouth and Art Asia. Now in the second year you can see the flags at Mela that have been produced over the last two years.

Led by final year BA (Hons) Events Management student Alicia Bermudez Garcia the project is a valuable learning opportunity for first year BA (Hons) Textiles students to be both educated in and inspired by South Asian design. Alicia said "I'm excited to come back and collaborate with Art Asia for Mela 2023 with the festival flags project. This is the first opportunity the textiles students have to work with a client. They were given a brief to design a bright and colourful flag that could be displayed at Mela".

This opportunity saw 40 students working with a client and we received some very creative designs, however, only four could be chosen for the final flags. This year's winners are Alice Greville, Felicity Hills, Liz May and Chloe Wells.

Alongside exhibiting the flags there is also a creative workshop where you can create your own version of the flags to take home. Using designs from this years' competition, this is your chance to get creative, have fun and fly the flag for the Mela all year round.

Course Leader of BA (Hons) Events Management Kevin Chambers said "We continue to look for opportunities to collaborate with artists and communities on the south coast. We hope to expand on the current collaboration next year and further embed Mela into our curriculum. I would like to extend my gratitude to the Art Asia team and Maya Dunn, Lecturer of BA (Hons) Textiles for their continued support and enthusiasm for this project".

