



Art Asia would like to thank the following funders. It would not be possible to hold Southampton Mela Festival without your support



Donate today!

Southampton Mela Festival is FREE to attend. Art Asia has a long and respected reputation for delivering engaging exciting South Asian Arts across the Southern region of the UK. Our mission is to communicate the exciting experience of South Asian Arts to the widest possible audience. As a registered charity we rely on funding to support our community programmes and activities. It ensures we can deliver this work in our community. Please donate.Thank you.



Art Asia Trust Ltd.  
Reg Charity  
1070019.

John Hansard Gallery



John Hansard Gallery and Art Asia are delighted to present Mela Monument, a series of new outdoor artworks that have been created by artists Perminder Kaur, Ren Fang Wooldridge and Rabia Raja, inspired by the Southampton Mela Festival. These exciting creations are on display telling the stories of Mela, home and belonging. Visit the Mela Sculpture Park for the Mela Monument and the Art Tent for workshops.

Mela Monument forms part of Co-Creating Public Space, a nationally significant project which aims to give local communities agency to engage with and activate our shared public spaces. The project is led by John Hansard Gallery, with funding from Arts Council England, Southampton City Council, GO! Southampton, and University of Southampton.



Introducing Outdoor Arts

This year's Mela features spectacular outdoor arts. Dolly, the giant Maharini puppet will be joining our parade this year, and gracefully walking the site throughout the day dressed in her elegant finery. Dolly is the creation of Nutkhut. Nutkhut's mission is to bring to life awe-inspiring stories of the British South-Asian experience.

The Mela Parade also features Sonia Sabri's Mughal Miniatures. The beautiful peacock puppets take inspiration from the exquisite traditional art of Indian and Persian miniature painting, celebrating the glory of the Mughal period with a contemporary twist.

Art Asia has worked with Arts University Bournemouth again this year, on a project conjunction with textile students to develop beautiful and vibrant flags that represent the Mela and South Asia. Art Asia thank all the students for their wonderful designs we are delighted to have them on display at the Mela.



NUTKHUT

soniasabri company

ARTS UNIVERSITY BOURNEMOUTH

SOLENT UNIVERSITY SOUTHAMPTON

CLEARING NOW OPEN

Search Solent clearing



TEF 2023 Gold

Are you interested in starting uni this September? Explore our degrees and give us a call or apply online.

Gold-standard teaching Did you know we're the only university on the south coast to achieve a triple-gold rating for our teaching in the government's latest Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF 2023)?

Visit Southampton @visit\_soton @your\_southampton

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 visitouthampton.co.uk.

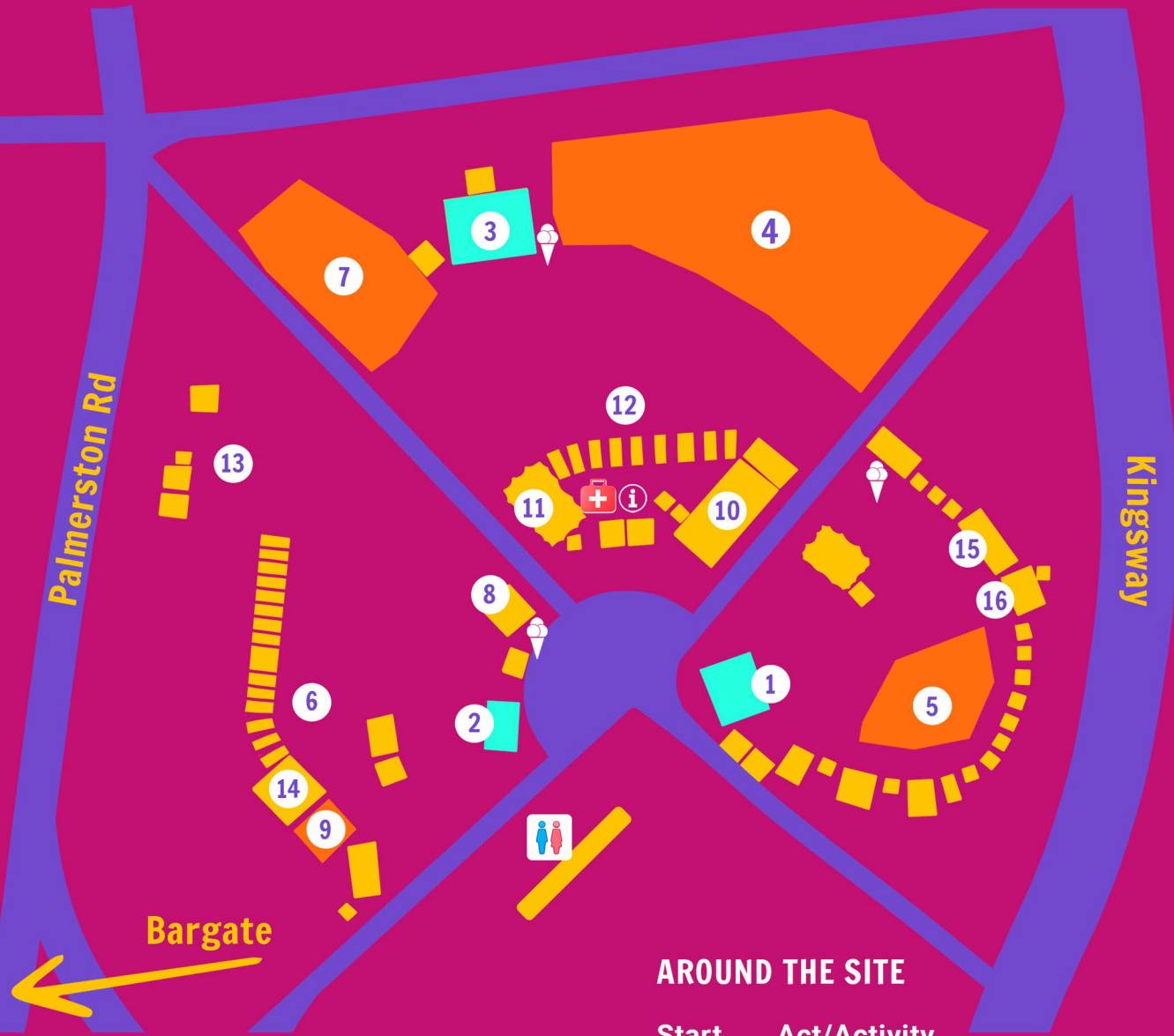
GO! Southampton @GO! Southampton @Go\_Southampton

GO! Southampton is the Business Improvement District for the city, representing over 630 businesses. Their mission is to improve the city centre by delivering services, providing a voice for business, influencing strategy and being a driver for positive change. By fostering a thriving business community and creating a welcoming atmosphere, the BID aims to make Southampton a more attractive and prosperous place for residents, visitors, and businesses alike.

GO! Southampton is proud to be sponsoring the new Arts Bazaar Marketplace. Make sure to visit to discover all the fantastic creatives and designer makers selling their beautiful wares!



Saturday 13th July  
Hoglands Park  
Southampton SO14 1LT  
11am-10pm Free admission  
artasia.org.uk



AROUND THE SITE

Start Act/Activity

- All day Roaming Nutkhut Puppet Walkabout Theatre
- 12:30 The Mela Parade. Starting in WestQuay, join drummers, a brass band, a giant puppet, Chinese dragon & peacocks as they wend their way to the main stage in Hoglands Park
- 13:30 Rajasthan Heritage Brass Band
- 14:30 Mughal Miniature Performance - Sonia Sabri
- 15:35 Summer Garba - Pooja Rajguru
- 16:15 Hula Hoop Act - Storm in a Teacup
- 16:30 Rajasthan Heritage Brass Band
- 16:50 Mughal Miniature Performance - Sonia Sabri
- 17:15 Drumming and Dance - Tamil Nadu Dandanakka Kalai Kuzhu
- 17:15 Stilt Walkers - Storm in a Tea Cup
- 17:20 Rajasthan Heritage Brass Band
- 17:55 Hula Hoop Act - Storm in a Tea Cup
- 18:20 Stilt Walkers - Storm in a Tea Cup
- 19:00 Hula Hoop Act - Storm in a Tea Cup
- 19:25 Tai Chi - Chinese Association of Southampton
- 20:15 Fire Show Performance - Storm in a Teacup

- 1 Main Stage
- 2 World Stage
- 3 Community Stage
- 4 Fairground
- 5 Food Zone
- 6 Stalls
- 7 Mela Sculpture Park
- 8 Music Workshop Tent
- 9 Scouts Climbing Wall
- 10 The Arts Tent
- 11 Art Bazaar
- 12 Market place
- 13 Sports Zone
- 14 Circus Skills
- 15 VIP Hospitality
- 16 Bar
- Toilets
- First Aid
- Ice Cream
- Waste bins and recycling through out the site

MAIN STAGE Alexander Riyat & Jasmine Takhar BBC Asian Network

- 12:00 Introduction to Art Asia, Southampton Mela Festival
- 12:10 Sazia Judge Bhangra, Pop and Bollywood Music
- 12:45 Rakhi Sood and the TMC Dancers Kathak Dance
- 13:00 The Southampton Mela Festival Opening The Lord Mayor Of Southampton
- 13:30 Pandit Sanju Sahai and Musical Friends Indian Classical Music
- 14:10 Ipsita Roy & Abanti Chakrabarty Odissi and Bharatnatyam Dance
- 14:25 Rajasthan Heritage Brass Band Rajasthani Folk Music
- 15:05 Grand Union All Stars South Asian music. Claude Deppa - trumpet, flugelhorn, African percussion. Louise Elliott - tenor saxophone, flute. Naveen Ganesaperumal - tabla. Josh Brandler - guitar, voice. Andres Lafone - bass guitar. Ketan Kerai - sarangi, dhol. Amisha Karsan and Shanti Jayasinha.
- 16:00 Dalia Pathak and Tarangini Dance group Odissi Dance - Borsha Avishar - Raag Malher
- 16:25 Pandit Sanju Sahai, Jaymini Sahai and Musical Friends Indian Classical Music and Kathak Dance
- 17:05 Rakhi Sood and the TMC Dancers Bollywood Dance
- 17:40 Pooja Angra & Karan Rana Bollywood and Sufi Songs Featuring - Rajasthan Heritage Brass Band
- 18:50 Khan Brothers Qawwali music
- 20:00 Happe Singh, Sadi Jodi, Shin DCS Bhangra Music

WORLD STAGE Madan Vashisht, Preeti Nayyar & Frank Mangena

- 12:00 Nàila Music from Italy
- 12:25 K.V. Dance company Contemporary and Theatre Jazz Style Dance
- 12:45 The Banjaran Collective Pooja Rajguru, Hema Chhaniyara, Chandni Premgi & Chandni Maisuria Bollywood, folk dance
- 13:20 Grand Union All Stars African, Caribbean, South American music Claude Deppa - trumpet, flugelhorn, African percussion. Louise Elliott - tenor saxophone, flute. Josh Brandler - guitar, voice. Andres Lafone - bass guitar. Amisha Karsan and Shanti Jayasinha.
- 14:20 Dandanakka Kalai Kuzhu Drumming and Dance from Tamil Nadu
- 14:55 Chinese Arts Southampton Chinese Music
- 15:40 African Activities African Dance and Music
- 16:35 Mayflower Youth Theatre Musical Theatre
- 17:10 Frank Mangena Funky Fitness
- 17:50 Association Of Southampton Chinese music with guzheng, flute, drum
- 18:15 Sazia Judge Bhangra, Pop and Bollywood Music
- 18:55 Tribhang - Kala The Arts Classical Indian Odissi and Contemporary Dance
- 19:30 SroodBand Music from Afghanistan

ART BAZAAR

Visit artists and makers showcasing their creations.

COMMUNITY STAGE Preeti Nayyar & Ranjan Patel

- 12:00 Netley Abbey Junior School Dance
- 12:05 South Indian Arts and Cultural Society Classical Bharatanatyam and Traditional Folk
- 12:17 Sherborne House School Bollywood Dance
- 12:35 Art Asia Students of Pooja Angra Indian classical and Bollywood Songs Performance
- 12:55 Mystic Fusion Belly Dancing Performance & Workshop
- 13:25 HIC Dancing Divas Punjabi Folk Dance Giddha
- 13:40 Sabor Flamenco Flamenco and Spanish Dance
- 14:00 Tarangini Megh Malhar - Dances of Different Gharanas
- 14:15 Shree (Art Asia) and Prithvi Youth Groups students of Vidya Thirunarayan Bharata Natyam Dance and Carnatic Music
- 14:35 Hampshire Puja and Cultural Association Bengali Music and Dance Performance
- 15:00 Southampton Divas Fusion, disco, Bollywood, folk style, kuthu dance, semi-classical dance
- 15:15 Shreya Chugh BollyDance
- 15:30 Team Naatya Kaikottikali, the traditional dance form of Kerala
- 15:45 Chinese Association of Southampton Chinese Dance
- 16:00 Rhythm Bollywood and Indian Semi-Classical dance
- 16:15 Gage Hoque Bitu and Dr Sonia Sharmin Bangladeshi Folk songs
- 16:35 Love2bhanga Bhangra - Traditional Folk Dance of Punjab
- 16:50 Robimoy Dance, Music and spoken words of Rabindranath Tagore
- 17:10 Madan Vashisht Bollywood Songs
- 17:25 Chinese Arts Southampton Chinese Music and Dance Performance
- 18:00 Ipsita Roy, Abanti Chakrabarty Classical based free style dance Workshops
- 18:15 Art Asia Students - Rakhi Sood Bollywood and Kathak Dance Performance
- 18:45 Grand Finale with Rakhi Sood Workshop

WORKSHOP TENT Geeta Belgi

- 13:00 Dhol Drumming Ricky Kasba
- 13:40 Chinese Drumming Michael NG
- 14:10 African Drumming African Activities
- 14:50 Dhol Drumming Ricky Kasba
- 15:30 Samba Drumming Creative Beats
- 16:05 Samba Drumming Creative Beats
- 16:50 African Drumming African Activities

VISUAL ARTS TENT

- Shyam & Chayya Karore Day Rangoli Art
- Rajeshwari Mahajan Diwali Paper Craft
- Chinese Association\* Chinese calligraphy
- Chinese Association Chinese chess
- Chinese Association Clay modelling
- African Activities Creative African Arts
- Shobhna Phillips Weavers and Spinners
- Mayflower Theatre Creative Arts
- Our Version Media Roving reporters workshop. Learn to cover an event like a pro!
- Alice Hume Paper installations
- Ayisha Jahan Pakistani Truck Art (Bridges not Borders)
- \*Chinese Association of Southampton

SPORTS ZONE

- The Saints Foundation will be at the Sport Zone all day
- 12:00 Neon Martial Arts
- 12:20 Zumba with Marta
- 12:40 Neon Martial Arts
- 13:00 Zumba with Marta
- 13:20 Southampton School of Tai Chi
- 13:40 Neon Martial Arts
- 14:00 Zumba with Marta
- 14:20 Southampton School of Tai Chi
- 14:40 Zumba with Marta
- 15:00 Southampton School of Tai Chi
- 15:20 Zumba with Marta
- 15:40 Southampton School of Tai Chi
- 16:00 Mr FunkyFit





### Bhangra Artists

Don't miss the grand finale of the festival!

Experience DCS The Band with Shin's versatile vocals and their electrifying and innovative sounds of Modern Bhangra. This act brings a timeless, energetic quality & performance.

We welcome back Southampton local Happe Singh, a multi-talented singer, writer & actor. Happe brings his unique flavour to his Punjabi Bhangra songs.

Sadi Jori is a UK based Musical duo of Banger & Sammy, who have gained popularity through their energetic renditions live on stage and on social media.

20:00 MAIN STAGE



### Khan Brothers

The 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 their Qawwali performances every time.

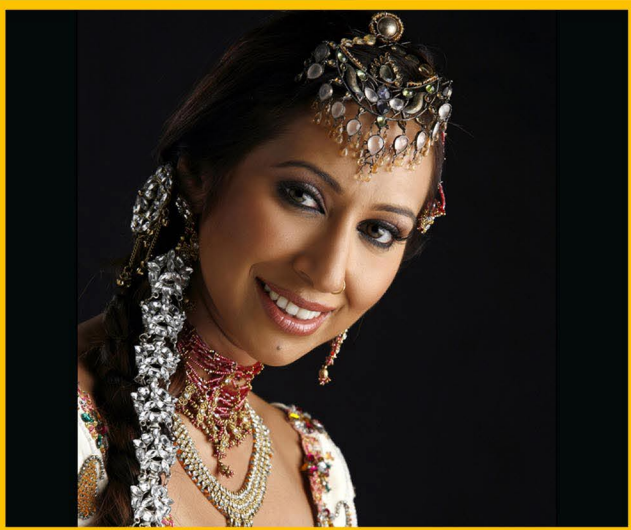
18:50 MAIN STAGE



### Pooja 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 mesmerising 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 soulful melodies and modern musical marvels and a guest appearance from the Rajasthan Heritage Brass Band.

17:40 MAIN STAGE



### Rakhi Sood and the TMC Dancers

Experience the vibrant world of Rakhi Sood and TMC dancers as they mesmerise audiences with the enchanting fusion of Bollywood and Kathak Dance. Rakhi Sood, a professional dancer and choreographer, fuses 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. Her students perform on the Community Stage at 18:45.

12:45 MAIN STAGE  
17:05 MAIN STAGE



### Pandit Sanju Sahai, Jaymini Sahai and Musical Friends

Sanju Sahai, the 6th generation Tabla Artist and Jaymini Sahai Kathak artist will take you on a journey back to mystical India as we celebrate Indian Classical Music and Kathak dance at its finest with the phenomenal Tabla Maestro Sanju Sahai and graceful Kathak exponent Jaymini Sahai and friends! An exhilarating performance with enchanting rhythms and mesmerising melodies, a performance not to be missed!

13:30 MAIN STAGE  
16:25 MAIN STAGE



### 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 realms 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 & 16:50 AROUND THE SITE



### Grand Union All Stars

An all-star array of musicians from the cross-cultural Grand Union Orchestra featuring nine musicians connecting the continents, including South Asia, England, Ghana, South Africa, Caribbean, Uruguay and Australia. On the main stage: Celebrating South Asian music, with intricate rhythms and songs, together with diverse styles reflecting the wide variety of cultures represented in Grand Union. On the world stage: Vibrant music and rhythms from the African diaspora, across the Atlantic to Latin America and the Caribbean, with fiery jazz solos from worldclass artists.

13:20 WORLD STAGE  
15:05 MAIN STAGE



### Rajasthan Heritage Brass Band

Rajasthan – the land of royalty – a glittering jewel set in the golden sands of the barren Thar Desert, with a wealth of rich culture, tradition and heritage. The Rajasthan Heritage Brass Band is a living embodiment of this landscape, a spectacular celebration of its vibrant and colourful lifestyle, their music and dance are a heady, exciting and hypnotic reflection of this enchanting region.

13:30, 16:30 & 17:20 AROUND THE SITE  
14:25 MAIN STAGE  
18:15 MAIN STAGE (Guest appearance)



### 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.

14:20 THE WORLD STAGE  
17:15 AROUND THE SITE



### Mayflower Youth Theatre - A Chorus Line

We are a youth theatre based at MAST Mayflower Studios, in the heart of Southampton. Mayflower Youth Theatre is for young people aged 7 - 18 with a passion for theatre. We offer the opportunity to learn new skills, meet new people, work with experienced theatre practitioners in a fun, supportive and inclusive environment, both on stage and off stage.

16:35 WORLD STAGE

### Hampshire & IOW Constabulary

The Southampton Mela Festival is such an important event and a great opportunity to celebrate the city's cultural diversity.

Hampshire and the Isle of Wight Police have a long-established history of supporting our communities and ensuring the public trust the force to keep them safe.

I am delighted to be playing a part in this annual celebration. Please visit us at the Mela and find out more about what we do and all the different ways in which you can become involved with policing. We have many opportunities of paid employment or operating as a volunteer so this is a great opportunity to meet, talk and see how we can work together to make our two counties safe for everyone.

You can also contact us on the following address to discuss recruitment or engagement opportunities.

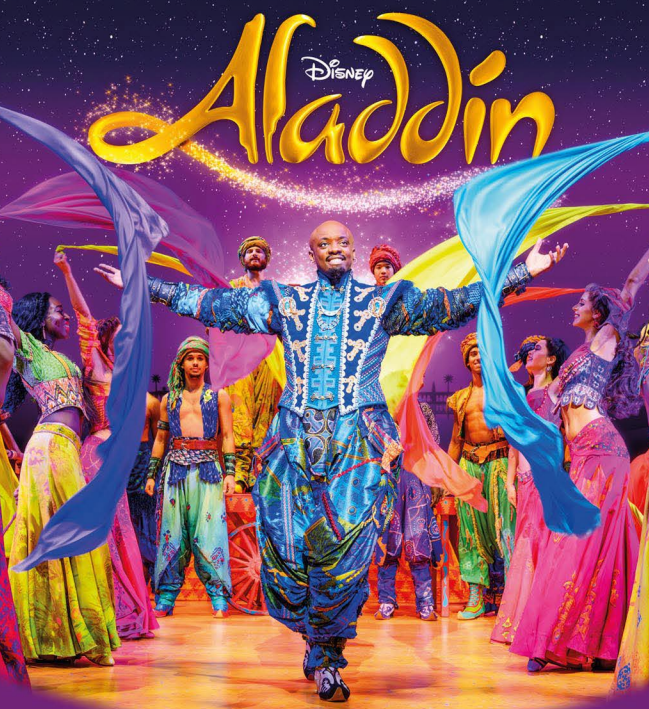
positive.action@hampshire.police.uk

The team and I look forward to meeting you on the day.



Sam de Reya  
Deputy Chief Constable  
Hampshire & IOW Constabulary

### THE DISNEY CLASSIC FILM ON STAGE



BEGINS 5 SEPTEMBER  
MAYFLOWER THEATRE

Book your tickets at [AladdinTheMusical.co.uk](http://AladdinTheMusical.co.uk)



## Welcome to Southampton Mela Festival

Art Asia is proud to stage this festival celebrating South Asian culture encouraging greater involvement within the community through creative activities. The festival provides numerous opportunities for increased understanding and enjoyment of South Asian arts in Southampton and our region.

The Southampton Mela Festival is the celebration showcase of Art Asia's year-round activity which has been made possible by our funders and sponsors. Art Asia is officially part of the National Portfolio Organisations across the UK funded by the Arts Council England and is also 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 for the event Go! Southampton / Visit Southampton, Solent University and Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary.

"As Chief Executive of Art Asia I am delighted to welcome you to the Southampton Mela Festival 2024, 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 and emerging artists 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; we are 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 day filled with music, food, arts and family fun!"

Dahlia Jamil, Chief Executive, Art Asia

**Answer our survey!** Please help us to secure funding for future Melas by giving us your feedback on this year's festival. Scan the QR code to give your feedback online. [artasia.org.uk](http://artasia.org.uk)



f Art Asia, Southampton Mela Festival  
@artasiasouthampton  
@art\_asia

art asia

### Art Asia Schools & Community Workshops

Book our professional workshop leaders to deliver the Magic of South Asian Arts in your 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 preschool groups to over 80s community groups and every one 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 practise what they learnt yesterday."

### Art Asia Classes

Art Asia runs a thriving programme of weekly music and dance classes in Southampton. Classes run for 10 lessons each term, are reasonably priced and cater for adults and children. We run classes in Kathak Dance, Bollywood dance, Bharatanatyam Dance, Indian classical and Bollywood singing, harmonium.



### Come and give it a try!

Contact us  
To find out more about workshops and classes  
07484097641  
[education@artasia.org.uk](mailto:education@artasia.org.uk)  
[artasia.org.uk](http://artasia.org.uk)

### Photography and Filming Notice

Please note that filming and photography is taking place at Southampton Mela Festival for promotional and archival purposes. The photographs and recordings made are likely to appear on our website and social media sites.

By entering 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 all festival goers (including all minors) give their express consent to the use of actual or simulated likeness in connection with the production, exhibition and or advertising of any photos, film, video or audio recording of this event and or any element thereof in any media throughout the world.

### Southampton Mela Festival is an eco-friendly event

Southampton Mela Festival is an eco-friendly event.

Please help us 'leave no trace' on our beautiful Hoglands Park! We aim to minimise our ecological impact. We have banned single use plastic for all food outlets and have multiple waste collection points where waste should be split into recyclables. Please share the responsibility by using the correct bins or take your litter home. There is a water tap for refilling your water bottle near the Information Tent. We also minimise the use of generators on site by supplying electric hook up wherever possible. We have recycled last year's unused programmes to create a colourful lantern display this year. Visit the Art Tent to join a lantern workshop.



### A big thank you!

The Art Asia team extends profound thanks to the volunteers who help make the Southampton Mela Festival a success.

Thank you to the teams from Scottish and Southern Energy Networks and The Child Bereavement Trust for marshalling and helping us to keep the festival site in order.

Thank you to all the wonderful individuals who volunteered to help the Southampton Mela Festival run smoothly.



### Working With Communities

Art Asia proudly collaborates with diverse communities in Southampton and beyond, celebrating arts, culture, and heritage. For 42 years, we've collaborated with groups from South Asia, Spain, Hungary, China, Africa, Iran, Ukraine, and beyond.

working with local communities  
art asia