



The Southampton Mela Festival is made possible through the generous support of our funders. Art Asia gratefully acknowledges;



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The Southampton Mela Festival is FREE to attend thanks to supporters like you. Art Asia is a charity. Our mission is sharing exceptional cultural experiences with the widest possible audience. We deliver vibrant South Asian arts across the South. As a registered charity, we rely on donations to fund our community programs and keep events, like Southampton Mela Festival accessible to all. Please donate today - your support ensures we can continue this vital community work.



Art Asia Limited
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NUTKHUT

FLOWERS ON SITE ALL WEEKEND

Nutmeg's vibrant Phool Bloom Rose and Hibiscus installation arrives at Southampton Mela Festival for the first time, bringing colour, joy and a burst of South Asian artistry. This immersive floral spectacle blends performance, storytelling and striking design, transforming the festival space into a blooming celebration that invites visitors to wander, wonder and experience its playful, uplifting magic.



Art Asia Trust elevates young performers

Art Asia Trust opens doors for young people by nurturing their creativity through regular music and dance classes, giving them the skills and confidence to grow. At Southampton Mela Festival, we provide dedicated performance spaces where young emerging artists can showcase their talents in front of live audiences. We also work with Southampton Music Hub, to give space to upcoming young musicians at the Mela. We support learning, celebrate culture and work to inspire the next generation.



Nightjar Collective, by African Activities CIC's ensemble, brings together drummers and singers from West Africa and the UK. Inspired by the nightjar bird's migratory journey, their performance reflects shared heritage, cultural exchange and enduring connections between communities. Blending powerful West African rhythms, rich vocal traditions and vibrant storytelling, the group creates an immersive, high-energy experience with this powerful celebration of music, movement and shared human connection. Audiences are invited to join in, celebrating rhythm, unity and the joy of collective expression across cultures.



Your
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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

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 and a driver for positive change.

GO! Southampton is proud to be sponsoring this year's Mela Festival.



Sat 18th July, 12pm - 10pm
Sun 19th July, 12pm - 8pm

Hoglands Park
Southampton SO14 1LT
Free admission
artasia.org.uk



ASHLEY BANJO & DIVERSITY
MAX FULHAM



SAT 12 DEC 2026 - SUN 3 JAN 2027

Mayflower Theatre mayflower.org.uk IMAGE FROM A PREVIOUS PRODUCTION **BARGATE**



HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT
CONSTABULARY

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary are delighted to be supporting, and attending, the Southampton Mela once again this year. It is so important to us that where you live is safe for everyone, and our local policing teams work incredibly hard to support communities across our city.

As a celebration of so many different faiths and cultures, the Mela is always a great opportunity for us to meet you, and for us to answer any questions you have about policing. Please make sure you stop by our stand to find out more about us and how you can get involved.

We are grateful to have so many strong and longstanding connections in Southampton. Thank you to everyone whose hard work enables such an important event like this to happen each year and have a great day.



SUNDAY

MAIN STAGE

Compere - Coco P

- 12:00 **Welcome to Southampton Mela Festival**
- 12:10 **DKK - Dandanakka Kalai Kuzu**
Drumming and dance from Tamil Nadu
- 12:40 **Chinese Arts Southampton**
Chinese Music
- 13:30 **Kaashi Arts - Pandit Sanju Sahai, Jaymini Sahai & Kiranpal Singh**
Indian Classical Music and Kathak Dance
- 14:40 **Robimoy**
Rituranga - celebrating Seasons with Tagore's music & dance
- 15:15 **African Activities CIC**
African Music & drumming
- 16:10 **Hampshire Puja and Cultural Association**
Chitrangada - Tagore Dance Drama
- 16:45 **Chinese Association of Southampton**
Kung Fu
- 17:05 **Rajasthani Kalbeliya & Bhawani Pot Dance**
Fusion of Western & Traditional Music
- 17:30 **Padma Shri Velu Aasan and Prathap Ramachandra**
South Indian Percussion Performance on Parai & Mridangam.

WORKSHOP TENT

- 13:00 & 16:20 **African Drumming African Activities**
- 13:40 & 14:20 **Samba Drumming Creative Beats**
- 15:00 **Bollywood Dancing Pooja Rajguru**

STREET PERFORMANCE AREA

- 13:30 **Garba Workshop**
- 16:30 **Chinese Tai Chi**
- 18:00 **Jake's Circus Interactive comedy circus show**
- Around the site **Dandanakka Kalai Kuzhu Drumming**

MELA STAGE

Compere - Preeti Nayyar and Haimanti Kumar

- 12:00 **Sing Now Choir**
Pop Music
- 12:45 **Immersive Dance Company**
- 13:00 **Iqbal Pathan and Mark T.**
Indian, Mediterranean, Celtic fusion music
- 13:40 **Eshaan Angra**
Bollywood Songs
- 14:00 **Bal Vikas**
Dance
- 14:25 **Chinese Arts Southampton**
Chinese Music and Dance Performance
- 15:05 **Dandanakka Kalai Kuzu**
Drumming
- 15:30 **Southampton Muthamizh Sangam Ladies Team**
Tamil Folk Dace
- 15:40 **Madugalle Sri lankan Arts Acedemy**
Srilankan Dance
- 15:50 **Herleen Khalsa**
Sitar and Vocal
- 16:15 **Southampton Youth Brass Band and Chenders Ford Brass Band**
Music from the Brass Band repertoire

ART ASIA TENT

Wellbeing Activities

Come along for a wellbeing taster session to relax and rejuvenate or join us for a short story.

- 13:00 **Tai Chi**
- 13:40 **Qigong**
- 14:20 **Nightjar - a story of migration**
- 15:00 **Yoga - bring your mat or towel**
- 15:40 **Pilates - bring your mat or towel**



Kaashi Arts

Kaashi Arts Internationally acclaimed tabla maestro Pandit Sanju Sahai brings the rich traditions of the Benares Gharana with virtuosity and rhythmic mastery. Kathak artist Jaymini Sahai captivates audiences through expressive storytelling, graceful spins, and dynamic choreography rooted in the Lucknow tradition. Completing the trio is Kiranpal Singh on santoor, whose melodies create a meditative soundscape. Together, they present a spellbinding journey through the timeless traditions of Indian classical music and dance.

SUN - 13:30 MAIN STAGE



Padma Shri Velu Aasan and Prathap Ramachandra

Fusion performance - Parai and Mridangam

Padma Shri Velu Aasan and Prathap Ramachandra deliver a powerful fusion finale at Southampton Mela Festival, uniting the thunderous Parai with the rhythmic depth of the Mridangam. Their collaboration ignites the stage with energy, tradition and contemporary flair, creating a spellbinding crescendo that brings the festival to a close with a resounding, unforgettable bang.

SUN - 17:30 MAIN STAGE



Around the site all weekend

Discover surprises at the street performance area and around the site, including Circus Raj, the Chinese Dragon procession, Jake's Circus, Nutkhut Flowers, Dandanakka Kalai Kuzhu Drumming, Saints Foundation and the Rajasthan Heritage Brass Band.

