

*Journey of*

*Surjahan*

2011-20



# *Journey of* Surjahan 2011-20

**Sur Jahan** (earlier known as Sufi Sutra) is a World Peace Music Festival developed by banglanatak dot com, a 20 years old Kolkata-based social enterprise specializing in Culture and Development. "Music for All & Music for Peace" is the Mantra of this non-commercial festival which celebrates cultural diversity. Music teams from 32 countries and 10 states of India have participated since its inception in 2011. Each year 5-6 international bands participate in the festival, which has day-time cultural exchange workshops and evening concerts. Rural handicraft and traditional folk artists also participate in the festival, creating an ambience of a carnival. More than 10,000 persons attend the festival every day in Kolkata. It has been termed as a 'people's festival' by the media worldwide and has evolved as a head liner festival in both Kolkata and Goa.

## 10 Years, 32 Countries

Afghanistan | Azerbaijan | Bangladesh | Brazil | Burkina Faso  
Cape Verde | Cyprus | Czech Republic | Denmark | Egypt | Ethiopia  
Finland | Hungary | India | Iran | Italy | Morocco | Northern Ireland  
Poland | Portugal | Reunion Island | Russia | Scotland | Senegal | South  
Korea | Spain | Sweden | Syria | Tajikistan | Tunisia | UK | USA



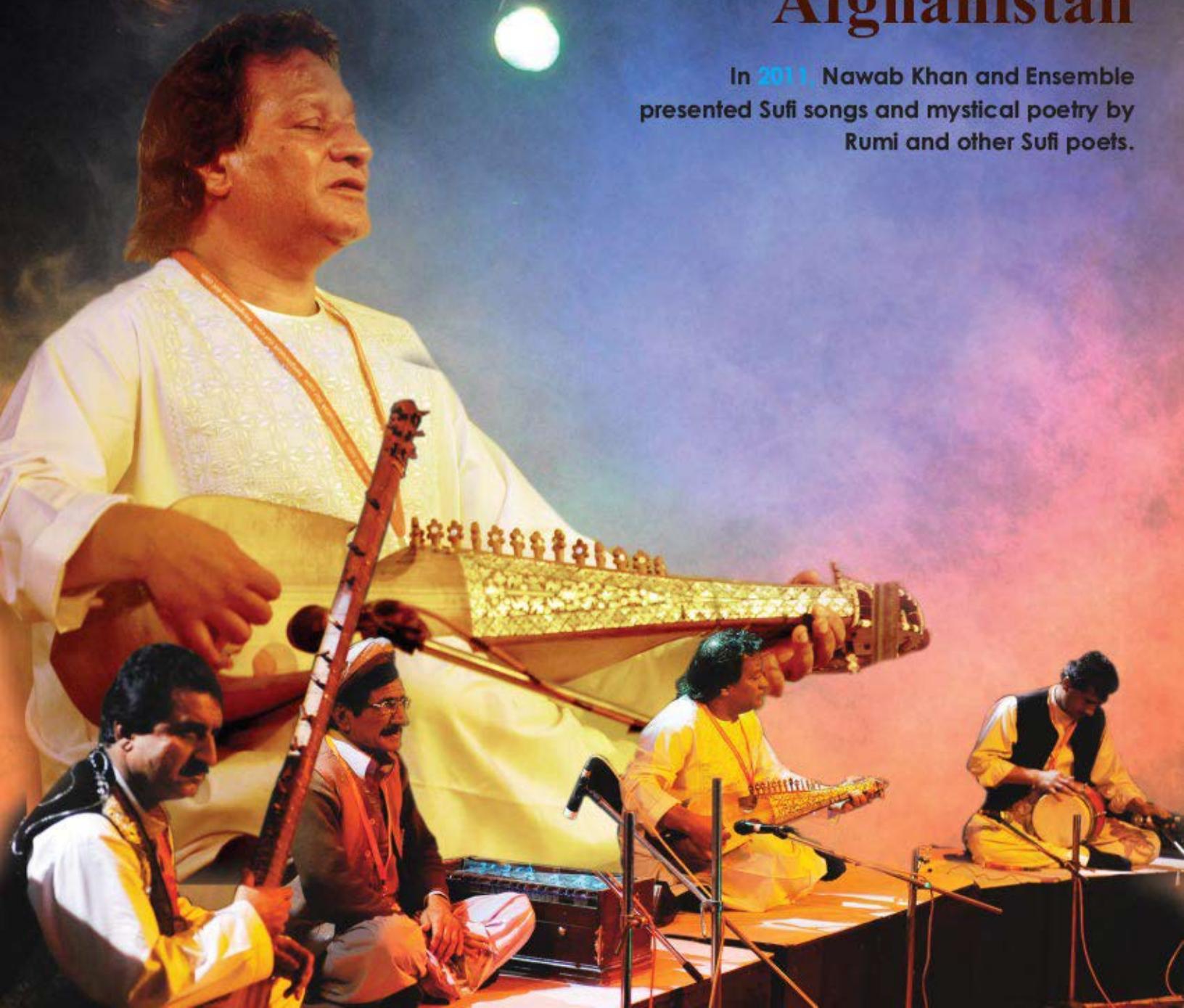


**Sur Jahan was supported by various National and International Organizations over ten years.**



# Afghanistan

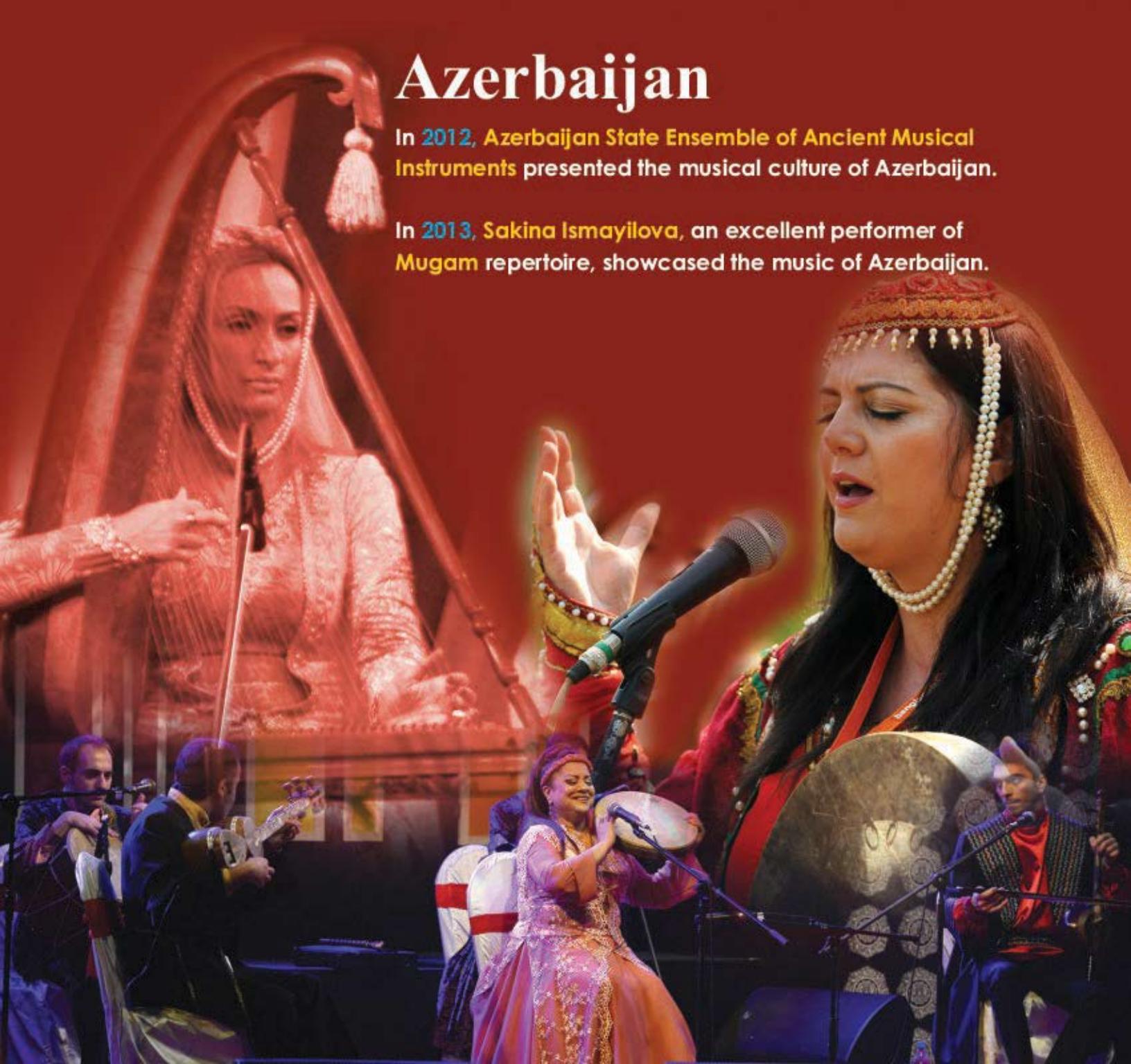
In 2011, Nawab Khan and Ensemble presented Sufi songs and mystical poetry by Rumi and other Sufi poets.



# Azerbaijan

In 2012, Azerbaijan State Ensemble of Ancient Musical Instruments presented the musical culture of Azerbaijan.

In 2013, Sakina Ismayilova, an excellent performer of Mugam repertoire, showcased the music of Azerbaijan.





# Bangladesh

In 2011, Banglar Lalon Goshthi led by Anusheh Anadil presented songs of Lalon Fakir.

In 2014, 'Arnob & Friends' presented Bengali folk and Rabindranath Tagore's songs.



# Brazil

Embaixada Cultural, a network dedicated to cultural activism and diplomacy, presented the Samba band Projeto Sarava. It was an instant hit in 2015.

Movambo presented a combination of traditional Afro-Brazilian dance and music in 2016.



# Burkina Faso

Mamadou Diabate and Percussion Mania created an atmosphere of mesmerizing musical splendour with their powerful African Balafon rhythms and chants in 2016.



# Cape Verde

Mario Lúcio a multi-instrumentalist, singer, songwriter and WOMEX Lifetime award winner presented his music in 2019.



# Cyprus

Monsieur Doumani a three member band presented traditional Cypriot songs in 2019.



# Czech Republic

In 2017, BraAgas presented traditional songs from Southern Europe, the Mediterranean, the Balkans & Scandinavia.



# Denmark

In 2012, The Orient West Choir presented music enriched by the traditions of Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Palestine and Israel.

In 2014 and 2020, Radiant Arcadia, an all-women group, reflected their roots, faith, ethnicity, cultural upbringing and aspects that shape their lives and music.

In 2015, Serenades, a delightful band of seven women musicians, rocked the show with many from the audience tapping their feet to the pulsating music and songs.

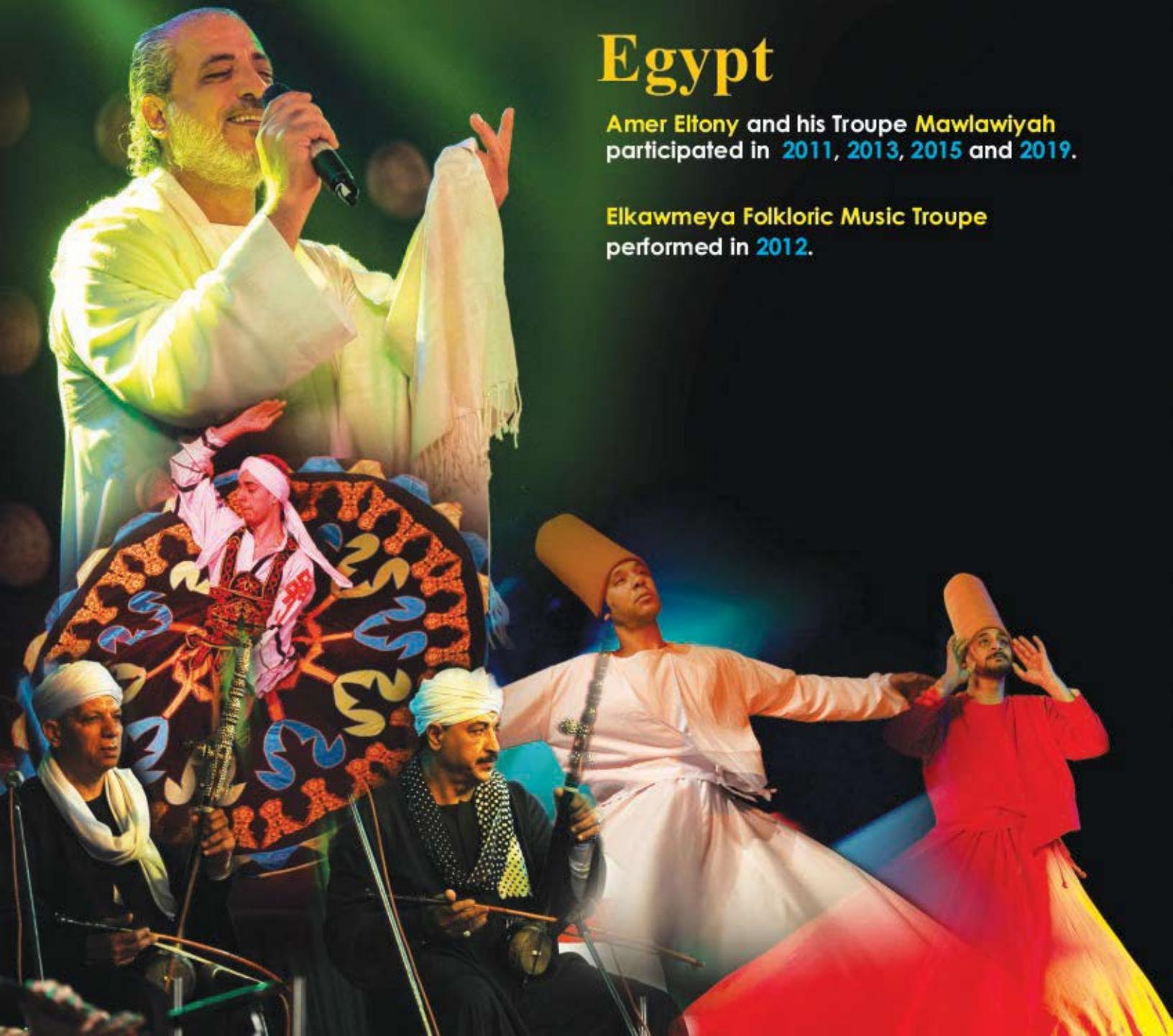
In 2017, Virelai, a folk music band, presented the 'beauty of music, poetry and dance' through an array of traditional Nordic folk music and instruments.



# Egypt

Amer Eltony and his Troupe Mawlawiyah participated in **2011, 2013, 2015 and 2019.**

Elkawmeya Folkloric Music Troupe performed in **2012.**



# Finland

Tuuletar, an all-women A Cappella band participated in 2018.



# Hungary

Söndögő, led by Aron Eredics and Katalin Tompos, presented an excellent musical journey comprising of traditional, fiddle-led Hungarian repertoire and lost music of Balkans in 2012.

Romengo led by Monika Lakatos presented gypsy folk songs, with their unique sound in 2016.

Muzsikas, one of the oldest World Music Bands of Hungary and WOMEX awarded band, led by Daniel Hamar participated in 2018.

Babra, led by Benedek Réti presented their new music with a spirit of traditional South Slavic music in 2019.

The women led acapella band Dalinda performed in 2020.



# Iran

In 2011, Baran Ensemble presented music of love, divinity and mysticism.

Ghazal Sufi Ensemble, an all-women team, was a big hit in 2013.

Win-bang presented Iranian mystical music in 2014.



# Italy/ Ethiopia

**Atse Tewodros Project**, an Italy-Ethiopia fusion folk music collaboration led by **Gabriella Ghermandi**, participated in **2018**.



# Morocco

In 2012, Marouane Hajji et L'Ensemble Akhawane presented the rich Moroccan Sufi traditional songs that date back to 7<sup>th</sup> century AD.

Hadarrattes Souiriyattes, an all-women team, presented Hadra traditional music in 2015.



# Portugal

Mu, a top class folk-based world music band, presented traditional folk music in 2014.

Karrossel presented the passion of folk dance and music based on collections and research from Portugal and all over Europe in a spectacular performance in 2016.



# Northern Ireland

Madagán a four member team led by Jason O'Rourke presented traditional Irish music in collaboration with Goan musician Divya Naik in 2019.



# Poland

**Muzykanci**, one of the most original folk bands led by **Jan Slowinski** in the Polish music world, participated in **2018**.



# Reunion Island

Danyel Waro presented the musical tradition of acoustic Maloya, the blues of La Reunion islands in the Indian Ocean in **2020**.



# Russia

Otava Yo, a well known world music band from Russia, presented traditional folk music including humorous rhymes and rituals and enthralled the audience in 2013 and 2017.





# Scotland

With traditional songs, original compositions and contemporary melodies, **Cherry Grove** presented Scotland's most exciting folk ensemble in 2016.

# Senegal

Cheikh Lo, WOMEX life time award winner and a living legend rooted in the world of African folk music, representing a mix of mbalax, reggae and soukous influences, participated in 2018.



# South Korea

Coreyah, the world music ensemble from South Korea presented multi-layered soundscape encompassing traditional Korean and contemporary world music in 2020.

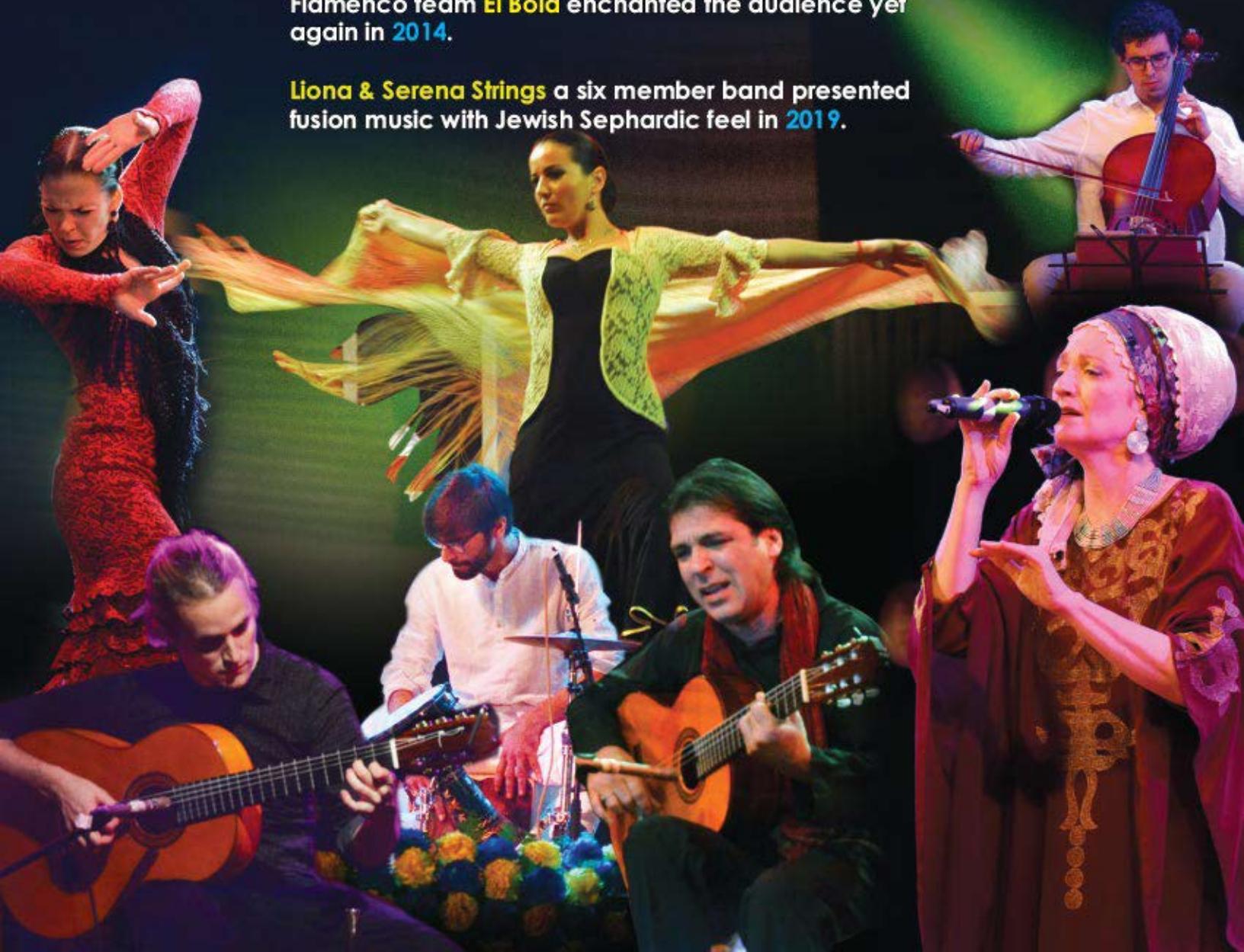


# Spain

In 2013, Pinana Brothers presented Flamenco music with the dancer Nadia Marquez Mora.

Flamenco team **El Bola** enchanted the audience yet again in 2014.

**Liona & Serena Strings** a six member band presented fusion music with Jewish Sephardic feel in 2019.



# Sweden

In 2014, Barkbröder presented the traditional music of Sweden.

In 2017, Ale Moller Quartet presented Scandinavian & Swedish folk music.

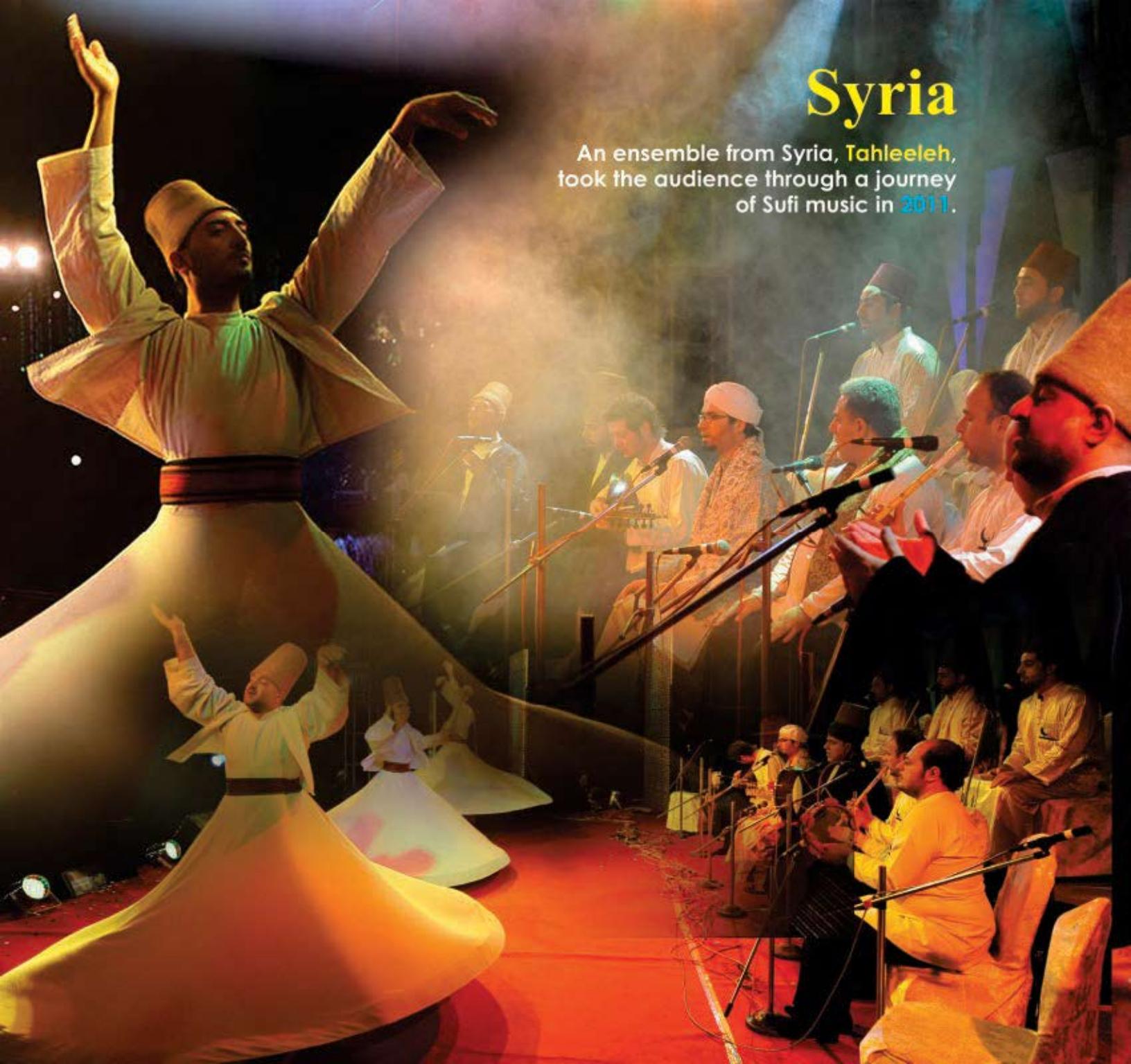
In 2017, Ellika Solo Rafael presented a unique musical mix of Sweden, Senegal and Mexico.

In 2020, Ale Moller and Ensemble presented a unique musical mix.



# Syria

An ensemble from Syria, **Tahleeleh**, took the audience through a journey of Sufi music in 2011.



# Tajikistan

Somon Ensemble presented rich traditional folk music in 2011.





# Tunisia

Mechket led by Slim Baccouche  
presented Tunisian Sufi chant music in  
**2013** and **2015**.

# UK

ZIK'R, a world music band based on Flamenco Fusion led by Karen Ruimy and Youth was the centre of attraction in 2015.



# USA

American Sufi Project transmitted a taste  
of divine love and interconnectedness  
based on the Sufi qualities of devotion and  
contemplation through their music in 2016.



# Andhra Pradesh, India

The purity of Raagas and measured tones and Taals by the **Warsi Brothers** from Hyderabad provided true nourishment for the soul through their Qawwali presented in 2011 and 2016 (in Goa).



# Bihar, India

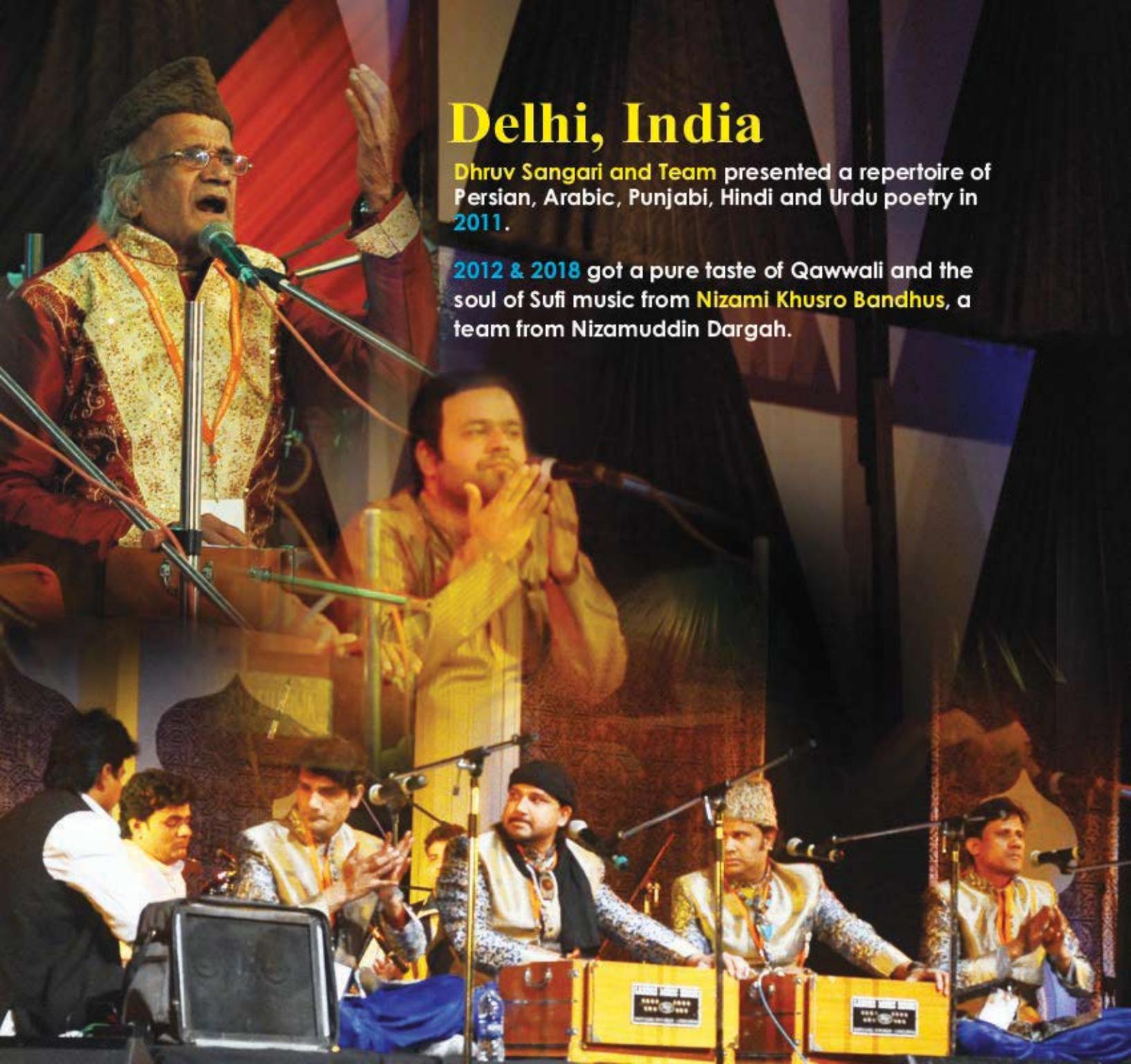
Khan Brothers from Maner Sharif presented a rare collection of old Ghazals and Sufi Qalams of the 16<sup>th</sup> century saint Hazrat Rukmuddin Ishq of Patna in 2014.



# Delhi, India

Dhruv Sangari and Team presented a repertoire of Persian, Arabic, Punjabi, Hindi and Urdu poetry in 2011.

2012 & 2018 got a pure taste of Qawwali and the soul of Sufi music from **Nizami Khusro Bandhus**, a team from Nizamuddin Dargah.



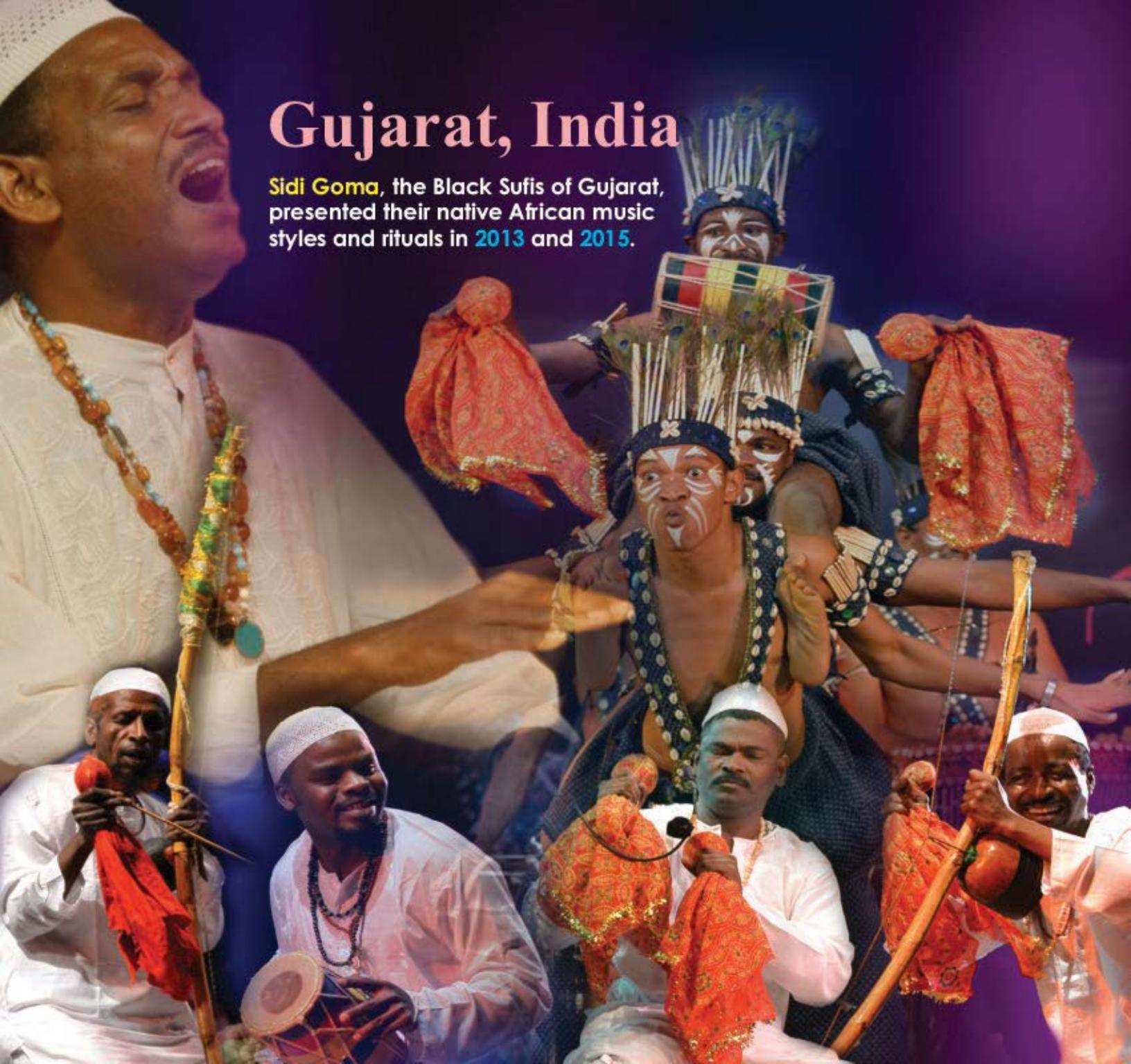
# Goa, India

Goan Musicians and folk artists participated at all editions of Sur Jahan held in Goa, 2015-19.



# Gujarat, India

Sidi Goma, the Black Sufis of Gujarat, presented their native African music styles and rituals in 2013 and 2015.



# Kashmir, India

The pure verses of folk, Sufiyana and Rouf by  
Kashmir Music Society was a delight in 2012.



# Punjab, India

In 2014 & 2017 Ranjhan Ali Qawwal and Team from Punjab presented Qawwali.



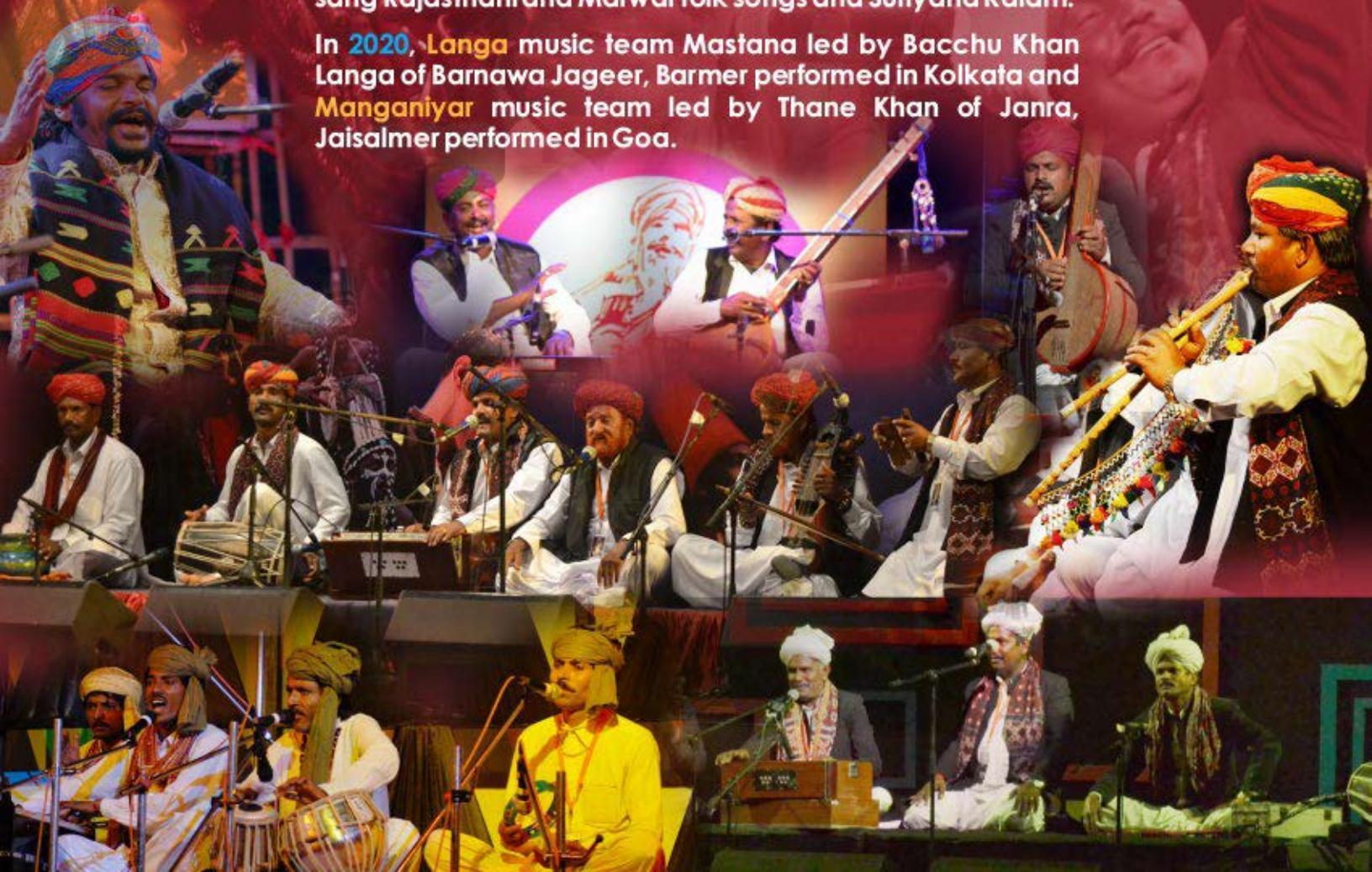
# Rajasthan, India

In 2011, Mir musicians from Pugal, Bikaner, Rajasthan led by Mir Vasu Khan presented a wonderful performance with the compositions of Kabir, Amir Khusro, Bulleh Shah and Khwaja Moinuddin Chisti.

The blissful bounty of the Sufiyana Kalam and Rajasthani folk songs were presented by the Langas of Rajasthan in 2013 & 2015 led by Kasam Khan Langa of Phalodi.

In 2014, the Sufi team from Rajasthan, Shakoor Khan Sufi, sang Rajasthani and Marwar folk songs and Sufiyana Kalam.

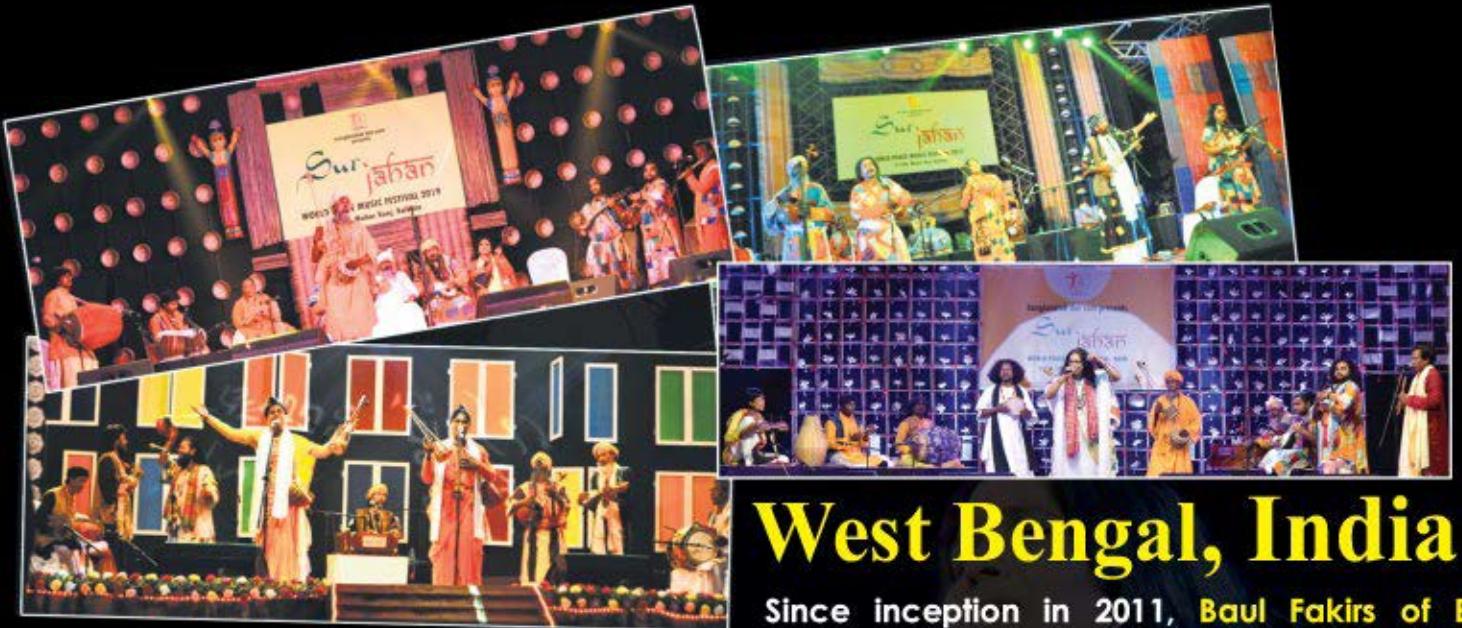
In 2020, Langa music team Mastana led by Bacchu Khan Langa of Barnawa Jageer, Barmer performed in Kolkata and Manganiyar music team led by Thane Khan of Janra, Jaisalmer performed in Goa.



# Uttar Pradesh, India

Haji Mohammed Ahmed Khan Warsi and Group  
from Rampur, Uttar Pradesh, presented some dulcet  
Qawwali songs in 2011.





## West Bengal, India

Since inception in 2011, Baul Fakirs of Bengal participated at the festival. The Baul philosophy which is based on 'Self Searching' and overcoming the divide of religion, caste, class, gender is essentially the soul of Bengal. Sur Jahan celebrates this spirit of Baul along with Cultural Diversity of India.

**Folks of Bengal** is an initiative of banglanatak dot com MusiCal, started in 2014, presents folk based World Music with both new and traditional compositions



involving folk musicians of Bengal coming from different genres like Bhawaiya, Jhumur, Baul, Bhatiyali et al.

# Day time workshop, Kolkata



# Day time workshop, Goa



# Folk Performances, Kolkata



Rural Craft & Cultural Hubs  
of West Bengal

Government of West Bengal



# Handicraft Stall, Kolkata



Rural Craft & Cultural Hubs of West Bengal

# Handicraft Stall, Goa















## বর্তমান

কলকাতা শহরের সবচেয়ে বেশি জীবন।

**WORLD PEACE MUSIC FESTIVAL**

সংগীত প্রজ্ঞান

## সুরের মুচ্ছনা

সামগ্রিক দল সুর মুচ্ছনা কানা প্রয়োগ করে একটি অসম সঙ্গীত প্রতিযোগিতা আয়োজন করেছে। এই প্রতিযোগিতার উদ্দেশ্য হল সামগ্রিক দল সুর মুচ্ছনা কানা প্রয়োগের প্রচারণা করা। এই প্রতিযোগিতা কানা প্রয়োগের প্রচারণা করা। এই প্রতিযোগিতা কানা প্রয়োগের প্রচারণা করা। এই প্রতিযোগিতা কানা প্রয়োগের প্রচারণা করা।

বিজয়ী কানা প্রয়োগের প্রতিযোগিতা কানা প্রয়োগের প্রচারণা করা।

## Kolkata plus

IN SYNC



## আনন্দবাজার পত্রিকা

কলকাতা শহরের ২ মেজাজালি ২০১৮



■ সুর-কলা: অভি, অক্ষয় মেহেরুকুলে শুক হচ্ছে বিশ শহীর গানের আনন্দ শোভায়। তাই প্রকৃতিতে বাস বিভাগের একটি মহিলা শহীরের শিখা। চিরি: সেশকামু চৌধুরী

## সৈকিং স্টেটসম্যান

সুর অঞ্চল



বিজয়ী কানা প্রয়োগের প্রতিযোগিতা কানা প্রয়োগের প্রচারণা করা। এই প্রতিযোগিতা কানা প্রয়োগের প্রচারণা করা। এই প্রতিযোগিতা কানা প্রয়োগের প্রচারণা করা।

## 2018, Kolkata এই মেয়া

কলকাতা শহরের ৩ মেজাজালি ২০১৮



## millenniumpost

TRANSFRONTIER BOUNDARIES



● তামে তানে মোহরের এ মুসুমে বিশিষ্ট। কুলুকীয়া—চৰকাৰী যোগী তে

**THE ASIAN AGE**  
KOLKATA MONDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2018  
EAST MEETS WEST AT SUR JAHAN

## একোলা

## বলক



সংস্কৃত মোহর কুলুকীয়া দিমলি  
শোভায়া: নিমখু চৌধুরী



ওয়েলেল

কলকাতা শহরের ৩ মেজাজালি ২০১৮

## The Statesman

KOLKATA, FRIDAY 02 FEBRUARY 2018

MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA



MILLENNIUM POST | Kolkata | Tuesday, 16 January, 2018

## Sur Jahan music festival to kick off on Feb 2 at Mohar Kunj

OUR CORRESPONDENT

KOLKATA: Sur Jahan (previously known as Sufi Suras), the world Peace Music Festival, based on the theme: MUSIC FOR PEACE, MUSIC FOR ALL, will be held at Mohor Kunj.

The eighth edition of this annual cross-cultural carnival is proud to host music legend and WOMEX Lifetime Award recipient Chenda Lo of Sengal. The other bands include a mix of veterans and young Muzikants of Poland, Musicians of Hungary, Tinselar of Finland, and the Italy-Ethiopia collaboration Atic Tewedros Project.



Bangla Qawali and Folklores of Bengal will represent India. There will be day-

time workshops on Feb 3 & 4, and concerts will be held in the evening on all 3 days, i.e.,

Feb 2-4. Entry is free and open to all.

Sur Jahan will simultaneously host an exhibition of handicrafts and art works, showcasing the creation of traditional village artists associated with the Rural Crafts and Cultural Hubs (RCCH), an initiative of the Department of MSME&T, and supported by UNTSCD.

Folk artists from all the states of India and participants from the world over will be present at the festival. The festival will be held in a park-like setting with a variety of food stalls, music, and performances. The festival will be a platform for the exchange of ideas and cultures, and a celebration of the rich musical heritage of India and the world.

## এক বালকে



বোহুকুজে শাস্তির গান

■ সুর অঞ্চল কলা সুর মুচ্ছনা কানা প্রয়োগের প্রচারণা করা। এই প্রতিযোগিতা কানা প্রয়োগের প্রচারণা করা। এই প্রতিযোগিতা কানা প্রয়োগের প্রচারণা করা। এই প্রতিযোগিতা কানা প্রয়োগের প্রচারণা করা।















# SUND 2014, Kolkata

KOLKATA IS TALKING ABOUT



THE ASIAN AGE

SATURDAY | 1 FEBRUARY 2014 | KOLKATA



MUSICAL CHIT-CHAT



IT WAS 2 MILLION PEOPLE FROM DENMARK WHO CAME TO INDIA. HERE'S WHAT THEY HAD TO SAY.

BY RUMYANA DAS  
PHOTOGRAPH BY DEEPTI GUPTA



BY RUMYANA DAS  
PHOTOGRAPH BY DEEPTI GUPTA

hindustantimes

metro

05

SUNDAY HINDUSTAN TIMES, KOLKATA  
FEBRUARY 2, 2014

## Flamenco, qawaali & other marvels

Snigdha Bhattacharya

[Snigdha.Bhattacharya@hindustantimes.com](mailto:Snigdha.Bhattacharya@hindustantimes.com)

**KOLKATA:** Noted Spanish singer-composer-guitarist Agustín Carbonell Serrano was playing flamenco tunes in his Spanish guitar and singing Sufi numbers while percussionist Pablo Domínguez Revuelta was playing cajón, a box-shaped six-sided instrument that originated in Peru. But the most audible and absorbing music came out from the shoes of the dancer, Tamar González Ciudad!

After the first number from the Spanish team, El Bola, the audience at Mohor Kunja was simply waiting every moment for Ciudad to start dancing and create with her dance steps incredible music. The movement of her body was making fascinating images but it was her foot that talked most. There was magic in her feet!

It was the first show of the second day at Sufi Sutra, a three-day international Sufi music festival. Ciudad's shoes had raised a storm on the dais and mesmer-



Tamar Gonzalez Ciudad performs at the Sufi festival.

SAMIR JAHAN PHOTO

ised the audience who stood up to give the Spanish team, and especially Ciudad, a standing ovation when El Bola finished their hour-long performance.

Apart from Spain, there are participants from Denmark, Sweden, Portugal, Iran,

Bangladesh, Punjab, Rajasthan and West Bengal. The same teams would now visit Patna to participate in a festival organised by the Bihar government and then travel to New Delhi where the International Centre for Cultural Relations would host them.

In Kolkata, the festival started on Friday morning when Bangladesh's Jurnob and Friends started the workshop at Mohor Kunja. During concerts in the evening, teams from Iran and Portugal had set the tone: lie absorbed and feel liberated.

The Portuguese Team, Mu, had put the audience in the dancing mode yet again during the Saturday afternoon workshop, while singing Ema Kumes Argi (Female energy is light) in Basque language and the audience joined in chorus.

During the Saturday night concert, it would have been tough for any team to perform after El Bola's show. But Ranjan Ali and his team's Panjabi qawali soon created an electric atmosphere.

metro | hindustantimes  
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 1, 2014

NOTWITHSTANDING



THE HINDU  
INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

Music transcends barriers



An artist from Denmark performs with a Bengali artist at the international festival in Kolkata on Saturday. — PHOTO: PTI

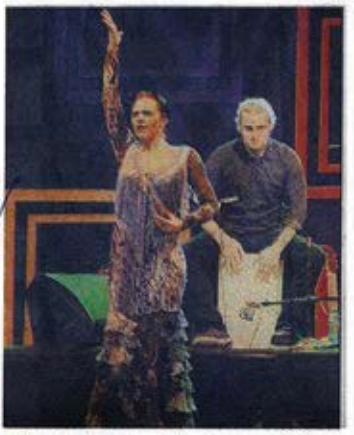
# ବ୍ୟାଜକାଳ

ମୁଦ୍ରଣ ନମ୍ବର ୧୪୨୦ ରଖିବାର ୩ ଫେବ୍ରୁଆରି ୨୦୧୪



# ଏହିମୟ

୧୯ ମାଘ ୧୪୨୦ ରଖିବାର ୨ ଫେବ୍ରୁଆରି ୨୦୧୪



ମୋହର କଞ୍ଚେ ଶ୍ରେଣୀର ଗାନେର ଦଲ — ଏହି ସମୟ

The Statesman

KOLKATA, MONDAY 03 FEBRUARY 2014

KOLKATA PLUS  
THUMBNAILS



Sufi singers from Denmark perform at the Sufi Sutra at Mohor Kunja Kolkata on 2 February, 2014. — Biswajit Ghoshal









# Festival Guests



# **Sur Jahan** (earlier known as Sufi Sutra, 2011 - 2016)

**Kolkata 2011-2020**

**Jaipur 2020 (in association with Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur)**

**Goa 2019 - 2020 (in association with International Center Goa)**

**Goa 2015-2018 (in association with Directorate of Art and Culture, Goa)**

**Patna 2014 (in association with Department of Youth, Art & Culture, Government of Bihar)**

## **Partner Festival**

**Delhi 2012-15 and 2019 (hosted by ICCR)**

**Dhaka 2015 (hosted by Blues Communication)**



**Surjahan**  
**WORLD PEACE MUSIC FESTIVAL**



**banglanatak dot com**

Head Office: 188/89, Prince Anwar Shah Road, Kolkata 700045

Branch Office:

- Krishna Niwas, 1st floor, G-15 Krishna Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur 302001
  - Sadhana Dell'Arte, 125 Casa Joao Francisco, Bhutem Bhat, Merces, Goa 403005
- Contact : [banglanatak@gmail.com](mailto:banglanatak@gmail.com), [www.banglanatak.com](http://www.banglanatak.com), [www.surjahan.com](http://www.surjahan.com)