



Surjahan

World Peace Music Festival

2011 – 2026

14th edition will be held at Kolkata
on January 22-24, 2027



Sur Jahan - World Peace Music Festival

"If music be the food of love, play on" – Shakespeare

Sur Jahan is a World Peace Music Festival, which started its journey in 2011 at Kolkata. Over the years, the festival has also travelled to several places like Panjim, Delhi, Jaipur, Patna and has been attended by music lovers from all over the world including international festival organizers and directors. Sur Jahan upholds the motto of 'Music for Peace, Music for All' and has been a people's festival, where till date musicians from 35 countries have performed in this festival. The festival presents root music of the world and upholds the potential of music to bring social cohesion and peace. With the essence of celebrating cultural diversity, Sur Jahan is an ideal space for music lovers to experience world music.

Looking Back

Sufi Sutra 2011 - 2016

Sur Jahan 2017 - 2020, 2023, 2025, 2026



www.surjahan.com

Kolkata - 2011- 2020, 2023, 2025, 2026

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kharagpur - 2026

Goa - 2019 - 2020 (in association with The International Center Goa), 2015 - 18, 2025
(in association with Directorate of Art & Culture, Govt. of Goa)

Bannabagram Baul Ashram- 2023, 2025. 2026

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

Delhi 2011 - 13, 2015 and 2019 (co-hosted by ICCR)

Patna - 2014 (in association with Dept. of Youth, Art & Culture, Govt. of Bihar)





banglanatak dot com
presents

Surjahan ²⁰²⁶

World Peace Music Festival

23 - 25 January

Golf Green Central Park, Kolkata

27 - 28 January

Bannabagram Baul Ashram, Purba Bardhaman

31 January - 1 February

Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur

Participating Bands

Folker Band - Hungary

Saucējas - Latvia

Radiant Arcadia - Denmark

Vigüela - Spain

Sidi Goma (Gujarat)

Bauls of Bengal

Folks of Bengal

Debojyoti Mishra

(A Tribute to Saïl Chowdhury)





FOLKER BAND HUNGARY

Kolkata
Concert: Jan 23, 7 pm
Workshop: Jan 24, 11:30 am

Folker Band carries the musical soul of Hungary and Transylvania with a sound that is earthy, lyrical, and electrifying. Their music of flute, violin, and kobo — a Moldavian lute — shifts from quiet intimacy to driving dance energy. Rooted in the Moldavian csángó tradition, they blend village styles with contemporary arrangements, preserving authenticity while keeping the music vibrantly alive.

Founded in 2001 in Sepsiszentgyörgy/Sfântu Gheorghe, they have spent 25 years exploring Hungarian folk heritage through song traditions, táncház dance music, education, festivals, theatre, and film. In performance, they move through an emotional arc of laments, ballads, playful work tunes, love songs, soldier's chants, and spirited mating songs. Rhythmic layers of kobo, hit-cello, and bass ground the soaring violin and shimmering flutes.

At this folk music festival, Etel-Imola Samu, Szabolcs Csibi, István Csaba Kelemen, and Robert Melkuhn will bring Folker Band's living tradition to the stage, a journey shaped by centuries of memory and feeling.





SAUCĒJAS LATVIA

Kolkata
Concert: Jan 24, 6 pm
Workshop: Jan 25, 11:30 am

Saucējas, a vocal choir from Latvia, carry to the world the elemental power of oldest vocal traditions—drone-rich polyphony, open-air calling songs, and tightly woven multipart textures from Kurzeme, Sēlija, and Latgale. Their sound is bright, resonant, and rooted in landscape: clashing intervals that shimmer, long drones that ground melody, and a collective presence shaped by forests, fields, and echoing hillforts.

Founded in 2003 at the Latvian Academy of Culture, they revitalise traditional singing as a living, acoustically grounded practice. Drawing on archival recordings and living informants, they preserve dialects and perform in natural spaces where voices interact with wind and terrain. For Saucējas, polyphony is a dynamic process—shifting drones, overtone-rich intervals, and call-and-response gestures echoing seasonal customs, work songs, and communal rites.

With five acclaimed albums and international festival appearances, Saucējas remain one of the leading cultural emissaries of Latvia. Vineta Romāne, Janta Meža, Kristīne Jansone, Marta Konevāle, and Elīna Ellere bring this living tradition to the stage, where the human voice meets the land itself.





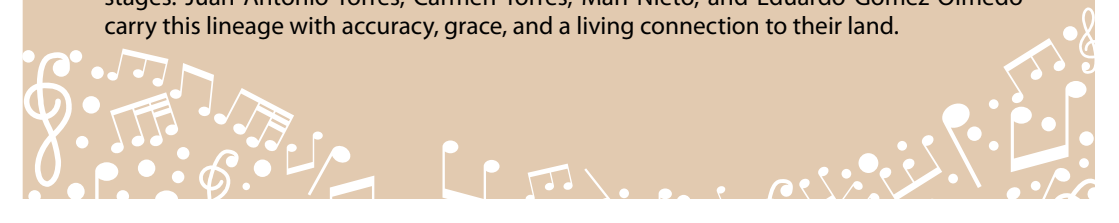
VIGÜELA SPAIN

Kolkata
Concert: Jan 24, 7 pm
Workshop: Jan 25, 10:30 am

Vigüela brings to the world the raw, overlooked beauty of central Spain's oldest musical soul—jota, seguidilla, and fandango, the heartbeat of Castilla-La Mancha, land of Don Quixote. Their sound is built from voices, skin, and wood: frame-drum pulses, bright rasgueos, tight vocal blends, and dance-driven rhythmic cycles that echo the Iberian plateau's deep memory.

Formed in the mid-1980s, they sought an authentic language rooted in the land. Their distinctiveness lies in performing these traditions as they live—improvised, emotionally tuned, shaped by the interplay of singers, dancers, and musicians. Over decades, they have refined a practice where rhythm breathes, melodies follow local micro-variations, and “loose-step” dances—partners never touching yet communicating through posture and timing—remain inseparable from the music.

With ten albums and international tours, Vigüela brings this vibrant tradition to global stages. Juan Antonio Torres, Carmen Torres, Mari Nieto, and Eduardo Gomez-Olmedo carry this lineage with accuracy, grace, and a living connection to their land.





RADIANT ARCADIA DENMARK

Kolkata
Concert: Jan 25, 7 pm
Workshop: Jan 24, 10:30 am

Radiant Arcadia is a Denmark-based women's ensemble shaped by the belief that music can hold many worlds at once. Bass clarinet, accordion, Syrian harp and voice, Spanish folk colours, and revived Hebrew songs mingle to form a sound born from difference. Lineages of faith, culture, and memory meet here not in sameness but in contrast, a spirit that has guided them since their beginning in 2012 under Annette Bellaoui.

They have travelled widely to Denmark, Morocco, India's Sur Jahan Festival, the Faroe Islands, Dublin, Sweden, each journey adding a new hue. Their repertoire moves with the same ease: Danish Hopsa blending into Klezmer, Syrian folk turning towards Qawwali, original compositions braiding the rest.

In this folk music festival, Salam Mohamad Susu, Channe Nussbaum, Anja Præst Mikkelsen, Pilar Moraleda Sanchez, and Maren Hallberg Larsen will bring this evolving sound to the stage. A decade on, Radiant Arcadia remains a space where traditions meet without losing themselves.





SIDI GOMA
GUJARAT, INDIA

Kolkata
Concert: Jan 24, 8 pm
Workshop: Jan 25, 12:30 pm

Sidi Goma carries the rare Afro-Indian musical legacy of the Sidi community of Gujarat, descendants of East Africans who settled in India between the 17th and 20th centuries. Though memories of Africa softened, their rhythms endured, blending with Gujarati folk and Sufi devotion to create Goma or Dhamal — a form both ancestral and mystical.

Once wandering fakirs who sang in honour of Bava Gor, the Sidis performed at shrines and Urs festivals where devotion rose into ecstatic dance. Their sound world features deep drums, hand percussion, and the resonant malunga, a single-string bow tied to East African traditions; its polyrhythms still echo their origins.

In this folk music festival, Sabir Sidi and his team will perform this living heritage, presenting a journey from Baithi Dhamal to a haunting malunga solo, culminating in Khari Dhamal — a burst of leaps, spins, satire, and joy where Africa and India meet.





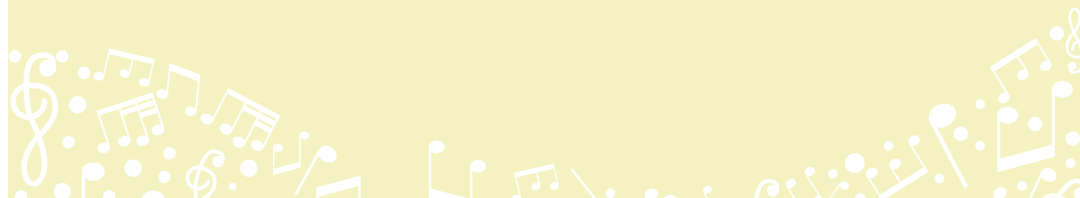
BAULS OF BENGAL **WEST BENGAL, INDIA**

Kolkata
Concert: Jan 23, 6:15 pm

Baul music is the soul of Bengal — a living tradition that celebrates humanity beyond divisions, singing of love, freedom, and the search for truth within. Folk instruments and profound philosophy meet in songs that speak of peace and the shared pulse of all beings.

Bauls of Bengal is an ensemble shaped by this timeless spirit. Earthy vocals, dotara strings, and vibrant percussion come together to evoke the music of the soil — intimate, uplifting, and deeply rooted. Their performances offer a doorway into Bengal's mystical heritage, where song becomes a bridge between people and worlds.

Featuring renowned artists Babu Fakir, Atahar Fakir, Mallika Akar, Sumanta Das Baul, Mohan Tanti, and Rana Mandal, the ensemble brings the wandering Baul tradition to stage with authenticity and warmth. Their music carries a simple truth: in every note lies the possibility of peace.





100 YEARS OF TIMELESS MELODY
A TRIBUTE TO SALIL CHOWDHURY
BY **DEBOJYOTI MISHRA**

Kolkata
Concert: Jan 23, 8 pm

A century after his birth, Salil Chowdhury endures as a transformative presence in Indian music—redefining its contours by weaving folk insight, classical discipline, and global influences into compositions that voiced conscience, love, and humanism, and helped shape modern India's sonic imagination.

Marking his birth centenary, Debojyoti Mishra presents a specially curated tribute, revisiting Chowdhury's iconic compositions through intimate, evocative arrangements. The performance becomes a meditation on memory and meaning, honouring a composer whose music continues to speak of a more compassionate world.





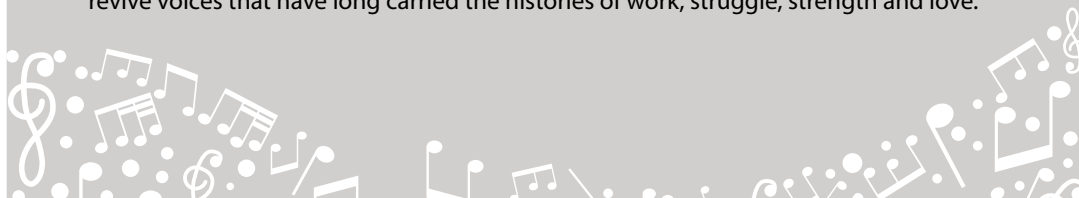
FOLKS OF BENGAL WEST BENGAL, INDIA

Kolkata
Concert: Jan 25, 6 pm

Hidden in the folds of Bengal's villages, women's work songs rise as the only surviving testament to their unseen labour and unspoken strength. And when these songs rise, the silence that once buried women's labour finally breaks—and the world is forced to listen.

"Folks of Bengal" honours the women whose hands shaped the land, the home, and history—yet remained unnamed. Folks of Bengal has a compelling artistic vision which honours the depth of Bengal's folk legacy while fearlessly exploring new sonic pathways. In this special presentation, the ensemble turns its focus to women's labour songs—the rhythmic breaths of rural life, born from fields, courtyards and collective endurance.

Celebrated vocalists Dipannita Acharya, Debalina Bhowmick, Manaswita Thakur, and Ranjita Chakraborty lead the narrative, supported by the powerful musicianship of Arpan Thakur Chakraborty, Pritam Guha, Tanmay Pan and Jayanta Saha. Together, they revive voices that have long carried the histories of work, struggle, strength and love.





Bands

Folcorn **Netherlands**

Ale Moller **Sweden**

Umbra Ensemble **Iceland**

Surbandhan **USA & India**

Folks of Bengal **India**

Bauls of Bengal **India**

Kasam Khan Langa & Team, Rajasthan **India**

Habib Khan Langa & Team, Rajasthan **India**

The Durua Tribe of Odisha **India**

Sonia Shirsat Ensemble, Goa **India**

The Ghumat Project, Goa **India**



Surjahan 2023



Bands

Madagan Northern Ireland

Mawlawayah Egypt

Folks of Bengal India

Rangamatir Baul India

Rarh Darbar India

Mirs of Rajasthan India

Leelabali India

Bangla Qawwali India





Bands

Ale Moller Sweden

Coreyah South Korea

Dalinda Hungary

Danyel Waro Reunion Island

Radiant Arcadia Denmark

Folks of Bengal India

Bauts of Bengal India

Manganiyars of Rajasthan India

Langas of Rajasthan India



Surjahan 2019



Bands

Babra Hungary

Liona & Serena Strings Spain

Monsieur Doumani Cyprus

Mawlawiyah Egypt

Mario Lucio Cape Verde

Madagán Northern Ireland

Bengal Goa Ensemble India

Bauls of Bengal India





Bands

Atse Tewodros **Italy/Ethiopia**

Muzykanci **Poland**

Tuuletar **Finland**

Cheikh Lo **Senegal**

Muzsikas **Hungary**

Kolkatar Gaan & Qawwali **India**

Nizami Khusro Bandhus **India**

Bengal Goa Ensemble **India**



Surjahan 2017



Bands

Elika Solo Rafael Sweden

Otava Yo Russia

BraAgas Czech Republic

Virelai Denmark

Ale Moller Quartet Sweden

Ranjhan Ali Qawwal and Team India

Baults of Bengal India

Folks of Bengal India



Sufi इतरा 2016



Bands

Cherry Grove **Scotland**

Romengo **Hungary**

Mamadou Diabate **Burkina Faso**

American Sufi Project **USA**

Movambo **Brazil**

Karrossel **Portugal**

Bengal Goa Ensemble **India**

Baul & Bangla Qawwali **India**

Warsi Brothers **India**



Sufi इतरा 2015



Bands

Serenas **Denmark**

Hadarrattes Souiriyattes **Morocco**

Mawlawiyah **Egypt**

Mechket **Tunisia**

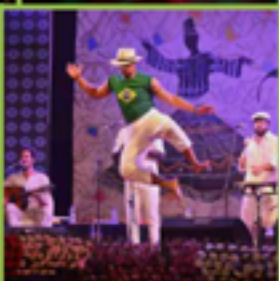
ZIK'R **UK**

Projeto Sarava **Brazil**

Sidi Goma **India**

Langas **India**

East West Local **India**



Sufi **इतरा** 2014



Bands

Radiant Arcadia **Denmark**

Barkbröder Extended **Sweden**

Win-bang **Iran**

El Bola **Spain**

Mu **Portugal**

Arnob & Friends **Bangladesh**

Manganiyar **India**

Ranjhan Ali Qawwal and Team **India**

Khan Brothers **India**

Baul-Fakiri **India**



Sufi इतरा 2013



Bands

Mugam **Azerbaijan**

Mawlawiyah **Egypt**

Ghazal Sufi Ensemble **Iran**

Otava Yo **Russia**

Pinana Brothers **Spain**

Mechket **Tunisia**

Sidi Goma **India**

Langas **India**

Baul-Fakiri **India**





Bands

State Ensemble of Ancient Musical Instruments **Azerbaijan**

The Orient West Choir **Denmark**

Elkawmeya Folkloric Music Troupe **Egypt**

Marouane Hajji et L'Ensemble Akhawane **Morocco**

SÖNDÖRGÖ **Hungary**

Nizami Khusro Bandhus **India**

Kashmir Music Society **India**

Baul-Fakirs from Nadia and Murshidabad **India**



Sufi ²⁰¹¹ इतरा



Bands

Baran Ensemble **Iran**

Mawlawiyah **Egypt**

Anusheh Anadil **Bangladesh**

Nawab Khan **Afghanistan**

Tahleeleh **Syria**

Somon Ensemble **Tajikistan**

Mirs **India**

Rampur Qawwali **India**

Warsi Brothers **India**

Dhruv Sangari **India**

Baut-Fakiri & Bangla Qawwali **India**



We appreciate media support

Friday, 17 November 2011 8:00 AM

Herzfeld Cafe

Goa is all ears for world folk music



World Peace Music Festival Goa is all ears for world folk music. The festival, which is held annually in Goa, is a celebration of the rich and diverse musical traditions of the world. It features a variety of folk music from different cultures, including Indian, African, Latin American, and European. The festival is a great opportunity for people to experience the beauty and diversity of world folk music.



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আজকাল

সংবাদ পত্রিকা • ১৭ নভেম্বর ২০১১

সুরের উৎসব



গান ও সুরের আনুভূতি জেগে উঠুক বিশ্বজোড়া শান্তি

THE GOAN

STRIKING THE RIGHT CORDS



গান ও সুরের আনুভূতি জেগে উঠুক বিশ্বজোড়া শান্তি

এই সময়

গান ও সুরের আনুভূতি জেগে উঠুক বিশ্বজোড়া শান্তি

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লোকসো

গান ও সুরের আনুভূতি জেগে উঠুক বিশ্বজোড়া শান্তি

কলকাতার শান্তিফলক সঙ্গীত, গান ও সুরের আনুভূতি জেগে উঠুক বিশ্বজোড়া শান্তি

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The Telegraph online

গান ও সুরের আনুভূতি জেগে উঠুক বিশ্বজোড়া শান্তি

myxam

গান ও সুরের আনুভূতি জেগে উঠুক বিশ্বজোড়া শান্তি

The World Peace Music Festival Goa is back in Kolkata

গান ও সুরের আনুভূতি জেগে উঠুক বিশ্বজোড়া শান্তি



সুখবর

গান ও সুরের আনুভূতি জেগে উঠুক বিশ্বজোড়া শান্তি

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নবপ্রভা

গান ও সুরের আনুভূতি জেগে উঠুক বিশ্বজোড়া শান্তি

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THE GOAN

STRIKING THE RIGHT CORDS



গান ও সুরের আনুভূতি জেগে উঠুক বিশ্বজোড়া শান্তি

আজকাল

গান ও সুরের আনুভূতি জেগে উঠুক বিশ্বজোড়া শান্তি



Herzfeld Cafe

গান ও সুরের আনুভূতি জেগে উঠুক বিশ্বজোড়া শান্তি

Arie Molier brings soulful folk tunes to Goa's vibrant music scene

গান ও সুরের আনুভূতি জেগে উঠুক বিশ্বজোড়া শান্তি



সুখবর

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আনন্দবাজার পত্রিকা

গান ও সুরের আনুভূতি জেগে উঠুক বিশ্বজোড়া শান্তি



Cafe

Memories of Star Jahan 2019

Memories of Star Jahan 2019

BEATS FROM SENEGAL

Senegalese musician playing a traditional instrument on stage.

আমন্দবাজার পত্রিকা

কলকাতা শনিবার ৬ ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০১৯ খ্রিঃ

Portrait of a woman with long dark hair, looking upwards.

THE TIMES OF INDIA

KHARAKA IS TALKING ABOUT

FOLK SONGS SET THE MOOD AT MUSIC FESTIVAL

Collage of images from a folk music festival, showing performers and audience.

SONGLINES

FESTIVAL GUIDE

Colorful graphic illustration for a festival guide.

KHARAKA IS TALKING ABOUT

Sufi music festival enthralled City of Joy

Collage of photos from a Sufi music festival.

বর্তমান

WORLD FOLK MUSIC FESTIVAL

Photograph of a musician playing a stringed instrument on stage.

TIMES CITY

STRIKING THE RIGHT CHORD

Photograph of a band performing on stage at night.

Sunday

Beats and tunes from diverse cultures

Photograph of a group of people performing a traditional dance or music piece.

একলা

সুন্দের মুর্ছনা

Photograph of a woman in a purple sari performing a dance on a red carpet.

সুন্দের মুর্ছনা

Text describing the performance.

Sunday

Music for peace

Collage of photos from a music festival.

সংস্করণ

সংস্করণ PLUS

Photograph of a group of people performing on stage.

THE OGAN

Photograph of a musician playing a stringed instrument on stage.

millenniumpost

The Statesman

PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY 2018

Photograph of a group of people performing on stage.

millenniumpos

Photograph of a group of people performing on stage.



Jugal Kishore Music Festival enraptures city



The Navhind Times



millenniumpost



এই সময়



Goa Times



The Navhind Times

Thursday February 7, 2019
Sur Jahan: Celebrating diversity through music



এই সময়



GT

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 8, 2017

MUSIC WITH MEANING



কলকাতা



Sunday



THE SCENES



আনন্দবাজার পত্রিকা



BRINGING THE MUSIC TO GOA



पोलंडच्या 'मुझिकानसी' ने रसिकांना डोलविले

१५० गीतांचा संग्रह

बर्लिन, २९. १ (आय.एन.एन.)

बर्लिनमध्ये आयोजित झालेल्या पोलंडच्या 'मुझिकानसी' या संग्रहाच्या प्रदर्शनात, पोलंडच्या संगीतकारांनी रचलेले १५० गीतांचा संग्रह प्रदर्शित करण्यात आला. या संग्रहात पोलंडच्या संगीतकारांनी रचलेले १५० गीतांचा संग्रह प्रदर्शित करण्यात आला. या संग्रहात पोलंडच्या संगीतकारांनी रचलेले १५० गीतांचा संग्रह प्रदर्शित करण्यात आला.



पोलंडच्या 'मुझिकानसी' या संग्रहाच्या प्रदर्शनात.

पोलंडच्या 'मुझिकानसी' या संग्रहाच्या प्रदर्शनात, पोलंडच्या संगीतकारांनी रचलेले १५० गीतांचा संग्रह प्रदर्शित करण्यात आला. या संग्रहात पोलंडच्या संगीतकारांनी रचलेले १५० गीतांचा संग्रह प्रदर्शित करण्यात आला.

Baul music, dervish dance at 3-day fest

Kolkata: A three-day World Peace Music Festival titled 'Sur Jahan' will be held at Golf Green Central Park from February 3-5. Organised by Bangladesh with Golf Green Central Coordination Committee, it will have workshops as well.

Polk band Madagan of Belfast and Mawlawiyah of Egypt, who are dervish performers, will attend. "Baul singer Reena Das Paul will perform," said Ranjan Sen of Bangladeshtak.com.

SONGLINES
WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL GUIDE
2019-2020



पत्रिका 100,000 PLUS

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