

# SANGEET MELA 2019

*5th Annual Indian Classical Music & Dance Festival*

**Saturday 30th March**

Queensland Multicultural Centre  
Brisbane, Australia





# Programme

## *Rising Stars Session: 2:30pm to 3:45pm*

SANGEET MELA RISING STAR AWARD WINNERS:

1. KATHAK DANCE – Ku Sae Sane with live ensemble
2. BHARATANATYAM DANCE – Ku Aishwarya Jangam
3. MRIDANGAM SOLO – Sri Siddharth Adityan

## *Afternoon Session: 4:00pm to 5:15pm*

4. BANSURI SOLO – Sri Darshil Shah
5. SITAR SOLO – Sri Saikat Bhattacharya

## *Sunset Session: 5:35pm to 7:00pm*

6. BHARATANATYAM DANCE – Smt Sriranjani Chandramouli  
with live ensemble
7. SARANGI SOLO – Sri Sangeet Mishra (Varanasi/Mumbai)

~ Dinner ~

## *Evening Session: 7:45pm to 9:30pm*

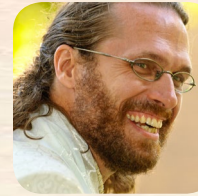
8. QAWWALI – Tahir Faridi Sufi Qawwali Ensemble  
(Canada/Pakistan/India /New Zealand/Australia)
9. CARNATIC VOCAL – Smt Charulatha Mani (Chennai)

Please enjoy delicious refreshments in the lobby. No food to be brought into the auditorium. Please be seated in timely fashion and be considerate of fellow listeners.

Due to the extent of the programme we must run on time.

Please enter and leave the auditorium between items.

# From the Festival Organisers



## *Festival Director*

*Shen Flindell*

Welcome to the 5th annual(ish) Sangeet Mela in Brisbane. The first four Sangeet Melas were held in September, which started purely by chance but we found it to be quite a busy festival period in the Indian community. After Sangeet Mela 2017 I needed to take an extra break to recover and used the opportunity to shift Sangeet Mela to this new date in late March, which does seem to be a less crowded part of the calendar.

It is a pleasure to bring together this amazing variety of artists presenting the very best kind of music and dance: Indian classical! From Hindustani to Carnatic, dance, vocal, instrumental and percussion solo, the breadth and depth of this genre is just unmatched around the world. This year we are happy to include Qawwali, a genre on the lighter side of classical but, along with Dhrupad, part of the essential foundations of modern Hindustani classical music.

Every year Sangeet Mela presents young talent under 26 through the Sangeet Mela Rising Star Awards. Congratulations to Siddharth Adityan (mridangam), Sae Sane (Kathak), and Aishwarya Jangam (Bharatanatyam) for their efforts in reaching a high standard in Indian classical arts and in applying for these awards. Interestingly, Siddharth and Sae both learn their arts from previous Rising Star Award winners Dr Arthavan Selvanathan and Dr Helena Joshi. Already in just 5 years we are seeing another generation emerging!

Many thanks to our platinum sponsor Yoga King, continuing their generous support of Sangeet Mela for a second year. Thanks also to our regular silver sponsors Sitar Restaurant, Homeopathy for Health, and Sahaja Yoga, this year's private sponsors Sri Gurbir Singh and Dr Mansey Kinarivala. and to our team of volunteers. I want to give special thanks this year to Murali and Sharada Ramakrishnan who have helped me with some of the admin work in the months leading up to the event, and to Ketaki Apte of Vishwa Events for handling all of the media liaison and loads of promotional work.

Sangeet Mela serves as a focal point for all of us varied devotees of Indian classical arts to gather and celebrate its multiple forms. It's a wonderful opportunity for local artists to perform for a quality audience in a quality venue. Classical music needs the right atmosphere to fully flower, and without events like Sangeet Mela many local artists will only get a chance in between a couple of Bollywood dance numbers at a community hall or outdoor festival. Through Sangeet Mela we've aimed to expand the audience for Indian classical music, introducing it to new listeners and reminding others how wonderful it is, and so hopefully build a culture of attending classical events throughout the year.

Over the past few years I have found myself getting more and more drawn into deeper practice of tabla, as well as gaining ever increasing satisfaction from teaching tabla to my beloved students. I promised myself I would complete 5 Sangeet Melas and in so doing I'm sure I have proven the value of such an event to the Indian classical community in Brisbane and the whole country. I'm now intending to step back from organising events to focus on my own practice and students. I'm hopeful that some individual or organisation will step forward to continue organising Sangeet Mela or a similar event, and I would be very happy to assist whomever might take that leadership role.

Indian classical music transcends so many boundaries: regional, religious, and even national borders. Sangeet Mela 2019 features artists from Benarasi, Bengali, Tamil, Marathi, Telugu, Gujarati, Pakistani, Punjabi, Fiji Indian, Canadian, New Zealand, and Australian backgrounds! I call on all the various subcontinental cultural associations, and especially umbrella organisations like FICQ and GOPIO to take an active stake in Indian classical music and dance, and promote the best of the subcontinent's culture to the wider community.

email: [shen@sangeetmela.org](mailto:shen@sangeetmela.org)



## Featured Artists



### *Smt Charulatha Mani - Carnatic vocal*

Charulatha Mani is an acclaimed singer of Karnatik Music, the Classical music of Southern India. Following a successful Chennai-based career of over two decades, in Karnatik performance, raga research, thematic Isai Payanam curation, and film playback singing, Charulatha Mani took up her Ph.D. at the Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia, in 2016. Her doctoral work examines the intersections between Karnatik Viruttam and Early Opera (the first decade of the 17th century). Her key areas of research expertise include Karnatik ragas, the semiotics of gesture in music, and the operas of Italian composer Claudio Monteverdi.

Charulatha continues to enjoy an international career in performance, recording and collaborating, across traditional and hybrid styles. Since her migration to Australia, she has emerged as a strong intercultural performer with specific interests in embodied singing, intercultural composition and performance, and experimental new works. Her exposure to collaborators and industry partners in Australia has been diverse, ranging from university arts departments, including The Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University and the University of Queensland, to reputed arts organisations, including QPAC, Sounds Across Oceans (Brisbane) and The Taste of India (Victoria), to media including Channel 7 and 4MBS.

Her research and artistic stimuli derive from her deep interest in the cultures and sounds that have come to represent the rich diversity that the current Australian arts context embodies. Internationally, she continues explore ways to interweave her musical capabilities and insights into an exciting and dynamically shapeshifting musical scene, across creative conceptualisation, performance, and music education.



### *Tahir Faridi Sufi Qawwali Ensemble*

Traditionally performed in Sufi ceremonies (Sama) in India and Pakistan, the music of Qawwali offers a light of inspiration, fanning the flames of divine love in the hearts of listeners. The poetry of Sufi mystics comes alive in passionate song and dynamic rhythm. Tahir Faridi Sufi Qawwali Ensemble offer audiences an entrancing musical experience rarely experienced outside the East.

Led by world-renowned performer Tahir Qawwal, the ensemble features a unique collaboration of Indian and Pakistani musicians (from historically divided countries). Chetan Ramlu slams the qawwali tablas, Punjabi Mankul Sain brings deep vocal richness, Sakura Lal holds a strong chorus and Farhan Shah, a professional singer & producer from Pakistan, offers added layers of melodic intensity. Guests such as Bhairavi Devi bring in a touch of feminine vocals, and strings by Indian musician Sangeet Mishra.

## Featured Artists

Tahir Qawwal has a strong connection to the masters of qawwali in India and Pakistan, having studied, travelled and performed throughout the East over the last 20 years. He is a fierce harmonium player and vocalist, and leads renowned international qawwali group Fanna-Fi-Allah. Tahir has played a major role in facilitating cultural understanding between East & West, introducing audiences throughout the world to the immense beauty & power of qawwali tradition and culture.



### *Sri Sangeet Mishra - Sarangi*

Maestro Sangeet Mishra is a talented musician and capable exponent of Indian music in the Benaras tradition. Sangeet comes from a long line of sarangi masters from India's holiest city, Varanasi, and has performed with leading artists in India and around the world.

He first learned to play sarangi from his father Pandit Santosh Mishra, received advanced training from his grandfathers Maestro Bhagwan Das and Maestro Narayan Das Mishra and was considered by his seniors and gurus to be a child prodigy.

"I wanted to learn Tabla but my father encouraged me to play sarangi. And today, I see how right he was" he recalls.

Sangeet has endeavoured to revive ancient musical styles by acquiring both the tantrakari and gayaki forms of playing the sarangi. An innovative musician, he also successfully employs a contemporary approach to playing the sarangi without compromising its traditional purity and essence and is at ease playing styles ranging from the nuances of pure classical Indian to modern contemporary music.

Presently based in the city of Mumbai, Pt. Sangeet maintains a busy schedule as a professional musician and has performed on numerous musical platforms both in India and overseas. Apart from performing in prestigious Indian festivals such as Sawai Gandharwa (Pune) and Sangeet Natak Academy, he has performed in the India Festival (Japan), Woodstock Festival (Poland), Royal Theatre (Australia) and for movies in Hollywood (Saint Dracula) and Bollywood.

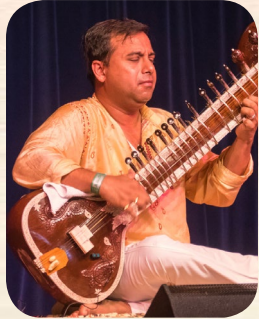
A highly versatile performer, Sangeet has collaborated worldwide with musicians from various genres and styles to create a new musical language. He feels fortunate to have accompanied vocalists including Smt. Girija Devi, Pt. Channulal Mishra, Mishra Bandhu, Ustad Raza Ali Khan, and many well-known dancers including Padmashree Vidushi Sitara Devi and Padmavibhushan Pt. Birju Maharaj.

When asked, what it is like accompanying other artists he said, "I am so blessed. ... You not only learn to play and to be careful and ready to improvise on stage but also how to be a true artist", adding, "...artists like Pt. Birju Maharaj and Sitara Devi are like saints. They are so down to earth though so high in their art."





## Featured Artists



### Sri Saikat Bhattacharya - sitar

Saikat Bhattacharya has been playing the Sitar for over twenty four years. Playing the sitar has been his passion and devotion. His motivation to learn came from his parents more particularly his mother. Saikat's first teaching began in early nineties under the supervision of his first Guru Pandit Manilal Nag of Calcutta, in India. At present, Saikat is a disciple of Ustad Shahid Parvez Khan.

Saikat has made numerous public performances in India and Australia. In Australia, he has regularly performed at the Woodford Folk Festival, Queensland Multicultural Music Festival, Queensland Conservatorium, and several other public and private programs.

Saikat's first Guru – Pandit Manilal Nag, a veteran sitar maestro from Calcutta is a world famous name in the world of Indian classical music. The sitar master is the major living exponent of the Vishnupur Gharana, a school of classical Indian music coming from the ancient Dhrupad style of the aalap, the base of the North Indian ragas.

Saikat's current Guru, Ustad Shahid Parvez Khan descends from six generations of sitarists. He is one of the leading exponents of the Etawah Gharana, a musical tradition or "family" committed to this most famous of Indian instruments. He was trained by his father and guru, Ustad Aziz Khan. For Ustad Shahid Parvez Khan, the Sitar and Self are identical entities, and music is not just a discipline but life itself – vibrating and pulsating and full of colour.



### Sri Darshil Shah - bansuri

Financial Advisor by the day and Musician by heart, Darshil has been learning and playing Bansuri since 2002. Based in Brisbane, Australia since 2009, Darshil has a dream of passing on the legacy of the Ancient Indian Classical Music to cross-cultural communities and the next generation of musicians.

Born and brought up in Mumbai, he has had the privilege of learning music from some of the best Bansuri Players from the Maihar Gharana (Lineage). His current guru is Shri Partha Sarkar who is a senior disciple of Pt. Hariprasad Chaurasia.

Though his roots and core interest are based in Hindustani (North Indian) Classical Music and exploring Classical Ragas, he also has an extensive experience in playing for Live Kathak Dance shows, Yoga, Meditation, Jazz, Ghazal, Bhajan, Bollywood and World Fusion Music.

From Solo performances to being a part of a group ensemble, he is an avid listener, welcoming new ideas and complementing the genre of music being played.

Darshil is ambitious and very passionate about spreading the awareness of this natural instrument. His vision is to see a lot more people play and explore the beauty of the sound of Bansuri. To know more about Darshil and the lovely Bansuri, please visit [www.bamboomagic8.com](http://www.bamboomagic8.com).

## Featured Artists



### Smt Sriranjani Chandramouli - Bharatanatyam

Sriranjani Chandramouli is a Bharatanatyam performer and teacher adept in the unique Mellattur style renowned for its crisp adavus and intricate jathi patterns requiring greater flexibility from the dancer. Sriranjani's strength lies in her exceptional command over rhythmic footwork patterns; a characteristic of the Mellattur style of Bharatanatyam that was developed by the much respected and versatile music and dance exponent Mangudi Dorairaj Iyer.

Sriranjani has trained for over 20 years under internationally renowned Bharatanatyam danseuse and Guru, 'Nadana Mamani' Smt Revathi Ramachandran; the current director of Kalakshetra. She has also had the privilege of performing with her Guru in Chennai and at various festivals and sabhas across Tamil Nadu.

In Australia, Sriranjani has performed at Carnatic Music Circles, Laya In-Concert series, charity events, multicultural festivals and events such as Diwali, Pongal and Onam celebrations and in temples in Melbourne and Brisbane where her performances have been both, applauded and appreciated.

Now residing in Brisbane, Sriranjani established the "Shraddha School of Dance" in 2010 and continues to keep in touch with her passion through teaching, choreographing and performing. A strict traditional pattern is established to teach the students where they learn theory alongside the usual repertoire. Through her teaching, Sriranjani's attempts to impart her unique lineage of the Mellattur Style by focusing on quality training through engagement; something she has imbibed from her Guru, Smt Revathi Ramachandran.

Sriranjani has also composed solo and group works with other local artists and performed thematic presentations through her collaboration. She is currently working on both solo and group collaborative works which she hopes to premiere in the near future.

## Five Years of Sangeet Mela



2014



2015



2016



2017



2019



# The 2019 Sangeet Mela Rising Star Awards



## Ku Aishwarya Jangam - Bharatanatyam

Aishwarya Jangam's journey with and love for Bharatanatyam began at the age of 6 in Bengaluru where she gained a firm grasp of the basics and gave her very first Bharatanatyam performances for 4 years prior to moving to Australia. This experience was formative in igniting her passion for this rich and intricate art and the discipline, fortitude and strength of mind it brings its dancers. This passion led her to begin undertaking summer study trips from 2007 till 2010 to continue her learning under Sri Srinivas Kenchaiah of Kalakshetra bani at the Performing Arts Centre in Bengaluru. These trips involved intensive daily Bharatanatyam lessons

for two and a half months every year and the opportunity to perform in multiple performances at fundraisers, charity events and other celebrations throughout Bengaluru. She has been studying under her guru the renowned Smt. Gayathri Rajasekharan also of Kalakshetra bani since 2013.



## Ku Sae Sane - Kathak dance

Sae Sane started weekly classes in Kathak dance in early 2016 under the guidance of Dr Helena Joshi. By the end of the year, she had travelled to Pune, India to spend 2 weeks learning intensely from Guru Prerana Deshpande, and has continued lessons with Helena unstintingly since. She invests about 4 hours a week in attending classes and a further 1-2 hours of Riaaz in Australia. She had the opportunity to spend a few days in late 2017 with Prerana Deshpande when she travelled to Brisbane from Pune. Sae plans to eventually travel to India independently on an annual basis to learn in a guru-

shishya parampara from Guru Prerana Deshpande. Still in high school, she still visits India for a few weeks every alternate year to learn with her Guru. She believes this will be a lifelong learning.



## Sri Siddharth Adityan - mridangam

Siddharth (Sid) Adityan started learning the Miruthangam in 2008 from Dr. Arthavan Selvanathan in Brisbane and has progressed immensely over the past ten years or so from playing basic thaalams and korvais to learning several nadais, edams and for the last several years, playing for songs of increasing complexity. Moreover, he has also studied under Srirangarajapuram J Ganesh Iyer in Chennai, India for several weeks in late 2018. Playing the instrument has instilled in Sid a lifelong love of

learning, challenging situations and improvisation. He hopes to grow further – both professionally and personally, and feels that the Miruthangam provides the creative outlet for this.

## Judging Panels:

Bharatanatyam/Mridangam: Smt Susmitha Ravi, Smt Usha Chivukula, Smt Bindu Rajendren, Sri Murali Ramakrishnan; Kathak dance: Sri Joseph Nand, Sri Saikat Bhattacharya

# Accompanists



## Sri Sridhar Chari - mridangam

Sridhar Chari has been associated with the Australian music scene for over two decades. He has a rich musical background imbibed through his mother and furthered by many years of musical training when he took up the art of Mridangam playing. Today, he is a leading percussion player for Indian Classical music in Australia and has been performing the Mridangam for the past three decades, winning international acclaim. Rich tonal quality and dynamic improvisation are characteristics of Sridhar's artistry. He attributes his mridangam playing skills to the tutelage and the rich tradition imparted to him by his Gurus, the celebrated mridangam maestro, Dr. Umayalpuram Sivaraman and the artful teacher Kumbakonam Rajappa Iyer.



## Sri Kranthi Kiran Mudigonda - violin

Kranthi Kiran Mudigonda had his initial training in music with Sri P.S.S.R Jagannatham and Sri N. C. Ramanujam. He had advanced training under eminent vidwan Sri Dwaram Satyanarayana Rao at Hyderabad. He is currently under advanced tutelage in vocal from Hyderabad Brothers and violin from Parur Sri M A Sundareswaran. He has a vast experience in accompanying local and visiting artistes for various concerts across Australia. Some of the reputed musicians and dancers he has accompanied: The Carnatica Brothers, Sri O S Arun, Dr. S Sundar, Sri Sankaran Namboodri and Padmabhushan Sri C V Chandrasekhar (Bharatanatyam dance exponent), Padmasri Dr Ananda Shankar Jayanth (Bharatanatyam).



## Sri Shen Flindell - tabla

Shen Flindell started learning tabla in Melbourne from Sri Debapriya Bhattacharya in 1994 and soon went to the holy city of Varanasi in India to study under Pt. Kaviraj Ashutosh ("Ashu Babu") Bhattacharya, a great tabla master of the Benares Gharana. Since his guru-ji passed away in 2004, Shen has received training from a wide range of tabla masters including Pt Govinda Chakraborty, Pt Nayan Ghosh, Pt Suresh Talwalkar, Pt Pooran Maharaj, and Sri Hari Om Hari (in light classical styles). In recent years Shen has taken up pakhawaj as a second instrument, with some guidance from Japanese pakhawaji Sri Tetsuya Kaneko. Shen opened the Ashu Babu Memorial Tabla School in Brisbane in 2006, following his Guru-ji's traditional classical style of

teaching. Shen initiated the proposal for Indian music and dance examinations to be recognised for Queensland Certificate of Education which was successful in 2015. He also supplies and repairs tabla and tabla accessories, trading as Tabla Wala Australia.



## Accompanists



### *Smt Susmitha Ravi - Carnatic vocal*

A powerful yet melodious voice, evocative method of rendition that reaches out to the audience and music that is the product of intense concentration and dedication are the characteristics that distinguishes Susmitha as a Carnatic Vocalist. Susmitha has, over the years, enthralled Carnatic music lovers with her vocal music performances in various Music Sabhas and temples in Mumbai during the festival season and has performed in Kerala and Chennai as well. Susmitha specialises in singing for dance performances, including the traditional dances of Kerala, 'Mohiniyaattam' and 'Kaikottikali'. Susmitha has sung for many Bharatanatyam arangetrams and had a unique opportunity to sing for an arangetram with Guru Adayar Lakshmanan. Her voice has supported Mohiniyattam performances of renowned dancer Sunanda Nair and Kuchipudi performances of Sonia Nair. Her soulful rendition of folk music has been appreciated by one and all. She has also lent her voice to many audio cassettes featuring traditional music of Kerala. One such song has been featured in a film and was also aired on national television. Susmitha teaches Carnatic music and bhajans to children with the intention of creating awareness about this art among the younger generation.



### *Smt Bindu Rajendren - nattuvangam*

Bindu Rajendren is a dance performer, researcher and educator who first forayed into the spectacular world of dance at the tender age of four. Dance and spiritual connection through Bhava (Sentiment) and Bhakti (Devotion) remains central to all of Bindu's dance practices. Bindu began her training under the expert tutelage of Shri Kalamandalam Mohan in three Indian classical dance styles namely; Bharatanatyam, Mohiniattam and Kuchipudi. However being a Keralite by birth means that she has always held Mohiniattam close to her heart. Bindu's strength is in her abhinaya (art of expression) and her intense story telling abilities. Bindu is also well trained in various Indian folk dance styles such as Rajasthani, Cheraw Dance and Kashmiri dances from Smt. Asha Singh. Bindu is currently pursuing further training in Mohiniattam by internationally renowned Mohiniattam dancer, educator, scholar and researcher Smt Tara Rajkumar OAM (Natya Sudha Dance School, Melbourne). Bindu performed Mohiniattam dance solo at Sangeet Mela 2016. This year she will give Nattuvangam accompaniment to Smt Sriranjani Chandramouli (Bharatanatyam dance).



### *Dr Kiran Varma - mridangam*

Kiran is an expressive artiste who knows his rhythms! A warm, intimate and subtle style of rhythmic expression exemplifies Kiran's performances. Dr. Kiran Varma was born into a music-loving family and grew up listening to Carnatic music. He embarked on his musical journey by learning Carnatic vocal at the age of 6 in Singapore. While he enjoyed all facets of Carnatic music, his love for the rhythmic arts was kindled from keenly observing famous mridangam vidwans while visiting Kerala. He eventually started learning mridangam in his teenage years in Auckland, and subsequently in Sydney under the guidance of Sri Bala Sankar. Over time, he developed his versatile style of mridangam accompaniment, tailored to various styles of vocal and instrumental music. Within Australia, Kiran has performed at Woodford Folk Festival

2018, Carnatic Music Circles and Societies in most states, charity functions, multicultural events and temples. His passion for the art lead him to Chennai in 2013 where he commenced tutelage under Vidwan Sri. Melakaveri K. Balaji. He has had the opportunity to perform in Kerala on several occasions, and has creditably accompanied All India Radio graded artiste.

## Accompanists



### *Sri Murali Ramakrishnan - bansuri*

Murali Ramakrishnan is one of the senior Venu/Bansuri players in Australia. Murali learnt Karnatic (South Indian classical) music under the guidance of Sikkil Sisters Neela and Kunjumani. Murali had his training in Hindustani music from Pandit Krishnanand of Kirana Gharara. Murali draws inspiration from both music styles and creates soulful music that touches the heart. Murali has given solo performances at Australia and abroad. He has also accompanied dance performances including Bharatanatyam, Mohiniattam, Kuchipudi and Kathak. Murali teaches music in both Hindustani and Karnatic styles.



### *Dr Helena Joshi - padhant*

Dr Helena Joshi is the disciple of renowned kathak exponent Guru Prerana Deshpande. Helena has learnt kathak in a guru-shishya parampara (master-disciple tradition). Helena is the creative director of Infinity Kathak, Brisbane's Premier Kathak Dance Company committed to promote the essence of Kathak dance in Australia. Last year Infinity Kathak held a very successful Mehfil "Dancing Aura" featuring international Sarangi player Sangeet Mishra. In 2017, Helena was honoured to host her guru Prerana Deshpande (Pune, India) in Brisbane. Prior to that Infinity Kathak held "7 Beats and Bells" a highly successful kathak production in Diwali 2016, at the Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts. It presented a fusion of Traditional Kathak Dance with a live musical ensemble of eastern and western musicians. Helena was the recipient of the inaugural Sangeet Mela Rising Star Awards in 2014, and returned to Sangeet Mela 2015 to perform the feature item after high audience appraisal. Helena has previously performed many full fledged kathak recitals with internationally acclaimed musicians in Pune, India. Helena believes that Kathak dance is a field that has exquisite depth. She is also a medical doctor by professional and dancer by passion.



### *Dr. Mansey Kinarivala - vocal*

Dr. Mansey Kinarivala started learning classical vocal music at the age of 6, from Shri Krishnakant Parikh, disciple of Shri Pandit Jasraj. She completed her Bachelors in Classical Music (Sangeet Visharad) in 1998, then pursued further vocal classical music training with Surmani, Dr Monika Shah of Kirana Gharana. In 2001 she was the winner of Pandit Omkarnath Thakur Spardha and the following year was honoured by the Indian Ambassador for a musical performance in Romania. She has performed in India, including performances on Akashvani (radio) and Doordarshan (national TV), as well as internationally. Her musical interests include vocal classical music, bhajans and other devotional songs, Haveli Sangeet, and Sugam Sangeet. Dr Mansey Kinarivala is originally from Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India, and now resident in Brisbane, Australia, employed as Medical Registrar (Doctor) at Gold Coast Hospital.



### *Sri Kushal Sami - tabla*

Kush started his journey in music when he was a mere three years old, whilst playing tabla for local religious functions. His first teacher was his uncle who gauged his interest in the instrument at an early age. He is currently a student of Punjab Gharana under the lineage of senior disciples of Ustad Alla Rakha Khan Saheb. He has had the great privilege of learning from the masters of tabla, is focused to be the best student of Indian Classical Music, and is devoted to the art and his gurus. Kush has been performing across all genres for the past 8 years, nationally and internationally.



# Organisers



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