



**Jodhpur RIFF Scheduled Program
6th to 10th October 2022
(open format listing)**

6th OCTOBER

CHILDREN'S FOLK MORNING

8.30 am to 1.00 pm

Veer Durga Das Memorial Park, Masuriya Pahadi

For schools, by invitation only

Jodhpur RIFF presents a varied and wondrous morning of music, dance, storytelling and more for Jodhpur's young ones, featuring:

Kathputli - String puppetry using wooden dolls or marionettes, the *kathputli* is performed on a miniature stage with highly dramatic narration and music, retelling stories that reflect pertinent social concerns or the valour of erstwhile kings. It was the most popular form of children's entertainment and even though there are few accomplished practitioners left today, it continues to hold an iconic status in Rajasthan's culture.

Ghoomer - Initially introduced by the *Bhil* tribe of Rajasthan and then gradually adopted by other communities, *ghoomer* is a dance where women in their traditional *ghagra* (long swirling skirt) and *choli* (blouse) pirouette while moving in and out of a wide circle, to the tune of traditional songs and the rhythm of hands clapping. The word '*ghoomna*' describes the twirling movement of the dancers and is the basis of the word '*ghoomer*'. **Kachchi Ghodi** - A novel dance form performed on colourful dummy-horses in which men in elaborate and embellished costumes dance rhythmically to beating drums, under a large umbrella *chhatarkotla*- while a singer narrates the exploits of the *Bhavaria* bandits of *Shekhawati*. **Young Langa musicians** – For our young audiences we present young *sarangiya* *Langa* musicians, who sing and play the exquisite *Sindhi sarangi*. Trained by their *ustad*, the budding young masters of the community will share their music and inspire school children as they continue to uphold the legacy of their forefathers. **Rajasthani Circus** - India's earliest circuses featured numerous traditional performing art forms from Rajasthan - acrobats, magicians, musicians, dancers and a variety of *bhawai* artists performing feats of daring. While it is rare to see such acts today, Jodhpur RIFF assembles some of the best artists still performing these forms, to re-create a traditional circus for our young audiences. **Teraah Taali** - Created and traditionally performed by the *Kamad* community, the performers in *teraah taali* move to the reverberating sounds of *teraah* i.e. thirteen cymbals or *manjira* that are fastened to their waist, wrists, elbows, and hands. This dance form is an eclectic mix of movement and sound and gives the unique impression that the dance itself is producing music instead of following music. Punctuated with displays of balancing multiple pots piled on a dancer's head, holding a sword between one's teeth or lit oil lamps on one's palms, the *teraah taali* form is a unique demonstration of skill, agility and grace.



A Mehrangarh Museum Trust, John Singh & Jaipur Virasat Foundation initiative
Peoples' Platform for Creativity & Sustainable Development, supported by UNESCO

E: info@jodhpurriff.org

W: www.jodhpurriff.org

PH: +91 98285 88891

Jodhpur RIFF, C/o Mehrangarh Museum Trust, Mehrangarh Fort, Jodhpur – 342001 INDIA



OPENING NIGHT - CITY CONCERT

7.30 pm to 9.30 pm

Jaswant Thada parking lot (outside Mehrangarh Fort)

Entry free and open to all

Marking the beginning of the festival, Jodhpur RIFF's opening night concert presents a variety of riveting performances reflecting the diversity of traditional Rajasthani music, excerpts from our Main Stage performances and ending in an exhilarating finale with drummers and dancers. The concert opens with the **mellifluous vocals of Sumitra Devi** and other women singers, who are breaking gender and social norms by reclaiming their space in folk music. They introduce us to the popular folk and inspiring devotional songs of Rajasthan. Followed by **Emlyn** presenting soulful spellbinding *sega* grooves and contagious, exuberant moves, all the way from Mauritius. **Arifa** then comes on to stage with some Balkan and middle eastern tunes and beats, leading on to some sensational and dramatic percussion ensembles with emerging **khartal and dholak masters from the Langa and Manganiyar** communities. The finale then brings on **Rajasthani Brass**, celebrating Rajasthan's vibrancy and colour as folk musicians collaborate with Mehrangarh's own house brass band - an ensemble on trumpet, trombone, euphonium, clarinet, bass and other instruments, presenting a heady, exciting musical reflection of this enchanting region, along with the popular and internationally known **Dhol Drummers of Rajasthan**, *Ashok Pahadia*, popular male dancer from *Tonk* (near Jaipur) and **Agni Bhawai**, a traditional fire eating and dance performance from the villages of northern Rajasthan! Be ready for a splendorous start to Jodhpur RIFF 2022!

7th, 8th and 9th OCTOBER

FORT FESTIVITIES

10.00 am to 4.30 pm

Throughout Mehrangarh Museum

Entry for Museum ticket holders and Jodhpur RIFF Full Festival/ Day Pass holders

Discover the myriad hues of the traditional dance forms of Rajasthan, reflecting its distinctive root traditions, some popular and some rare, including: **Chang Nritya**— a charming, captivating dance, with men swaying and grooving while playing a round frame-drum called *chang*; **Teraah Taali** - known for agility and grace, where women move to and produce the reverberating sounds of *teraah* i.e. thirteen little cymbals or *manjira* that are fastened to their waist, wrists, elbows, and hands, simultaneously showcasing their skills of movement, balance and concentration; **Aangi-Baangi Gair**- another visually mesmerising dance form originally performed by the *Bhil* community, *gair* is a martial-looking, robust dance with long sticks where men in wide skirts move and turn to the beat of a traditional rhythm, while striking their sticks with their partners' and dancing for hours. Trance-like, the dance builds to a crescendo as the performers twirl and move faster and faster to the rich sounds of the *dhol-thaali*. This form is called *Aangi-Baangi Gair* because of the colour of the clothes of the performers which are white and red.



A Mehrangarh Museum Trust, John Singh & Jaipur Virasat Foundation initiative
Peoples' Platform for Creativity & Sustainable Development, supported by UNESCO

E: info@jodhpurriff.org

W: www.jodhpurriff.org

PH: +91 98285 88891

Jodhpur RIFF, C/o Mehrangarh Museum Trust, Mehrangarh Fort, Jodhpur – 342001 INDIA



7th OCTOBER

RIFF Dawns with the Meghwals of Marwar

5.30 am to 7.30 am

Jaswant Thada (outside Mehrangarh Fort)

Free access for valid donor pass holders only (Full Festival and Day Pass)

Entry Fee of INR 200/- for others

Every year, **the Meghwals of Marwar** herald in the first dawn at Jodhpur RIFF. Under the first light of the rising sun on this cool, serene morning, the melodic drone of the *tandura*, the beat of the *jhanjh/ manjira* (small-paired cymbals) and the rhythm of the *dholak* create the mood for the meditative strains of the *bhajan* of the Meghwal community. Traditionally, weavers, Meghwal are not only known for their contribution to embroidery and the textile industry, but also for the rich folklore they nurture.

This year we have the exquisitely masterful **Bhallu Ram and Teja Ram Meghwal** singing the poetry of popular poets of their community and the saint poets of Rajasthan.

Note: There will be free guided walks in the Rao Jodha Desert Park after each dawn concert.

IN RESIDENCE I, with our custodians of culture

11.30 pm to 1.30 pm

Chokelao Bagh (Mehrangarh Fort)

Entry for Full Festival and Day Pass holders

Khasi indigenous and folk music – an interactive session

Jodhpur RIFF presents its first ever focus on the unique **Khasi music traditions from Meghalaya.**

Facilitated by musician and associate professor **Dr. Mebanlamphang Lyngdoh** from the Martin Luther King University in Shillong (where Khasi traditional music is taught as a post-graduate subject), the session will explore the musical traditions and instruments of the Khasi people, indigenous to the hills of the north-east. With songs and traditional chanting, instruments such as the *duitara*, *ksing*, *tangmuri*, and others, Dr. Meban will be accompanied by musicians and scholars **Amabel Susngi, Risingbor Kurkalang, Banshainag Mukhim.**

Jodhpur RIFF's interactive session series give the audience a rare opportunity to meet fascinating artists from various root traditions. The sessions encourage audience members to engage and discuss challenges, forms and traditional practice through performances, lecture-demonstrations and facilitated conversations. As more and more of Rajasthan and India's rich traditional cultural heritage disappears, Jodhpur RIFF puts the spotlight on some of its remarkable music forms and traditions nearing extinction and opens dialogue to surface and explore how these challenges could be addressed.



A Mehrangarh Museum Trust, John Singh & Jaipur Virasat Foundation initiative
Peoples' Platform for Creativity & Sustainable Development, supported by UNESCO

E: info@jodhpurriff.org

W: www.jodhpurriff.org

PH: +91 98285 88891

Jodhpur RIFF, C/o Mehrangarh Museum Trust, Mehrangarh Fort, Jodhpur – 342001 INDIA



LIVING LEGENDS

5.30 pm to 6.45 pm

Near Dhana Bhiyan Chatri (Mehrangarh Fort)

Entry for Full Festival and Day Pass holders

Padma Shri Lakha Khan (*sindhi sarangi, vocals*)

Lakha ji is a living legend and the undisputed master of the *sindhi sarangi*. At 74, he is perhaps still the greatest exponent of the *sindhi sarangi*. He was born in the village of Raneri in Jodhpur district, Rajasthan, India into a family of traditional musicians from the Manganiyar community. He was trained at an early age by his father Tharu Khan and later, by his uncle Mohammad Khan, in rendering the compositions of the Multan school of Manganiyars. His first public performances were in the late 60's and 70's under the guidance of the late Komal Kothari, a highly regarded Indian historian and ethnomusicologist. His music is truly secular and straddles both the classical and folk domains, with a vast songbook that incorporates Meera *bhajan*, Sufi *kalaam*, popular Hindi tunes, and the ancient stories and oral histories of the region, spanning the western Indian sub-continent. He sings in over six languages including Hindi, Marwari, Sindhi, Punjabi and Multani. Bestowed with a powerful and melodious voice that perfectly complements his instrument, Lakha ji's music transcends boundaries and invokes a spiritual oneness in the listener.

Padma Shri Anwar Khan Baiya (vocals) (*Anwar ji's presence is TBC*)

Anwar ji is one of the leading vocalists of Rajasthan. Gifted with a sonorous voice, profound knowledge of traditional music and vast experience, Anwar ji is truly a gem of a musician and a charming and loveable personality. Now 62, he was born into a family of musicians and singers of the Manganiyar community and took to performing solo at an early age, singing and playing the harmonium. He learned his music by listening to his elders and memorised hundreds of songs and verses, especially from Indian mythological epics. His repertoire also includes the works of poets such as Mira, Kabir, Dadu and Gorakhnath. He was always guided and helped by his mother. Later, like Lakha ji, his major international performances were with Komal Kothari, the ICCR and many others. He has gone on to perform well over 500 performances in over 50 countries across the world, including stints with Zingaro, UNESCO etc. He has played with and collaborated with stalwarts such as Pt Ravi Shankar, Pt. Bhimsen Joshi, Ustad Zakir Hussain, Yehudi Menuhin, Ustad Sultan Khan, Pt. Vishwa Mohan Bhatt and many others.

Pempa Khan Manganiyar (*surnai, shehnai, murli*)

Pempa Khan grew up Hamira (near Jaisalmer) playing the *surnai* while keeping an eye on his family's camels. Once, the family's patron (*jajmaan*) heard him and encouraged him to play. That was when he began learning the *kamaicha, surnai and murli* from his elder brother, the late Padma Shri Sakar Khan. Their parents died very young, and it was Sakar ji who brought up Pempa ji. For him, the *surnai* is popular in all over India (in classical music it is referred to as *shehnai*). Pempa ji's core instrument is the *thalwadi surnai*, popular among the Maganiyar of Sindh Pakistan, of Kutch in Gujraat and the Thar in Rajasthan. He also plays the *murli* which he learned on his own for the love of it. According to Pempa ji, the *surnai/shenai* is assumed to be an auspicious instrument across India, played to herald people in a religious or family ceremony. Traditionally, it was only the *dhol* or the *nagada* that was considered auspicious by village folk. The *surnai* was popular with the royal courts or in big cities. Today, in his 60s, Pempa ji is a living master in these traditions. While he still has some students from the community, he rues the fact of the decline in the number of capable artists and the quality and repertoire of the playing of the instrument.



A Mehrangarh Museum Trust, John Singh & Jaipur Virasat Foundation initiative
Peoples' Platform for Creativity & Sustainable Development, supported by UNESCO

E: info@jodhpurriff.org

W: www.jodhpurriff.org

PH: +91 98285 88891

Jodhpur RIFF, C/o Mehrangarh Museum Trust, Mehrangarh Fort, Jodhpur – 342001 INDIA



MOODY RIFFS

7.15 pm onwards

Old Zenana Courtyard (Mehrangarh Fort)

Entry for Full Festival and Day Pass holders

Womanly Voices of Rajasthan

Womanly Voices seeks to bring to the fore voices of women singers from the folk traditions of Rajasthan. While women from these traditions perform in their own communities, it is rare to see them present their work on mainstream stages. Artists like **Sumitra Devi** are remarkable in that she is one of the few singers who from an early age has regularly performed traditional folk songs in village *jagran* (all night vigils), played in festivals across Rajasthan, been on tour in Germany, performed in the Berlin Philharmonie and even collaborated with the likes of the Yuri Honing Trio and Mumford & Sons. Other artists include the equally versatile **Mohini Devi**, singing in the *jogi Kalbeliya* tradition; mother-daughter duo **Ganga and Sunder**, who sing spiritual songs in their own inimitable style; **Suraiya ji** doyen of the *rajwada maand*, Rajasthan's unique contribution to the Hindustani music repertoire.

Mauricio Caruso

Bringing together Latin American and Galician tunes - classical, folk and popular – **Mauricio** presents a solo set of his choice on the guitar. Originally from Brazil, now settled in Spain, Mauricio's rare style is at once both gentle and urgent, languid and passionate.

This is Mauricio's premiere performance in India.

The Gentle Good ft. Asin Khan Langa and Khasi musicians

The Gentle Good is the stage name of Cardiff based songwriter and multi-instrumentalist **Gareth Bonello**. Taking influence from the traditional music and folklore of Wales along with a myriad of sources from all over the world, Gareth creates timeless folk music in both English and Welsh.

Best known for his intricate guitar playing and distinctive vocals, Gareth is capable of enchanting an audience as a soloist. And at Jodhpur RIFF we will hear a range of Gareth's solo work – instrumental and with song. But Gareth is also an incredibly skilful collaborator. So, during the lockdown, Jodhpur RIFF connected Gareth with **Asin Langa** to explore the possibility of working together. At the same time, Jodhpur RIFF collaborated with Gareth to co-curate the presence of **Khasi** musicians at the festival (Gareth had already collaborated with them), thereby paving the way for an unusual three-way collaboration between Welsh, Khasi and Rajasthani musicians.

In addition to Gareth's solo work, we will also get a chance to hear some of his collaborative work with several Rajasthani and Khasi musicians, the beginnings of what we hope will be an exciting musical project.

This project has been made possible with support from the British Council, Wales Arts International and Jodhpur RIFF

Emlyn

Young and pathbreaking Mauritian musician, singer and songwriter **Emlyn** is an emerging artist who brings a breath of fresh air into the *sega*, *creole* and world music landscape with her soulful vocals and songs



A Mehrangarh Museum Trust, John Singh & Jaipur Virasat Foundation initiative
Peoples' Platform for Creativity & Sustainable Development, supported by UNESCO

E: info@jodhpurriff.org

W: www.jodhpurriff.org

PH: +91 98285 88891

Jodhpur RIFF, C/o Mehrangarh Museum Trust, Mehrangarh Fort, Jodhpur – 342001 INDIA



resplendent with nature. Initially a dancer and a theatre performer, Emlyn is committed to the environment and creates timeless compositions inspired by the traditional music of Mauritius, *sega*.

Presenting a mix of energetic spells and boisterous dances, the jubilation of this family band is known to be contagious and often turns the arena into a dance floor.

This is Emlyn's premiere performance in India.

ARIFA

Master ethnic drummer **Sjahin During** played at our very first festival in 2007. 15 years later, he returns to Jodhpur RIFF with **ARIFA** founded by him in 2010. The magic of the unique sound of ARIFA, lies in the creative chemistry between its four members - **Zhivko Vasilev, Kaval Bence Huszar, Franz von Chossy** and **Sjahin**. Coming from Bulgaria, Hungary, Turkey, the Netherlands and Germany their music is just as diverse as their origins, moving from traditional Turkish and Balkan sounds to jazz and contemporary music. Contemporary world music at its best! Consecutively awarded the title "best world music release" in the Netherlands and receiving five-star reviews, ARIFA have played all over the world and are highly acclaimed internationally.

"Their music can make you shiver with delight!" – Songlines magazine, UK

DESERT LOUNGE

11.45 pm onwards

Rao Jodha Desert Rock Park (adjacent to the lower car park of Mehrangarh Fort)

Entry for Full Festival and Day Pass holders

Gatha, Katha, Varta – with love from Badnava Jageer

Jodhpur RIFF presents a special Desert Lounge in the Rao Jodha Desert Rock Park. The night features the telling of two tales – that of star-crossed lovers Dhola Maru and tales of hero Durgadas Rathore, in traditional verse. This is live, authentic and emotional storytelling at its best, replete with music, song and oral history by the elders of the Langa community from Badnava (a village two hours outside Jodhpur). The night is led by **Sardar ji, Kadar ji, Askar ji**, supported by **Shamshu, Kasam** and others on the *sindhi sarangi*, with interludes by **Idu** on the charming, exquisite *alghoza*. Beautifully expressed & narrated this intimate performance demonstrates how closely integrated was the identity of Marwar, over & above all castes, communities & religions.

As the music is acoustic (non-amplified) and the space is intimate, the slightest noise distracts fellow audience members and makes it hard to listen to the performers. We would greatly appreciate it if the audience refrained from chatting and speaking during the performance.

Please note: *The meeting point for the Desert Lounge for all audiences is in the Mehrangarh Fort lower car park at 11.15 pm or at the entrance to the Rao Jodha Park at 11.00 pm. The walk to and from the performance space is approximately 10-15 minutes from the lower car park: first on the road to the Rao Jodha Park entrance (5 minutes) and then in the park itself (5-8 minutes) – so please wear decent shoes for walking! Please carry something warm (it gets chilly); hot drinks & light refreshments are available for purchase.*



A Mehrangarh Museum Trust, John Singh & Jaipur Virasat Foundation initiative
Peoples' Platform for Creativity & Sustainable Development, supported by UNESCO

E: info@jodhpurriff.org

W: www.jodhpurriff.org

PH: +91 98285 88891

Jodhpur RIFF, C/o Mehrangarh Museum Trust, Mehrangarh Fort, Jodhpur – 342001 INDIA



8th OCTOBER

A Khasi Dawn

5.30 am to 7.30 am

Jaswant Thada (outside Mehrangarh Fort)

Free access for valid donor pass holders only (Full Festival and Day Pass)

Entry Fee of INR 200/- for others

Jodhpur RIFF presents its indigenous dawn from Meghalaya, with haunting, yet charming tunes and songs of the Khasi people by **Meban Lyngdoh, Amabel Susngi, Risingbor Kurkalang, Banshainag Mukhim.**

DANCE BOOT CAMP *No prior dance experience required!!*

8.45 am to 11.00 am

Chokelao Bagh (Mehrangarh Fort)

Free access for valid donor pass holders only (Full Festival and Day Pass)

Mexican traditional dances

Traditional Mexican dances merge the country's indigenous, African and European influences. The Spanish could not suppress indigenous dance during colonial times; instead, Spanish culture became part of the routines. And styles such as *folklorico* and *jarabe* became popular.

At Jodhpur RIFF, sweat it out with some hard practice with ace dancer and choreographer, promoter of performing arts, founder of moving borders - scene without borders and CAMP_iN / scenic encounter in Mexico, **Jaciel Neri**. Hailing from San Pedro Tlaltizapan, State of Mexico, Jaciel trained and studied dance at the Folkwang Hochschule in Germany, at the Choreographic Research Center (C.I.CO) of the I.N.B.A and at the National Polytechnic Institute. He currently collaborates as a consultant for the design and programming of festivals, as well as continuing his work as a promoter of Mexican folk dance abroad.

At Jodhpur RIFF, we will be holding our first ever international dance collaboration workshop with Asha Sapera and her dancers, facilitated by Jaciel. Watch this space!!

Jodhpur RIFF presents rustic dance 'bootcamps', facilitated by legendary, noted trainers. Short, intense and very rigorous, these camps will give participants an experiential insight into the movements and practice of folkdance forms.

Please Note:

The is the one-and-only, stand-alone session.

Please wear/ bring appropriate and comfortable clothing that allows free movement such as T-shirts, long, loose shirts or blouses, tights, stretchable and loose track or harem pants or long skirts.

Do carry your own wiping material (towel, wet wipes, etc.). Be prepared to sweat! It is a boot camp!!



A Mehrangarh Museum Trust, John Singh & Jaipur Virasat Foundation initiative
Peoples' Platform for Creativity & Sustainable Development, supported by UNESCO

E: info@jodhpurriff.org

W: www.jodhpurriff.org

PH: +91 98285 88891

Jodhpur RIFF, C/o Mehrangarh Museum Trust, Mehrangarh Fort, Jodhpur – 342001 INDIA



FILM SCREENING

2.00 pm to 3.30 pm

Chokelao Mahal (Mehrangarh Fort)

Entry for Full Festival and Day Pass holders

Asia premiere of **HEADING WEST**, a film by Dan Coutts on Scotland's famous acid croft band Shooglenifty, their late front man Angus Grant and the band's sojourn to Rajasthan, to Jodhpur RIFF and the recording of their album 'Written on Water' in collaboration with Dhun Dhora.

INDIE ROOTS AFTERNOON

4.00 pm to 6.00 pm

Chokelao Bagh (Mehrangarh Fort)

Entry for Full Festival and Day Pass holders

Beginning this year, Jodhpur RIFF presents an **Indie Roots Afternoon**, an informal occasion for young, independent singers and songwriters to share their work with Jodhpur RIFF audiences and artists alike. **Bawari Basanti** is a contemporary Indian artist known for her modern interpretations of traditional tunes and vocal styles, creating uniquely authentic musical compositions. Her original songs, sung in these styles, poetically reflect the hopes and the challenges of young folk from across our urban landscape. **Harpreet** is a raw, rare talent, freely emotive and sensitive. He sings the timeless songs of poets such as Bulleh Shah and Kabir, making their meanings completely relevant and urgent for our society today. The words of his original songs, emanating from an everyman yet spiritual core, try and make sense of a world that continues to turn in its own *dhun*, seemingly oblivious of human effort or shenanigans.

STRINGS AND BEATS Main stage performances

7.15 pm onwards

Old Zenana Courtyard (Mehrangarh Fort)

Entry for Full Festival and Day Pass holders

Manganiyar of Marwar – Vocal Magic

The Manganiyar of Marwar is an annual special performance dedicated to the late Sakhar Khan Manganiyar by the artists of the community. This year, we focus on the particularity of their vocal traditions performed by some of their very best, in an expression of the desert like none other. **Barkat Khan Chattanghar, Barkat Khan Myjar, Gullu Khan Jantra, Hakam Khan Kisola and Talab Khan Barna** – all superb vocalists, lead the performance supported by younger members of the community on the *kamaicha* and *dholak* - **Rafiq, Roshan and Kode** on the *kamaicha* and **Latif and Sawai** on the *dholak*, with special support by **Devu** on the *khartal*.

First produced in 2013, this concert is one in a series of folk concerts that we present – commissioned and creatively produced in collaboration with the musicians.



A Mehrangarh Museum Trust, John Singh & Jaipur Virasat Foundation initiative
Peoples' Platform for Creativity & Sustainable Development, supported by UNESCO

E: info@jodhpurriff.org

W: www.jodhpurriff.org

PH: +91 98285 88891

Jodhpur RIFF, C/o Mehrangarh Museum Trust, Mehrangarh Fort, Jodhpur – 342001 INDIA



Riff Cohen

Riff Cohen brings to Jodhpur RIFF an unusual musical legacy – a mix of Algerian folk (*Rai*), middle eastern urban rock and north-African folk music. An emerging star on the world music-indie scene and an astute songwriter who sings in Hebrew, Arabic and French, Riff's music stands apart from the crowd. She believes in the need for a new rhythm, across extremities - from the classical to indigenous African beats. Though completely at home in a contemporary, electronic environment, at her first appearance in Jodhpur and India, Riff presents an all-acoustic set, introducing us to her recent, yet remarkable body of work.

RANG-e-THAR

RANG-e-THAR takes us on a colourful and leisurely journey through the myriad flavours of traditional music of the **Langa** people from the deserts of western Rajasthan - rare, melodious folk songs to ecstatic spiritual and robust dance grooves... and remarkably so, also many *new* songs and tunes that musicians have written and composed themselves (a rarity in Rajasthani folk traditions).

Rang-e-Thar is presented by **SAZ**, young musicians from the Langa community and the Blue City, who are immersed in a vast and varied musicality, successfully keeping their traditions alive in modern settings while retaining the innocence, charm and depth of their legacy. SAZ is - **Asin Khan**, superb vocalist and a most proficient young master of the *Sindhi sarangi*; **Zakir Khan**, a wonderful vocalist and *khartal* player; **Sadiq Khan**, among the finest *dholak* players Rajasthan has to offer.

SAZ is supported and produced by Jodhpur RIFF.

Bombay Brass

With musical influences ranging from Shankar Jaikishan, Niladri Kumar and Blackstratblues to Snarky Puppy, Trombone Shorty, Vulfpeck, Steely Dan and Broken Brass, **Bombay Brass** are exactly what you make of them – a homegrown, contemporary Indian instrumental band led by a saxophonist, **Rhys Sebastian**, performing high energy instrumental music inspired by the eclectic sounds of Bombay... which could spin off from melodic ragas, the rhythm of the common man's spirit and even the incessant honking of car horns! Their songs lead with western arrangements and jazz riffs but retain a remarkably local flavour with wind instruments - trombone, saxophones, trumpets - as its lead element.

Bombay Brass band members include young luminaries on the commercial and indie music circuit in Mumbai such as ace drummer Jehangir Jehangir (aka JJ), the wonderful Ramon Ibrahim on trombone, the superbly talented ID Rao on tenor sax, the cool Zohran Miranda on electric guitar and others.

CLUB MEHRAN

11.45 pm onwards

Salimkot (Mehrangarh Fort)

Entry for Full Festival or Day pass holders only

Maga Bo

Inspired by the philosophies of Hip Hop and Dub, **Maga Bo's** work makes connections between the traditional and the avant grade, and the local and the global. With collaborations playing a major role in his



A Mehrangarh Museum Trust, John Singh & Jaipur Virasat Foundation initiative
Peoples' Platform for Creativity & Sustainable Development, supported by UNESCO

E: info@jodhpurriff.org

W: www.jodhpurriff.org

PH: +91 98285 88891

Jodhpur RIFF, C/o Mehrangarh Museum Trust, Mehrangarh Fort, Jodhpur – 342001 INDIA



creative process, he has travelled the world searching for new ideas, inspiration and people to work with for over twenty years. There are no canned samples here - all instruments and vocals come straight from the source. Tackling challenging topics of cultural appropriation, stylistic fusion and immigration, his music continues to carry a message no matter what the circumstance.

Back at Jodhpur RIFF after a gap of seven years, Maga Bo performs his own current sets exploring the contours of Afro-Brazilian culture, including collaborations with the brightest talents in Brazil's vast musical landscape. He also develops a path breaking new set with Langa percussionists **Kasam** on *dholak*, **Bhawaru** on *khartal*, **Mubarik** on *vocals* and **Sikander** on *alghoza and morchang* – a truly unusual night of electronic dance music!



A Mehrangarh Museum Trust, John Singh & Jaipur Virasat Foundation initiative
Peoples' Platform for Creativity & Sustainable Development, supported by UNESCO

E: info@jodhpurriff.org W: www.jodhpurriff.org PH: +91 98285 88891
Jodhpur RIFF, C/o Mehrangarh Museum Trust, Mehrangarh Fort, Jodhpur – 342001 INDIA



9th OCTOBER

RIFF Dawns with Jasleen Kaur Monga

5.30 am to 7.30 am

Jaswant Thada (outside Mehrangarh Fort)

Entry Fee of INR 200/-

Free access for valid donor pass holders only (Full Festival and Day Pass)

A young, soulful singer takes us on a special journey. From the wee hours of the morning to early dawn through to sunrise, the serene, yet passionate voice of Jasleen Kaur Monga brings us raag based Shabads (a hymn, a sacred song, a verse, a phrase), Reet (Shabads set to light tunes), chanting and Jaap (incantation in low voice) and folk, from the Granth Sahib (holy book of the Sikhs) introducing the festival to the odes of Nanak Dev ji. She also brings to light his numerous *nirguni bhajans*. Jasleen's soothing vocals have found hundreds of followers after the release of numerous songs over the last ten years.

From the age of 13, she has been learning Indian classical music from Pt. Rajinder Singh ji, of the Patiala Gharana. 

Note: There will be free guided walks available in the Rao Jodha Desert Park after each dawn concert.

DANCE BOOT CAMP and DEMO - No prior dance experience required!!

8.45 am to 11.00 am

Chokelao Bagh (Mehrangarh Fort)

Free access for valid donor pass holders only (Full Festival and Day Pass)

Ghoomar & Kalbeliya dances

Ghoomar is derived from the Hindi word 'ghoom' which literally means 'to twirl'. One of the most popular dance forms of the country, as the name signifies, the chief movement of this form is pirouetting. The footwork and hand movements are always in synchronization with this spinning motion. *Ghoomar* is conventionally performed by women in groups, who wear colourful, mirror-embedded *ghaghra* (flowing skirts) and cover their faces with a matching-coloured veil. The coordinated movement accompanied by the haunting music of Rajasthan's folk musical instruments, this dance form is vivid and surreal. The fantastic **Asha Sapera**, *kalbeliya dancer* conducts the session.

Jodhpur RIFF presents rustic dance 'bootcamp's, facilitated by legendary, noted trainers. Short, intense and very rigorous, these camps will give participants an experiential insight into the movements and practice of folk-dance forms.

Please Note:

The is the one-and-only, stand-alone session.

The boot camp will have limited capacity.

Please wear/ bring appropriate and comfortable clothing that allows free movement such as T-shirts, long, loose shirts or blouses, tights, stretchable and loose track or harem pants or long skirts.

Do carry your own wiping material (towel, wet wipes, etc.). Be prepared to sweat! It is a boot camp!!



A Mehrangarh Museum Trust, John Singh & Jaipur Virasat Foundation initiative
Peoples' Platform for Creativity & Sustainable Development, supported by UNESCO

E: info@jodhpurriff.org

W: www.jodhpurriff.org

PH: +91 98285 88891

Jodhpur RIFF, C/o Mehrangarh Museum Trust, Mehrangarh Fort, Jodhpur – 342001 INDIA



IN RESIDENCE, II with our custodians of culture

11.30 pm to 1.30 pm

Chokelao Bagh (Mehrangarh Fort)

Entry for Full Festival and Day Pass holders

The Sufi songs of the Langa and Manganiyar

In India the sufi repertoire is better known through popular poetry and compositions such as *chaap tilak* and *dam-a-dam mast kalandar*. Rajasthani musician communities have their own songs too, attributed to lesser known but equally gifted poets. In this interactive session we hear from the stalwarts of the Thar Sufi masters, led by **Saawan ji and Kachara ji** Manganiyar. We also hear the songs of **Chanan ji** from the Manganiyar community and **Muse ji and Rashid ji** from the Langa community.

Hailing from Jaisalmer, **Kachara ji** vocals reveal a deep knowledge of traditional poetry, and his compositions provide a rustic, yet lilting and melodious texture to his *sufi* renditions. Kachchra ji sings 'Sufiana Sindhi', and 'Punjabi Sindhi' styles, dotes on poetry by Bulleh Shah and loves singing extracts from the epic ballads of love and loss of Heer-Ranjha and Laila-Majnu. **Saawan ji**, hails from remote the remote village of Dabdi in the district of Jaisalmer. While his style of singing is extremely distinctive from the others, he is highly respected across the artist communities in Rajasthan as his commitment is well known and his repertoire and knowledge of Sufi music is vast. Saawanji spent several years learning from the great Sufi singer from Sindh, Ustaad Bhikhey Khan. Saawan ji has performed all over India and travelled to more than 30 countries across the world. He has also done shows for BBC London and Coke Studio in India.

MOONRISE SESSION

5.15 pm to 6.45 pm

Jaswant Thada

Free access for valid donor pass holders only (Full Festival and Day Pass)

Entry Fee of INR 200/- for others

Dilshad Khan is one of India's most sought-after north Indian classical *sarangi* players. He brings in this year's Sharad Poornima moon with a classical set on his *sarangi*, accompanied by **Pratap Patil** on *pakhawaj*, and other stellar artists on flute and *tabla*.

No stranger to Jodhpur RIFF, Dilshad is a part of the lineage of the Sikar Gharana, a member of the ninth generation to take up Sarangi. His great grandfather Ustad Azim Khan Sahab was a court musician in the erstwhile princely region of Sikar, Rajasthan. As a young boy, he first learned from his grandfather Ustad Gulab Khan Sahab a great sarangi player and vocalist of his time, and then from his father Ustad Nasir Khan Sahab, also a great sitar player. Later, he learned Sarangi from his uncle, the late Padma Bhushan Ustad Sultan Khan Sahab, who was probably the world's most renowned Sarangi player and a unique vocalist. In previous years, Dilshad has shared the stage with his uncle the late Ustad Sultan Khan Sahab. More recently he has performed with artists such as Ustad Zakir Hussain, Trilok Gurtu, Aabida Parveen, Ustad Gulam Mustafa Khan, Pandit Swapan Chaudhuri, Pandit Birju Maharaj, Pt. Ajay Pohankar, Pt. Ajay Chakarborty, Giovanni Hidalgo, Mickey Hart, Pandit Anindo Chatterjee, Sivamani, Ustad Ghulam Ali, V. Selvaganesh, Pankaj Udhas, Talat Aziz, Shankar Mahadevan, Pt. Rajan-Sajan Mishra, Ustad Fazal Qureshi, Nitin Swahney, Taufiq Qureshi and many, many others.



A Mehrangarh Museum Trust, John Singh & Jaipur Virasat Foundation initiative
Peoples' Platform for Creativity & Sustainable Development, supported by UNESCO

E: info@jodhpurriff.org

W: www.jodhpurriff.org

PH: +91 98285 88891

Jodhpur RIFF, C/o Mehrangarh Museum Trust, Mehrangarh Fort, Jodhpur – 342001 INDIA



He was on *sarangi* with Ustad Zakir Hussain in the Grammy winning album Global Drum Project. Dilshad Khan is now also a recognised contributor in the Hindi film music industry, having been a key instrumentalist in remarkable film projects, both popular and art, such as Devdas and others. He is a beacon for the younger generation of musicians, a teacher and exemplary artist, talented and superbly proficient in a difficult instrument.

INSIGHTS Main stage performances

7.15 pm onwards

Old Zenana Courtyard (in Mehrangarh Fort)

Entry for Full Festival or Day pass holders only

Rajwadi Maand with Anita and Prem Dangi

Appearing at Jodhpur RIFF for the first time, **Anita** and **Prem** present a short set of *rajwadi maand* to begin the evening's performances. Extremely popular across Rajasthan, they hail from the village of Nimbola in Nagaur, where their family has been connected to music from many generations. They are professional singers, usually performing for their traditional Rajput *jajman* or patrons.

In the 10th century, Jaisalmer used to be called 'maand', hence the music that emerged from the region was also referred to as 'maand'

Yurdal Tokcan in solo concert

Jodhpur RIFF is proud to present a solo concert by **Yurdal Tokcan**, often cited as the finest oud player in the world today. Combining older traditions with many new stylistic innovations, his compositions bring together traditional rich melodies with polyphonic textures (traditionally played on Turkish classical instruments). With collaborations and recordings in over 40 countries, teaching a wide variety of students and a career spanning three decades, Yurdal is truly one of the musical masters of his generation. He is a member of the Istanbul Fasil Ensemble and the Istanbul Tasavvuf Music Ensemble, and a founding member of the Istanbul Sazendeleri, a group dedicated to preserving and presenting Turkish instrumental works. In addition to his solo performance, we get a sneak peek into our remarkable new collaboration being developed with the young classical *sarangi* virtuoso **Dilshad Khan**.

Kamaicha Wizardry

Brothers **Ghewar** and **Darra Manganiyar** are the undisputed masters of the *kamaicha*, a string instrument unique to the Manganiyar community. Sons of the legendary Sakar ji and custodians of his legacy the brothers present a special showcase of some of the most unusual, significant, and legendary tunes of their traditional repertoire on the rustic, earthy and soulful *kamaicha*. Their brother **Feroze**, arguably among the finest *dholak* players in Rajasthan and master of the *khartal* **Devu**, accompany them. Young **Sawai**, an emerging vocalist and multi-instrumentalist of the next generation, supports the masters.

*In its present form, the kamaicha comes with 10-17 strings and is played with a bow. Made of mango wood, its rounded resonator is covered with goat skin. Three or four of its strings are goat intestine called *roda* and *joda* while the other 14 strings of steel are 'jhara'. The kamaicha (also called *kamaycha*, but completely different from the spiked fiddle from Iran – the *kamancheh*) bow is prepared from *khejari*; wood and horse tail hairs or synthetic thread. Small bells (*ghungroo*) are attached to the bow to produce rhythmic jingle along the notes.*



A Mehrangarh Museum Trust, John Singh & Jaipur Virasat Foundation initiative
Peoples' Platform for Creativity & Sustainable Development, supported by UNESCO

E: info@jodhpurriff.org

W: www.jodhpurriff.org

PH: +91 98285 88891

Jodhpur RIFF, C/o Mehrangarh Museum Trust, Mehrangarh Fort, Jodhpur – 342001 INDIA



Citadels of the Sun

Jodhpur RIFF presents the unusual concert Citadels of the Sun, a two-part creative collaboration emerging from the many folk and historical connections between India and Ireland, from the origins of the Irish and Indian fiddle to our shared colonial past. The initial collaboration in 2019 was developed in Donegal and culminated at Jodhpur RIFF that year. But the artists continued their engagement after sharing and developing their music online throughout the lockdown. Now, this collaboration of warm, yet exquisite music feels complete and features some of the best musicians from Donegal and Rajasthan: **Sarah E Cullen*** (Donegal fiddle, vocals), **Martin Coyle** (bouzouki, composer and producer), **Paul Cutcliffe** (uilleann pipes, whistles) with **Asin Khan Langa** (Sindhi *sarangi* and vocals) and **Sawai Khan Manganiyar** (*dholak, morchang, bhapang, khartal* and vocals).

Sharing common themes and stories that connect the cultures of the two regions, 'Citadels of the Sun' refers to a recurring edifice in both cultures: Mehrangarh fort (fort of the sun) in Rajasthan, and Grianán of Aileach, Donegal's own fort of the sun. Bridging these two iconic locations a world apart, Citadels of the Sun is a coming together of diverse but connected voices, the result of which is a sound that transcends and braves new territories in music.

Citadels of the Sun began as a collaboration between Eragail Arts Festival, Donegal (Ireland) and Jodhpur RIFF supported by Culture Ireland. It continued to develop with support from the British Council as a collaboration between Marty Coyle and Jodhpur RIFF. This year, the Irish artists appear with support from both Arts Council Northern Ireland and the British Council.

*Sarah is unable to make it to Jodhpur. The remarkable fiddler Denise Boyle replaces her for this concert

Warsi Brothers

The **Warsi Brothers** are among the finest *qawaals* in the Indian sub-continent, hailing from the lineage of the '*qawaal bachhey* of the Delhi *gharana*', descendants of the disciples who learned directly from the legendary Amir Khusro, the iconic writer, poet, singer and Sufi mystic of the 14th century. Custodians of his *gayaki*, students of Padma Shri Aziz Ahmad Khan Warsi (their grandfather) and recipients of the Sangeet Natak Akademi award, the Warsi brothers present a wide repertoire of *sufiyana qawaali*, many songs which we rarely hear and some popular compositions such as *chaap tilak* and *dam-a-dam mast qalandar*.

RIFF RUSTLE

Rhys Sebastian leads a collection of Jodhpur RIFF 2022 artists in this year's moonlight Jam!

11.30 pm onwards

Old Zenana Courtyard (in Mehrangarh Fort)

Entry for Full Festival or Day pass holders only

RIFF Rustle is our largest, impromptu collaboration performance that concludes the festival's nighttime revelries. Every year, the festival appoints one musician as a 'rustler', who then rustles up other musicians from the festival to participate in this performance in pairs or quartets or all together. This year the young, highly skilled and accomplished saxophonist and producer **Rhys Sebastian** will be our "rustler". He will gather musicians to come and jam with each other while collaborating with Rajasthani musicians and curating a series of sets for the Rustle!

Rhys Sebastian is one of the most renowned and sought-after saxophonists in India. He is well known for



A Mehrangarh Museum Trust, John Singh & Jaipur Virasat Foundation initiative
Peoples' Platform for Creativity & Sustainable Development, supported by UNESCO

E: info@jodhpurriff.org

W: www.jodhpurriff.org

PH: +91 98285 88891

Jodhpur RIFF, C/o Mehrangarh Museum Trust, Mehrangarh Fort, Jodhpur – 342001 INDIA



brass arrangements in Bollywood films and ads. He is currently the band leader for The Bartender and Bombay Brass. His versatile playing style has seen him perform with Lionel Richie, AR Rahman, Mikey McCleary, Ritviz and many more. His single 'Qegdevilim Sunset' is featured in Mira Nair's latest series on Netflix 'A Suitable Boy'.

As Rhys leads a diverse group of musicians, something they have done several times before, expect to be listening and enjoying, excited and thrilled and very likely, be on your feet and grooving and shaking throughout!



A Mehrangarh Museum Trust, John Singh & Jaipur Virasat Foundation initiative
Peoples' Platform for Creativity & Sustainable Development, supported by UNESCO

E: info@jodhpurriff.org W: www.jodhpurriff.org PH: +91 98285 88891
Jodhpur RIFF, C/o Mehrangarh Museum Trust, Mehrangarh Fort, Jodhpur – 342001 INDIA



10th OCTOBER

Jodhpur RIFF 2022 comes to an end at Dawn with Prahlad Tipaniya and party

5.30 am to 7.30 am

Jaswant Thada (outside Mehrangarh Fort)

Free access for valid donor pass holders only (Full Festival Pass)

Entry Fee of INR 200/- for others

Jodhpur RIFF's closing concerts are special, taking place against the backdrop of the beautiful Jaswant Thada. This year the renowned Prahlad Tipaniya, folk maestro from Malwa from the neighbouring state of Madhya Pradesh, shares with us the poetry of *sant* Kabir Das. *Sant* Kabir was a 15th-century mystic poet whose words influenced not only the *Bhakti* movement in India but touched the hearts and minds of common people and enlightened souls across religious and spiritual spectrum in the sub-continent. Prahlad ji is probably the most renowned and respected of Kabir *panthi*, having performed extensively across India and abroad.

In addition to being an exceptional singer and a profound understanding of the saint-poet Kabir's words (*Kabir vaani*), Prahladji's explanations and insights into life/ poetry bring immense meaning and solace to his listeners.

PLEASE NOTE:

- **The Jodhpur RIFF program is subject to change, without prior announcement.**
- **For more information on the program, email: info@jodhpurriff.org**



A Mehrangarh Museum Trust, John Singh & Jaipur Virasat Foundation initiative
Peoples' Platform for Creativity & Sustainable Development, supported by UNESCO

E: info@jodhpurriff.org

W: www.jodhpurriff.org

PH: +91 98285 88891

Jodhpur RIFF, C/o Mehrangarh Museum Trust, Mehrangarh Fort, Jodhpur – 342001 INDIA