

Kiran Nadar Museum of Art Announces 2024 Performing Arts Programming with an Original Commissioned Production 'Ādhāram'



New Delhi, 25th September 2024: The Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA) is delighted to announce the commencement of its 2024 Performing Arts Programming, which will kick off on **30th September** at **Kamani Auditorium** with the original commissioned production titled *Ādhāram*. This unique collaboration brings together two celebrated artists, Carnatic vocalist **Sudha Raghuraman** and Odissi dancer **Arushi Mudgal**, as they explore the deep-rooted foundations of their respective art forms. The event reflects KNMA's mission to promote both modern and traditional cultural expressions, further reinforcing its position as a leading institution for Indian and South Asian art.

Aditi Jaitly, Senior Curator Performing Arts, Kiran Nadar Museum of Art commented, "We're excited to open KNMA's 2024 performing arts season with 'Ādhāram,' featuring the exceptional talents of Arushi and Sudha, two young brilliant artists blending innovation with tradition. In October, we'll present a contemporary theater festival, curated by Kirtana Kumar, themed 'Power of Vulnerability.' Alongside new productions, the festival will include workshops and a symposium to foster critical dialogue. As the season progresses, we'll bring back popular themes like Centre Stage Weekend, the Legacy Series, and KNMA in the Park, with more surprises to come. We can't wait to share this diverse programming with Delhi's audience."



About the Performance

The metaphor of the tree deeply rooted in the earth, allowing its branches, leaves, flowers and fruits to flourish, is a powerful and enduring image in Indian artistic philosophy. It embodies the fundamental principles in art forms, which become the stable foundation from which artistic growth, mastery and innovation can be achieved. In this spirit, the artists **Sudha Raghuraman** and **Arushi Mudgal** delve deep into the **Ādhāram or foundation** of their respective art forms – **Carnatic music** and **Odissi dance**.

Solo elaborations of their repertoires culminate into a compelling **interplay between music and dance**. Through breath, rhythm, movement, and expression, they remain rooted in the knowledge of their **individual disciplines**, while embracing the generous potential for **collaborative explorations** offered by their forms.

Accompanying Artists:

- *Sudha Raghuraman* will be joined by Flute: **Shri. G. Raghuraman**, Mridangam: **Shri. M. V. Chandershekar**, Ghatam: **Shri. Varun Rajasekharan**, and Tanpura: **Rohit Saini**.
- *Arushi Mudgal* will be accompanied by Vocals/Manjira: **Sawani Mudgal**, Vocals: **Khushal Sharma**, Mardal/Tabla: **Kharak Singh**, Flute: **Rajat Prasanna**, and Harmonium: **Chetan Nigam**.

About the Artists:

Sudha Raghuraman

Born and brought up in a family steeped in the traditions of Carnatic Music, Sudha Raghuraman was trained in vocal music initially by her father late Shri O.S. Sridhar and later by her grandfather Sangeetha Bhushanam Shri O.V. Subramanyam. Sudha is a versatile and prolific artist who has found expression as a music composer for several dance productions. Her passion for Hindustani music often translates as a sensibility that is unique to her performances. She has performed at numerous national and international music festivals, and has held extensive workshops in Mauritius, USA, Canada, Europe, Australia and other countries. She also teaches Carnatic music and has been a visiting professor at Ashoka University, Sonapat. Sudha is a widely acclaimed artist and has received prestigious awards such as the *Sangeet Natak Akademi Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar* and the *Rashshtriya Kumar Gandharva Samman*, among others. She is an empanelled artist with the ICCR since 2003.

Arushi Mudgal

Arushi Mudgal is one of the foremost talents in the field of Odissi today, known for her technical virtuosity and creative approach to tradition. She has trained under her aunt, Guru Smt. Madhavi Mudgal at the Gandharva Mahavidyalaya, Delhi. Arushi was selected as one of the Top Ten Dancers of 2018 by the New York Times. She has performed at prestigious festivals in France, Switzerland, Germany, UK, Brazil, Spain, USA and others. Among her numerous awards are the *Sangeet Natak Akademi's Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar*, the *Young*

For Immediate release



Women Achievers' Award by YFLO and the *President's Bal Shree Award*. She has co-authored a book on the aesthetics of Odissi dance with the senior scholar and aesthetician Prof. S.K. Saxena, which has been published by the Sangeet Natak Akademi.

This festival is open to the public, and tickets are available for purchase online on [insider](#).

Link to press [pack](#)

Annexure I: Brochure including programming notes (attachment)

- ENDS -



Notes to Editors

About KNMA

Founded in 2010, Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA) is a pioneering private museum of modern and contemporary art in South Asia, with branches in New Delhi and Noida. The not-for-profit organization produces rigorous exhibitions, educational and public-focused programs, and publications. Through its rigorous and multiple programs, KNMA emphasises its commitment to institutional collaborations and support-networks for artists and creative communities, while extending its reach to diverse audiences. The museum houses a growing collection of more than 15,000 artworks from South Asia, with a focus on the historical trajectories of 20th century Indian art, alongside the experimental practices of young contemporaries. KNMA was established through the initiative of art collector and philanthropist Kiran Nadar and is supported by the Shiv Nadar Foundation. The new standalone building of KNMA is due to open in the next three to four years, near Delhi's Indira Gandhi international airport.

www.knma.in

Ongoing exhibitions at the Museum:

At KNMA, Saket

Two solo exhibitions

If We Knew the Point

Amitava

Magic in the Square

Mohan Samant

27 July 2024 - 30 September 2024

Curated by Roobina Karode

At KNMA, Noida

Purvae: Evoking Pedagogic Lineages

13 September 2024 - 15 December 2024

Curated by Avijna Bhattacharya

Press Contact

Amrita Kapoor, Senior Manager - Communications, KNMA

Email: amrita.kapoor@hcl.com

Mobile: + 91 - 9818058964