

The Kiran Nadar Museum of Art Presents the Second Edition of the KNMA Legacy Series
“Narrative, Music, and the Enduring Tradition of the Sarangi”



(From L- R) Rehab Ali, Mohd. Tabish, Shahnawaz Ali, Murad Ali Khan and Subhan Ali and in the centre Ustad Ghulam Sabir Khansahab (Murad Ali Khan's Father) and Murad Ali Khan. Image Courtesy Innee Singh

[Link to press pack](#)

New Delhi, 14th January 2025: The Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA) is proud to announce the second edition of the Legacy Series, celebrating the enduring traditions of Indian performing arts and the masterful artistry of hereditary performers. This edition, titled “*Narrative, Music, and the Enduring Tradition of the Sarangi,*” will take place on **31st January 2025, at 7:00 PM**, at the **Triveni Kala Sangam Chamber Theatre, New Delhi.**

This special performance will feature the acclaimed *sarangi* maestro **Murad Ali Khan**, a sixth-generation musician of the Moradabad Gharana. His musical lineage, dating back to the eighteenth century, includes stalwarts such as **Ustad Sagheer Ahmed Khan, Ustad Fakir Ahmed Khan, Ustad Rafique Ahmed Khan**, and his grandfather, the late **Ustad Siddique Ahmed Khan**, all of whom were celebrated *sarangi* players, musicologists, and *gurus*. Trained by his grandfather, the late Ustad Siddique Ahmad Khan, and his father, the late Ustad Ghulam Sabir Khan, Murad Ali Khan embodies the rigorous discipline, passion, and commitment fundamental to the transfer of knowledge in the Indian arts. His artistic sensibility was further shaped by his mentors, Padmashri Shubha Mudgal and the late Ustad Rashid Khan. He is devoted to training future generations in the art of the *sarangi*, playing a crucial role in the enduring legacy of his family and ensuring the continuity of this rich yet precarious tradition.



In this performance, Murad Ali Khan will be joined by his disciples from the Saurang Parampara Ensemble who will present a *khayaal*, *saadra* and *thumri* on the *sarangi*. Adding to the evening's richness, two of Murad Ali's students from Chennai and Punjab, who learn through online classes, will perform a *tappa* on vocals. This will culminate into an ensemble performance led by Murad Ali, accompanied by his cousin Amaan Ali and members of Saurang on the *tabla*.

The event will be further enriched by an enlightening dialogue between Murad Ali and Aneesh Pradhan, a distinguished *tabla* player, teacher, and musicologist. Following each segment, Murad Ali and Aneesh Pradhan will offer the audience an insightful glimpse into the world of the *sarangi* and its profound connection to Murad Ali's lineage. Together, they will craft a captivating narrative exploring the instrument's history, the distinctive characteristics and nuances of the *sarangi*, and Murad's personal experiences as a sixth-generation *sarangi* virtuoso.

Adding another layer of historical depth to the event, a set of three *sarangis*, each over 100 years old and passed down through generations within Murad Ali's family, will be on display. These instruments are crafted for different stages of learning from beginner to advanced, and exemplify the multifaceted nature of this legacy.

The KNMA Legacy Series honors the intergenerational transmission of knowledge and the dedication of artistic lineages to preserving India's diverse cultural heritage. This series highlights the invaluable contributions of hereditary performers and their tireless efforts to sustain and elevate the performing arts across generations.

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Notes to Editor:

About Murad Ali Khan

Born in a family of musicians originally from Moradabad, Murad Ali Khan is a sixth generation *sarangi* player. He has been mentored by Padmashri Shubha Mudgal and Ustad Rashid Khan, and collaborated on numerous projects with them. He regularly accompanies the most celebrated musicians of the country, such as Vidushi Kaushiki Chakraborty, Pt. Ajoy Chakraborty, Pt. Rajan Sajan Mishra, Pt. Ulhas Kashalkar, Ustad Mashkoor Ali Khan, Padma Vibhushan Smt Girja Devi Ji, Vidhushi Ashwini Bhide and tabla players Ustad Zakir Hussain, Pt. Swapan Chaudhary and Pt. Anindo Chatterjee.

Murad Ali's cross-cultural and experimental musical endeavours have won him prestige in India and abroad. His awards include the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar from the Sangeet Natak Akademi, the Sanskriti Award from the Sanskriti Pratishthan, and the Aditya Birla Kala Kiran Award. He was declared a 'Top Grade' Sarangi Player by the All India Radio in 2024.



About Aneesh Pradhan

One of India's leading *tabla* players, Aneesh Pradhan is a disciple of the illustrious *tabla* maestro Nikhil Ghosh. Greatly appreciated by both the cognoscenti and the lay listener as a composer, soloist and accompanist, Aneesh Pradhan is the recipient of several awards such as the Aditya Birla Kala Kiran Award (2000), the Natyadarpan Award for 'Best Background Score' (1998) for music direction to the Marathi play 'Tumbara' directed by Sunil Shanbag, the Vasantotsav Award (2012), and the Saath Sangat Kalakar Award (2013). He is also the Director of Underscore Records Pvt. Ltd, an independent online record label that he established with vocalist Shubha Mudgal.

Aneesh regularly conducts lecture-demonstrations, workshops and participates in seminars, at various universities and other educational institutions in India and abroad. He has been a keen researcher of trends in performance, music education and patronage that unfolded in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. He writes frequently on music for newspapers, journals and other publications in India and abroad, and is also deeply involved in creating and developing educational material related to Indian music.

Listing Details

What: KNMA Legacy Series: "Narrative, Music, and the Enduring Tradition of the Sarangi"

When: Friday, January 31, 2025, at 7:00 PM

Where: Triveni Kala Sangam, Chamber Theatre, New Delhi

Tickets: Admission is free. Limited seating available on a first-come, first-served basis. [Registration link](#)

About KNMA

Established at the initiative of avid art collector Kiran Nadar in 2010, KNMA is a pioneering private museum of modern and contemporary art in South Asia, with branches in New Delhi and Noida. Supported by the Shiv Nadar Foundation, 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. 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

At KNMA, Noida

Purvae: Evoking Pedagogic Lineages

13 September 2024 - 20 February 2025

Curated by Avijna Bhattacharya

Oggetti Tra Le Righe - Objects Between The Lines

22 December 2024 - 22 February 2025

In partnership with Italian Cultural Institute in New Delhi

For Immediate release



ADDRESS AND OPENING HOURS - KNMA NOIDA

Plot No. 3 A, Sector 126, NOIDA, U.P.

011-4916 0000

10:30 A.M - 6:30 P.M

The museum is closed on Monday and all public holidays.

Admission Free: Museum visitors are requested to register at the reception upon arrival.

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