

GEMARTS
MASALA
FESTIVAL



14TH - 22ND JULY 2018

A mix and blend of the finest
South Asian arts and culture

WELCOME

WELCOME TO GEMARTS AWARD WINNING MASALA FESTIVAL - A MIX & BLEND OF THE FINEST SOUTH ASIAN ARTS & CULTURE



GemArts Masala Festival is back, now in its third year, and have we got an incredible programme for you!

We have extended it over nine days, so you can truly immerse yourself in everything that the festival has to offer, including poetry, music, dance, film, food events, workshops, new commissions, exhibitions and free family fun days presented in venues, places and spaces across the North East.

As always, we have a fabulous international element. This year's Masala Festival in particular will celebrate the spirit of the North, presenting an outstanding selection of artists and producers based in the North of England, either working in South Asian art forms, presenting South Asian themes, or with links to South Asia in their own heritage.....how exciting!

We look forward to seeing you, and celebrating the exceptional cultural contribution that all our communities make to our region, and look forward to creating new amazing memories along the way!

The GemArts Team
Vikas, Alexandra and Annalisa

GEMARTS IS SUPPORTED BY:



Supporting public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



MASALA FESTIVAL PARTNERS:



GemArts is part of Gateshead Visible
Ethnic Minorities Support Group.
Registered Charity No. 1008100



Image: Ranbir Kaur by Pete Griffiths



Image: Odissi Dance Ensemble by Simon Richardson

MASALA FESTIVAL LAUNCH

Date: **Saturday 14th July**
Time: **11am - 3pm**
Venue: **Performance Square,
Sage Gateshead, NE8 2JR**
Tickets: **FREE – Just drop in!**

Welcome and celebrate with GemArts as we launch another incredible Masala Festival!

Come along, and experience renowned visual artist Ranbir Kaur, as she uses a mix and blend of Masala spices to create a stunning GIANT rangoli, a traditional Indian art form created on the floor on festive occasions. You can even make your own personal rangoli to take away!

Presented by GemArts, commissioned by Gateshead Culture Team as part of Great Exhibition of the North.



ODISSI ENSEMBLE PRESENT SACRED SHAPES

Date: **Saturday 14th July**
Time: **11.30am and 2pm**
Venue: **Performance Square,
Sage Gateshead, NE8 2JR**
Tickets: **FREE – Just drop in!**

In the search to understand ourselves and our place within the unimaginable vastness of the universe, a quartet of Odissi dancers energise Performance Square as they map out lines, curves and angles, making connections between their inner beings and the wider world.





SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE

Date: **Sunday 15th July**
 Time: **4.30pm**
 Venue: **Jam Jar Cinema, 18-24 Park Ave,
 Whitley Bay, NE26 1DG**
 Tickets: **£5**
 Box office: **jamjarcinema.com**

Director: Danny Boyle, Loveleen Tandan
Distributor: Pathe | 2008 | 121mins
Presented by GemArts with Jam Jar Cinema.

Jai Ho! Gem Arts Masala Festival celebrate the 10th anniversary of eight times Oscar winning film Slumdog Millionaire directed by Danny Boyle, featuring Dev Patel, Freida Pinto, and Bollywood superstar Anil Kapoor.

The story of Jamal Malik, an 18 year-old orphan from the slums of Mumbai, who is about to experience the biggest day of his life. With the whole nation watching, he is just one question away from winning a staggering 20 million rupees on India's "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?" With only one more question to be asked, the dream turns to nightmare when he accused of cheating. Will Jamal be freed to hear the final question and, if so, will he know the answer?

EVERYTHING NOTHING: AN EXHIBITION BY SUMIT SARKAR

Date: **Monday 16th July to
 Tuesday 2nd October**
 Time: **During Gateshead Library
 opening hours**
 Venue: **The Gallery, Gateshead
 Central Library, NE8 4LN**
 Tickets: **FREE – Just drop in!**

Everything Nothing is a retrospective of Sumit's 20 years of paintings and sculpture alongside new work exploring 3D print, virtual reality and motion capture.

Sumit's practice is constantly evolving; from painting to sculpture, analogue to digital, still to animated, figurative to abstract, and back again. The process, tools and output change, but themes of the work remain the same - the balance of opposites; light and dark, gods and demons, creation and destruction, tragedy and comedy, and the transformation from one to the other.

MEET THE ARTIST: SUMIT SARKAR

Date: **Friday 20th July**
 Time: **4.30pm - 6.30pm**
 Venue: **The Gallery, Gateshead
 Central Library, NE8 4LN**
 Tickets: **FREE – Just drop in!**

Drop in and meet GemArts' Masala festival's exhibiting artist Sumit Sarkar. Sumit will be on hand to chat about his practice and explain how his recent work has utilised cutting edge virtual reality hardware and software to create virtual 3D sculptures.



VIRTUAL REALITY 3D SCULPTURE WITH SUMIT SARKAR

Date: **Saturday 21st July**
 Time: **10am - 12.30pm**
 Venue: **The Gallery, Gateshead
 Central Library, NE8 4LN**
 Tickets: **£10**
 Box office: **To book onto workshop
 0191 433 8420
gateshead.gov.uk/whatson**

Join artist, Sumit Sarkar for this futuristic workshop and get to grips with MasterpieceVR and Google Tilt Brush. You will create your own virtual reality sculpture, and experience Sumit's incredible digital sculptures in VR.
 Suitable for Ages 14+

*Presented by GemArts and Gateshead
 Culture Team.*



LANGUAGE AND IDENTITY AN EVENING OF POETRY WITH SUJATA BHATT, VIDYAN RAVINTHIRAN AND ZAFFAR KUNIAL

Date: **Tuesday 17th July**
Time: **7pm**
Venue: **The Lit & Phil, 23 Westgate Rd,
Newcastle, NE1 1SE**
Tickets: **£6 (£4 concession)**
Box office: **0191 440 4124**
gemarts.org

Three award winning poets, Sujata Bhatt, Vidyan Ravinthiran and Zaffar Kunial, read from their latest work that considers, amongst themes of home and heritage, multiculturalism and history, the inheritance of languages – Kashmiri, Sri Lankan, Gujarati and English – that have influenced their poetry and their identities.



Zaffar Kunial's debut collection is *Us*, published by Faber & Faber in July 2018. Vidyan Ravinthiran's parents are Sri Lankan Tamils: he grew up in Leeds. His first book of poems, *Grun-tu-molani* (Bloodaxe, 2014), was shortlisted for several awards. Poet and translator, Sujata Bhatt was born in Ahmedabad, India. Sujata has published six collections of poems, most recently *Poppies in Translation* (Carcenet, 2015), and has translated Gujarati poetry into English for the Penguin Anthology of Contemporary Indian Women's Poetry.

Books will be available to purchase on the night from the Poetry Book Society.

*Co-produced by Dr John Challis
(Trashed Organ) & GemArts.
Presented with The Lit & Phil.*



MASALA FESTIVAL AT ARCH SIXTEEN

Date: **Wednesday 18th July**
Time: **8pm**
Venue: **Arch Sixteen Café, Wellington
Street, Gateshead, NE8 2AJ**
Tickets: **£8***
Box office: **archsixteen.com**

*Booking Fee may apply see website for details

Join us at Arch 16 to see Gurinder Chadha's award winning, heart-warming, hilarious debut film *Bhaji on the Beach*.

Ashiyana Cafe will cook up a lovely vegetable curry, get your very own bhaji, and enjoy a drink from the bar.

Director: Gurinder Chadha's | English
and Punjabi | 1993 | 101mins



Presented by GemArts with Arch Sixteen.

ASHRAF SHARIF KHAN (SITAR) WITH SHABAZ HUSSAIN (TABLA)

Date: **Wednesday 18th July**
Time: **8pm**
Venue: **Sage Gateshead**
St Mary's Square, Gateshead
NE8 2JR
Tickets: **£13.10 / Family tickets available**
Box office: **0191 4434661**
sagegateshead.com

Ashraf Sharif Khan's sitar playing combines an astonishing technical proficiency with perfection in musical expression.

The melodic beauty of his style, accentuated by his dynamic rhythmic development and the virtuoso technique produce a unique musical experience.

Accompanied by Shahbaz Hussain, an extremely versatile player, regarded as the leading Tabla virtuosos of his generation. His solo performances have gained great recognition all over the world.

Presented by GemArts with Sage Gateshead.



SACRED SPACE: JESSE BANNISTER

Date: **Thursday 19th July**
Time: **8pm**
Venue: **The Jazz Café**
25-27 Pink Lane,
Newcastle, NE1 5DW
Tickets: **£10 (£8 concession)***

Box office: **Available from The Jazz Café**
0191 222 9882, Reflex CD
0191 260 3246 or online:
seetickets.com

*Booking Fee may apply see website for details

Jesse Bannister is widely regarded as the finest Indian saxophonist in Europe. Jesse is acclaimed not just as an instrumentalist, delivering a seamless fusion of jazz and Indian music, but also as a composer, with writing credits for film, TV, theatre and dance projects.

For this gig he has put together a new quartet, all of whose members are enthusiastic about crossing musical boundaries, featuring guitarist Joe Harris, bassist Kenny Higgins and vocalist Georgie Buchanan.

Presented by GemArts with Jazz North East.

Image: Isaac McCordle Hearing in the Bardo Film Still. Courtesy of the artist



AWAKE

Date: **Friday 20th July**
Time: **7pm**
Venue: **BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead, NE8 3BA**
Tickets: **£5 includes welcome drink**
Box office: **0191 440 4124**
gemarts.org

Suitable for Ages 14+

I'd not quite grasped the role of love in healing...

The heart beats – and occasionally breaks
There's an unwelcome guest – inside my body
I retain distance – from prescribed labels
Waiting – talk – Rooms - listen
Humanity – makes a difference

AWAKE is a programme of South Asian film shorts about consciousness, humanity and well-being from around the world.

Curated by Bobby Tiwana with GemArts, and presented with BALTIC.
Post-screening discussion with industry contributors.
Running time: 120-150 minutes.

Image: The Sun God Surya on his Chariot



INDIAN MINIATURE PAINTINGS

Date: **Saturday 21st July**
Time: **10.30am - 4pm**
Venue: **Hatton Gallery, Newcastle University, Kings Road Newcastle, NE1 7RU**
Tickets: **FREE – Just drop in!**

Come along for a rare viewing of the Indian Miniature collection at the Hatton Gallery in Newcastle University.

The collection of beautiful miniature paintings are from Rajasthan and were created in 1835-7.

This is a unique opportunity for the public to see the paintings, which will be displayed for one day only in the Hatton Gallery Archive Space.

Explore your own creativity, take part in Indian art and craft activities on the day.

Presented by GemArts with Hatton Gallery.

VILLAGE ROCKSTARS

Date: **Saturday 21st July**
Time: **6pm**
Venue: **Tyneside Cinema, Newcastle, NE1 6QG**
Tickets: **£9.75 (Concessions £6.25-£8.25)***
Box office: **tynesidecinema.co.uk**
0191 227 5500

In a small village in Assam, northeast India, 10 year old Dhunu dreams of having her own rock band. With her vibrant youthful spirit and fired by her imagination and passion for music, Dhunu sets out to achieve her ambition. Yet in a world overshadowed by poverty and the struggles of daily life, her widowed mother struggling to put food on the table, and where the boys in her gang tease her for being a girl, Dhunu refuses to give up on her dreams. Rima Das' second feature is set in the village in which she grew up, shot amid vibrant monsoon swept landscapes with non-professional actors, presenting an inspiring vision about music, dreams and empowerment.

Director: Rima Das | Assamese + English subtitles, | India 2017 | 97mins

Plus intro by Sonali Joshi, Co-Founder & Artistic Director of Aperture: Asia & Pacific Film Festival, and Founder & Director of Day for Night.

*Booking Fee may apply see website for details

Presented by GemArts with Aperture: Asia & Pacific Film Festival, and Tyneside Cinema.





MASALA FESTIVAL: MINI MELA

Date: **Sunday 22nd July**
Venue: **Live Garden, Live Theatre,
Broad Chare, Newcastle
NE1 3DQ**
Time: **11am - 3pm**
Tickets: **FREE – Just drop in!**

The finale of Masala Festival culminates once again with an outdoor spectacular in Live Garden! Delve into an enthralling mix and blend of South Asian flavours for all the family. Take part in colourful and vibrant arts, crafts, interactive storytelling, dhol drumming and lively performances. Dance to the Bollywood and Bhangra beat, create a beautiful silk painting, or get intricate henna designs, as well as lots of other fun activities...a real feast from the East including delicious Indian street food, from Dabbawal.

Presented by GemArts with Live Theatre.



GEMARTS MASALA FESTIVAL AT DABBAWAL:

Date: **Saturday 14th - 22nd July**
Venue: **Dabbawal 69-75 High Bridge,
NE1 6BX and 1 Brentwood Mews,
Jesmond, NE2 3DG**
Box office: **For restaurants opening times
and bookings visit dabbawal.com**

Masala Festival is thrilled to be back at Dabbawal! Over nine days, sample the one of a kind festival menu, created by Dabbawal's brilliant chefs. Take your taste buds on an incredible culinary journey, soak up your surroundings and enjoy the amazing artwork created by GemArts artist Kate Hunter Parker.



Dabbawal will also be on hand at GemArts Masala Festival Mini Mela on the 22nd July, serving up stunning authentic Indian street food for our hungry visitors.

WORKSHOPS AT MASALA 2018

An eclectic mix of yoga and meditation workshops.

INTRODUCTORY MEDITATION

Date: **Monday 16th July**
5.30pm - 6.30pm
Venue: **Newcastle Buddhist Centre,**
187 Westgate Road, Newcastle
NE4 6AA
Cost: **FREE – Just drop in!**
donations welcome
Contact: **newcastlebuddhistcentre@gmail.com**

A practical introduction to either the Mindfulness of Breathing or Metta Bhavana meditation practices. Stay for Buddhism for Today class covering the life of the Buddha and his key teachings at 6.45pm - 7.30pm following a tea break. All welcome. Looser clothing suggested for comfort.



Image: GemArts Masala Festival Mini Mela by Anna Miller



HATHA YOGA WITH SAMANTHA COE

Date: **Wednesday 18th July**
2pm - 3.15pm
Venue: **St Mary's Heritage Centre,**
Oakwellgate, Gateshead
NE8 2UA
Cost: **£9**
Contact: **Samantha: samanthacoe@me.com**

Find some peace in this Summer Yoga Workshop set in a beautiful 900 year old building. Suitable for beginners, yoga experts and returners alike. Bring your yoga mat if you have one.

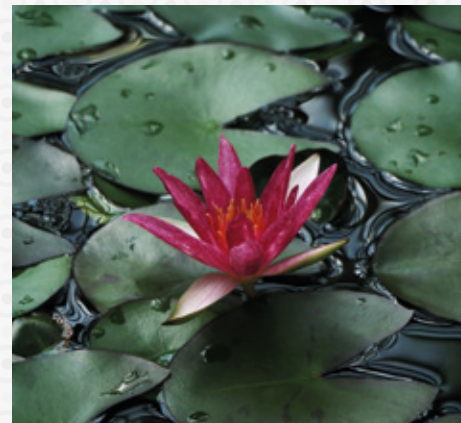
SPIRITLEVEL YOGA SESSIONS WITH ROBYN

Date: **Various, for full details**
see: spiritlevelyoga.co.uk
Venue: **SpiritLevel Boutique Studio,**
Simonside Terrace, Heaton
NE6 5JY
Cost: **£10 drop in /£3* for first class**
on presentation of Masala
Festival brochure
Contact: **Robyn: 07946 413497**
spiritlevelyoga.co.uk

A creative and playful approach to yoga with 10 different weekly classes to try.

Develop an understanding of the philosophy of yoga, explore the relationship between tension and effort; using the breath and a little mischievous wiggling to ease the mind.

*offer valid until 31st August 2018



IYENGAR YOGA WITH NICOLA

Date: **Wednesday 18th July**
7.15pm - 8.45pm
Venue: **The Nest, Low Fell, Gateshead**
Cost: **£7 drop in or £24**
for 4 week block
Contact: **Nicola: 07841514619**
nicolascheel@hotmail.com

B.K.S. Iyengar's method is now the most widely practised in the world. Iyengar Yoga increases suppleness, strength and stamina, improves posture and concentration and quietyens the mind to promote well-being.



For information on GemArts Masala Festival schools workshops
contact Alexandra Marsden alexandra@gemarts.org



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For more information
visit our website gemarts.org

contact us on 0191 440 4124
or email info@gemarts.org