



GEMARTS

Creating and Profiling Diverse Arts

Autumn / Winter 2017

Welcome to GemArts' Autumn/Winter 2017 Season

As the cold nights draw in, GemArts promises to warm up your evenings as our new Autumn Winter season is bursting with performances by world class musicians, vocalists and dancers, showcasing leading female talent from the UK and India; incredible collaborations between Indian classical, Bollywood, jazz, folk and blues, as well as our Khyal exhibition, Kathakali performances, and our ever popular Diwali celebrations.

Launching our season in September, we're thrilled to be working with Jumpin' Hot Club to welcome back The Ska Vengers, bringing high energy, ska rhythms to a newly renovated venue in Gosforth. GemArts Riverside Ragas continue with three outstanding concerts plus informative free talks with Sage Gateshead; Baluji Shrivastav (sitar), Roopa Penesar (sitar), and Debasmitta Bhattacharya (sarod).

Building on our partnership with Jazz North East we have a duo of eclectic performances: the award winning Zoe Rahman and Sandrini led by the very brilliant vocalist Vanessa Rani. We're also working with The Jazz Café to present the coming together of blues and Indian classical in Michael Messer's Mitra, featuring three outstanding musicians.

In November we're at Durham University as we present Josh Fieberg on sitar in the beautiful setting of St Chad's College Chapel. As always, we offer an opportunity to see first-hand some of the best tabla players from the UK, with Gurdain Rayatt and Bhupinder Singh Chaggar accompanying at concerts.

During half term GemArts returns to Trimfest, bringing arts events and activities, celebrating creativity and diversity, direct to East Durham. This is Trimdon Parish Council's second Trimfest, and we're very proud to be a part of it again.

More half term fun continues in Gateshead as we celebrate Diwali at Gateshead Civic Centre. Local communities show great support for this event, which helps raise valuable funds for our charitable work.

GemArts is committed to introducing a diverse and rich cultural offer to as many people as possible, as always keep checking www.gemarts.org for updates and please visit our Support Us page if you are in a position to make a gift.

On behalf of everyone at GemArts, thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to welcoming you to this fantastic season of concerts and events.

Vikas Kumar, MBE
Director

GemArts is a dynamic arts development organisation based in the North East of England. We produce and programme new and exciting culturally diverse arts, by creating and developing high quality concerts, events, festivals, workshops and commissions with regional, national and international artists across all art forms.

Our Vision: We believe that the arts enrich the lives of individuals and communities through celebrating our cultural diversity – raising aspirations, building stronger communities and breaking down barriers.

Our Mission: To increase equality of opportunity for everyone to engage with culturally diverse arts – as producers, participants and audience.

Khyal: Music and Imagination 15th July – 5th November

Venue: *New Walk Museum and Art Gallery, Leicester.*

Find out more at www.gemarts.org

After a successful presentation at the Laing Gallery (2016), we are delighted that the Khyal: Music and Imagination multimedia exhibition will be on show at the New Walk Museum and Art Gallery until November 2017, featuring new additions alongside original artworks displayed in the first exhibition.

Presented with Durham University and New Walk Museum and Art Gallery.



Image: Mahajabin Imam Majumdar inspired by Raga Marwa performed by Ranjani Ramachandran

Ska Vengers Friday 1st September

Time: 7:30pm

Venue: *Gosforth Civic Theatre,
Regent Farm Rd, NE3 3HD*

Tickets*: £12

Box Office: *On the door or from:
www.wegotickets.com*

The very welcome return of the Ska Vengers, a new Delhi based band, who blend 'ska' rhythms with elements of dub, punk, jazz and rap to come up with a form of music that is refreshingly different, energetic and highly danceable. Plus support from the Crossings Band and DJ Seamus. Not to be missed!



Photo: Laiq Qureshi

Presented with Jumpin' Hot Club and Ja Live. Part of Freedom City 2017 – a city-wide programme marking the 50th anniversary of Dr Martin Luther King Jr. receiving an honorary degree from Newcastle University.

Riverside Ragas: Baluji Shrivastav

Saturday 16th September

Time: 7:45pm (talk 7pm)

Venue: Northern Rock Foundation,
Sage Gateshead NE8 2JR

Tickets: £13.10 / £32.70 Family

Box Office: www.sagegateshead.com
or 0191 443 4661

Baluji Shrivastav is a blind musician and expert on the sitar, dilruba and tabla among other traditional Indian instruments. Described by London's Evening Standard as "sitarist to the stars", his incredible versatility

has led to work with Massive Attack, Stevie Wonder, Shakira, Coldplay and many of India's finest artists including Ustad Faiyaz Khan and Anindo Chatterji.

Celebrating the release of his album 'The Best of Baluji Shrivastav', the recently OBE awarded sitar master performs a special evening of mesmerising Indian classical music, accompanied by Nand Kumar on tabla.

"Virtuoso multi-instrumentalist"
The Times

"Music which crosses all cultural divides"
The Guardian

Presented with Sage Gateshead.



Photo courtesy: Baluji Shrivastav



Photo courtesy: Zoe Rahman

Zoe Rahman Friday 29th September

Time: 1:00pm

Venue: The Literary and Philosophical Society,
23 Westgate Road, NE1 1SE

Tickets*: £10 / £8 Concessions

Box Office: Online: www.seetickets.com
Reflex Records: 0191 260 3246
The Lit and Phil: 0191 232 0192

Zoe Rahman has firmly established herself on the contemporary jazz scene. A vibrant and highly individual pianist and composer, her style is deeply rooted in jazz yet reflects her classical background, British Bengali heritage and her very broad musical taste. Known for her powerful technique, wide-ranging imagination and exuberant performance, she has become a highly sought-after musician, working with the likes of George Mraz, Courtney Pine and Jerry Dammers Spatial AKA Orchestra. Her

2006 album, *Melting Pot*, was nominated for the Nationwide Mercury Prize, and it also won 'Jazz Album of the Year' at the UK's first Parliamentary Jazz Awards. While her powerful group recording, *Kindred Spirits*, won a MOBO Award.

Zoe will perform new works from her sixth studio album '*Dreamland*', her first as a solo musician.

*Presented with Jazz North East, and
The Lit and Phil Lunchtime Jazz Series.*

Riverside Ragas:
Roopa Panesar (sitar) and
Bhupinder Singh Chaggar (tabla)
Saturday 7th October

Time: 7:45pm (Talk 7:00pm)

Venue: Northern Rock Foundation Hall,
Sage Gateshead, NE8 2JR

Tickets: £13.10 / £32.70 Family

Box Office: www.sagegateshead.com
or 0191 443 4661

Considered one of the finest Sitar players to emerge on the Indian music scene in the UK, Roopa Panesar has received accolades from audiences and peers alike for her outstanding ability and quality of music.

Her soulful and unique style of playing has left listeners captivated, touching the hearts of audiences far and wide and received blessings from many eminent musicians in the world of Indian classical music.

Accompanying is the exceptionally musical and dynamic tabla player Bhupinder Singh Chaggar.

Presented with Sage Gateshead.



Photo: Eastway Photography

Diwali Celebrations

Saturday 21st October

Time: 7:00pm

Venue: Bewicks, Gateshead Civic Centre,
NE8 1HH
(entrance from car park side of building)

Tickets: Pay in advance £3/£10 Family
Pay on the door £5/£15 Family
(Family ticket is for up to 5 people)

Box Office: Buy online at www.gemarts.org
or reserve at 0191 440 4124
info@gemarts.org



Gateshead Visible Ethnic Minority Support Group and GemArts bring you another fantastic evening at the annual Diwali Celebrations. Popularly known as the "festival of lights", Diwali is celebrated worldwide. Join us at this year's festivities and enjoy delicious Indian food, live entertainment, DJ's spinning the very best Bhangra and Bollywood tunes, and show off your best moves on the dance floor. An event for young and old alike.

Have fun while helping raise funds for valuable charitable work celebrating diversity and helping people in Gateshead. For each £1 raised GemArts will receive a further £1 donation from Arts Council England, helping double your generous gifts.



Photo courtesy: Soznak

Trimfest 2017

Thursday 19th –
Friday 27th October

*Various venues across the Trimdons,
East Durham*

*Visit www.gemarts.org for information on
the full programme, tickets and timings*

GemArts' signature vibrant and culturally eclectic programme visits Trimfest, as this exciting festival returns during autumn half term.

Featuring special music performances, participatory workshops, a family Mini Mela fun day; plus enchanting puppet shows, dance events, and loads more. Trimfest offers something for everyone!

*Presented with Trimdon Parish Council.
Trimfest is supported by Dyno Heating & Plumbing.*



Photo: Anna Miller



Photo courtesy: Michael Messer

Michael Messer's Mitra

Friday 27th October

Time: 9:00pm (Doors 8:30pm)

Venue: The Jazz Café, 25-27 Pink Lane,
Newcastle, NE1 5DW

Tickets*: £12 / £10

Box Office: The Jazz Café
(from noon Tuesday to Saturday)
0191 222 9882

Mitra (pronounced 'meetra'), meaning friends is a unique musical trio and a true musical friendship.

Michael Messer's Mitra is a trio comprising British blues innovator and slide guitarist, Michael Messer, Hindustani slide guitar maestro from Mumbai India, Manish Pingle, and London-based tabla player, Gurdain Rayatt.

This is more than another meeting of musicians from different cultures, this is a band with its own unique sound, an exhilarating and highly accessible fusion of Delta blues and Hindustani classical music. With vocals, slide guitars and tabla, these three musicians from opposite sides of the globe create a fascinating musical journey, running from the banks of the Mississippi, via London, to Mumbai and the Ganges delta.

Presented with The Jazz Café.

The Kala Chethena Kathakali Company schools performance Thursday 2nd November

Time: 1:00pm

Venue: Caedmon Hall,
Gateshead Central Library,
NE8 4LN

Contact info@gemarts.org to find out
how your school can attend.
Spaces limited.



Kathakali is a masterpiece of sacred theatre that erupts on stage with striking visual images that expose the magical world of South India. Kathakali leads the audience into the entrancing world of storytelling.

Celebrating 30 years of touring the UK, The Kala Chethena Kathakali Company is back in Gateshead in 2017 – direct from Kerala, with unforgettable Kathakali by top international performers, superb singers, rhythmic drummers and highly skilled make-up artists.

Presented with Gateshead Council.



Photos courtesy: The Kala Chethena Kathakali Company

Riverside Ragas:
Debasmita Bhattacharya (sarod)
and Gurdain Rayatt (tabla)

Friday 3rd November

Time: 7:45pm (Talk 7:00pm)

Venue: Sage 2,
Sage Gateshead, NE8 2JR

Tickets: £13.10 / £32.70 Family

Box Office: www.sagegateshead.com
or 0191 443 4661

Debasmita Bhattacharya, an accomplished sarod player from Kolkata, West Bengal, and is a rising young female star of the Indian music scene who is gaining critical acclaim across musical circles in her native India and beyond with her remarkable talent and powerhouse performances. Touring UK venues this autumn, we are delighted to bring this talented musician to North East audiences.

Debasmita was first inspired to pick up the instrument by her father, Pandit Debashish Bhattacharya, and is currently a scholar at the prestigious ITC Sangeet Research Academy (SRA) in Kolkata, studying with her guru, Sarod maestro Pandit Buddhadev Dasgupta. Debasmita has won many accolades, including first prize in the "Sangeet Praveen" competition and top prizes at the Doverlane Music and the Rajya Sangeet Academy competitions.

Enjoy a programme of ragas on the emotive sarod, with sensitive and yet electric accompaniment from Gurdain Rayatt, one of the finest young tabla players in the UK. Join us for an evening of exquisite Indian classical music!

Presented with Sage Gateshead.



Photo: Pallab Mondal

Josh Feinberg (sitar) and
Gurdain Rayatt (tabla)

Tuesday 14th November

Time: 7:30pm (Doors 7:00pm)

Venue: St Chad's College Chapel,
18 North Bailey, Durham DH1 3RH

Tickets: £10 / £4 students / £1 under 18

Box Office: www.musicdurham.org/musicon

Known and loved by top musicians and music lovers, Josh Feinberg represents the future of sitar and the growing diversity of Hindustani music.

Josh began his musical training at 4 years old with piano and western classical jazz bass, and was hailed as a prodigy performing in jazz venues and concert halls across the New York area. In his teens, Josh became enamoured with the music of Ustad Ali Akbar Khan and Pandit Nikhil Banerjee, and shifted his focus to sitar and Hindustani music.

He has established himself as a leading sitarist of his generation, releasing several albums and touring major festivals and venues globally.

Josh will be accompanied in this concert by Gurdain Rayatt, a disciple of the late maestro Pandit Shankar Ghosh and currently one of the leading tabla players in the UK.

*Presented with Durham University's
Musicon concert series.*



Photo courtesy: Josh Feinberg



Photo: Arnhel de Serra

Photo: Vanessa Rani



Sandrani

Friday 24th November

Time: 8:30pm

Venue: The Jazz Café, 25-27 Pink Lane,
Newcastle, NE1 5DW

Tickets*: £10 / £8 Concessions

Box Office: Online: www.seetickets.com
Reflex Records: 0191 260 3246
Jazz Cafe: 0191 222 9882

All ages show, but under 18s must be accompanied by an adult.

Sandrani is an ensemble fusing together classical Indian Raag and folk song with Western-style grooves, African music, and improvisations. Featuring musicians of Indian, English, Mauritian and Italian heritages, the quartet creates truly global, forward thinking music and was formed when its four experienced and dedicated members decided to come together and fuse their various backgrounds and styles to create something exciting and new. As each member of Sandrani has brought their own individual approach, experimentation and innovation has stimulated the evolution of a music that is both exciting yet easily accessible for all.

Presented with Jazz North East.

Bollywood Jazz

Thursday 7th December

Time: 7:45pm

Venue: Northern Rock Foundation Hall,
Sage Gateshead, NE8 2JR

Tickets: £13.10 / £32.70 Family

Box Office: www.sagegateshead.com
or 0191 443 4661

Bollywood Jazz is an amazing new Indo-Jazz fusion event inspired by the songs and instrumental music of Bollywood films. The four artists have been working together over several months; re-imagining the songs, creating new versions, giving space to improvisation and musical departures to forge an exciting, adventurous, occasionally playful new sound; this is what Bollywood Jazz is all about.

Audiences will experience something riotously unique and totally original. The aim is to develop a new musical genre from two very different cultures. An early trial performance at the Bradford Literature Festival, was a huge success attended by an enormously diverse audience which included Bollywood and jazz fans alike. Be among the first to experience this exciting new work.

Features:

Supriya Nagarajan (vocals),
James Cave (piano and cello);
Matt Redman (bass guitar and multi-instrumentalist)
and Beau Stocker (drums).

Presented with Sage Gateshead.



Photo courtesy: Bollywood Jazz

GET CREATIVE
BE INSPIRED
ENJOY
EXPERIENCE
LEARN
PARTICIPATE!



GemArts delivers high quality arts sessions for people of all ages and backgrounds, offering experience of Music, Dance, Drama and Visual Arts from around the world. Our workshops enable participants to develop new skills and interests whilst working alongside professional artists.

For Schools and Community Groups

Workshops from 1 hour tasters to longer term projects, offering a range of arts activity, including Bollywood Dance, African Drumming, Chinese and Indian Visual Arts, Lyric Writing, Textiles, Aerosol Art, Photography and much more. GemArts also deliver projects to raise awareness, celebrate British values, and tackle important issues.

Projects are tailored to a group's interests, needs, timescale and budget, providing educational, creative and enjoyable learning experiences whilst promoting a greater understanding of world arts and different cultures.

Costs depend on activity, group size and materials required.

To book a GemArts artist, or discuss a project please contact Alexandra Marsden on 0191 440 4125 or alexandra@gemarts.org

GemArts helps young people achieve Arts Award, a nationally recognised qualification, and also assist schools to achieve and maintain Arts Mark.

For Artists

To be added to GemArts freelance artist database, please send your up to date CV, covering letter and examples of your work to info@gemarts.org

We also share information and opportunities through our website, Facebook and Twitter.



Photos: GemArts Masala Festival by Anna Miller

GemArts is committed to offering opportunity for everyone to engage with culturally diverse arts. If you would like to support our work please consider making a donation at www.gemarts.org

Visit www.gemarts.org or contact GemArts on 0191 440 4124 or email info@gemarts.org for information.

SUPPORT US

GemArts' mission is to increase equality of opportunity for everyone to engage with culturally diverse arts. As a charity we rely on raising funds from donations and sponsorship, so we can reach more than 81,000 people from all backgrounds each year. As a leading diverse arts organisation we ensure that funding goes towards life enhancing projects, exceptional events and

brings valuable support and opportunities to disadvantaged communities.

Help us make a difference by supporting GemArts work creating engaging opportunities that benefit individuals and local communities. Thanks to Arts Council England we can currently match every £1 donated, so your support will go even further.



Photo: GemArts Masala Festival by Anna Miller

Individual Giving

GemArts ensures equal access to the arts. Donations of all sizes help us deliver high quality work;

- £5 buys art materials enabling a young person to learn new creative skills and share this with friends and family.
- £20 helps subsidise meals at our annual Diwali event, keeping events accessible, enabling communities to come together, share and celebrate.
- £50 provides space in a community centre so a women's mental health group can get creative, build friendships and strengthen support networks.

The more we raise the more opportunities we can offer, and the more lives we can improve. Donate online at www.gemarts.org/support-us

Business Giving

GemArts work with businesses of all sizes, offering exciting sponsorship opportunities around both our performance and participatory programmes, including GemArts Masala Festival. GemArts helps local businesses bring customers fun holiday activities, showcase spaces and venues, raise awareness of local issues, offer staff, client and stakeholder hospitality opportunities and much more.

To discuss how your business can support our charitable work contact Sinead Burke on 0191 440 4125 or sinead@gemarts.org



GemArts is part of Gateshead Visible Ethnic Minorities Support Group (GVEMSG) registered charity no. 1008100 supporting BME, asylum seeker and refugee communities.

GEMARTS AT A GLANCE

Friday 1st September
7:30pm

SKA VENGERS

Gosforth Civic Theatre,
Regent Farm Rd, NE3 3HD
£12* on the door or from:
www.wegotickets.com

Saturday 16th September
7:45pm (talk 7pm)

RIVERSIDE RAGAS: BALUJI SHRIVASTAV

Northern Rock Foundation,
Sage Gateshead NE8 2JR
£13.10 / £32.70 Family
www.sagegateshead.com
or 0191 443 4661

Friday 29th September
1:00pm

ZOE RAHMAN

The Literary and Philosophical Society,
23 Westgate Road, NE1 1SE
£10* / £8* Concessions
Online: www.seetickets.com
Reflex Records: 0191 260 3246
The Lit and Phil: 0191 232 0192

Saturday 7th October
7:45pm (Talk 7:00pm)

RIVERSIDE RAGAS: ROOPA PANESAR (SITAR) AND BHUPINDER SINGH CHAGGAR (TABLA)

Northern Rock Foundation Hall,
Sage Gateshead, NE8 2JR
£13.10 / £32.70 Family
www.sagegateshead.com
or 0191 443 4661

Saturday 21st October
7:00pm

DIWALI CELEBRATIONS

Bewicks, Gateshead Civic Centre,
NE8 1HH
(entrance from car park side of building)
Pay in advance £3/£10 Family
Pay on the door £5/£15 Family
(Family ticket is for up to 5 people)
Buy online at www.gemarts.org
or reserve at 0191 440 4124
info@gemarts.org

19th – 27th October
TRIMFEST 2017

Various venues across the
Trimdons, East Durham
Visit www.gemarts.org
for information on the full
programme, tickets and timings

Friday 27th October
9:00pm (Doors 8:30pm)

MICHAEL MESSER'S MITRA

The Jazz Café, 25-27 Pink Lane,
Newcastle, NE1 5DW
£12* / £10*
The Jazz Café (from noon Tues to Sat)
0191 222 9882

Thursday 2nd November
1:00pm

THE KALA CHETHENA KATHAKALI COMPANY SCHOOLS PERFORMANCE

Caedmon Hall, Gateshead
Central Library, NE8 4LN
Contact info@gemarts.org to
find out how your school can
attend. Spaces limited.

Friday 3rd November
7:45pm (Talk 7:00pm)

RIVERSIDE RAGAS: DEBASMITA BHATTACHARYA (SARODI) & GURDAIN RAYATT (TABLA)

Northern Rock Foundation Hall,
Sage Gateshead, NE8 2JR
£13.10 / £32.70 Family
www.sagegateshead.com
or 0191 443 4661

Tuesday 14th November
7:30pm (Doors 7:00pm)

JOSH FEINBERG (SITAR) & GURDAIN RAYATT (TABLA)

St Chad's College Chapel,
18 North Bailey, Durham DH1 3RH
£10 / £4 students / £1 under 18
www.musicdurham.org/musicon

Friday 24th November
8:30pm

SANDRANI

The Jazz Café, 25-27 Pink Lane,
Newcastle, NE1 5DW
£10* / £8* Concessions
Online: www.seetickets.com
Reflex Records: 0191 260 3246
Jazz Cafe: 0191 222 9882
All ages show, but under 18s must
be accompanied by an adult.

Thursday 7th December
7:45pm

BOLLYWOOD JAZZ

Northern Rock Foundation Hall,
Sage Gateshead, NE8 2JR
£13.10 / £32.70 Family
www.sagegateshead.com
or 0191 443 4661

* booking fee may apply – see website for details

For further information and to join our mailing list please contact:

Address: GemArts, Old Town Hall, West Street, Gateshead, NE8 1HE

Tel: 0191 440 4124 | Email: info@gemarts.org | Web: www.gemarts.org

 Like us on Facebook **GemArts**  Follow us on Twitter **@GemArtsUK**



GemArts is part of Gateshead Visible Ethnic Minorities Support Group (GVEMSG). GVEMSG is a registered charity. No 1008100