







**INDIA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE**

Annual Report  
**2021**-2022



## **Board of Trustees**

### **Life Trustees**

Shri N.N. Vohra, President

Shri Shyam Saran

Shri Gopalkrishna Gandhi

Dr. Meenakshi Gopinath

Dr. Shailesh Nayak

### **Elected Trustees**

*(April 2021 – March 2023)*

Prof. Ashis Nandy

Prof. Anil D. Sahasrabudhe

(Individual Category)

(Institutional Category)

### **Executive Committee**

*(April 2021 – March 2023)*

Shri K.N. Shrivastava, Director

Smt. Aarti Khosla, Member & Hony. Treasurer

Shri Suhas Borker

Shri Ashok Vajpeyi

Smt. Praveen Mahajan

Dr. Ajit K. Nagpal

Shri Pradip Kumar Das

Prof. (Dr.) Mahesh Verma

Shri Kanwal Wali, Secretary

### **Finance Committee**

*(April 2021 – March 2023)*

Smt. Sushama Nath, Chairperson

Smt. Aarti Khosla, Hony. Treasurer

Shri Suhas Borker

Shri Deepak Kapoor

Shri K.N. Shrivastava, Director

Shri Kanwal Wali, Secretary

# Annual Report 2021–2022

It is a privilege to present the 61st Annual Report of the India International Centre for the period 1 February 2021 to 31 January 2022. It will be placed before the 66th Annual General Body Meeting of the Centre, to be held on 31 March 2022.

Elections to the Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees of the Centre for the two-year period, 2021–2023, were initiated in the latter half of 2020. The electoral process, which commenced in December 2020, concluded with the counting of votes on 21 March 2021, in the presence of the candidates and their representatives. For the first time EVMs were used to cast votes by the Members which not only saved the cost of paper ballots, but also time taken to cast votes. Results of the Elections were declared by the Returning Officer (Director, IIC) on 21 March 2021, and were announced by the President at the Annual General Body Meeting held on 31 March 2021. The elected candidates were also given a Certificate of Election.

Professor Ashis Nandy and Professor Anil D. Sahasrabudhe were elected to the Board of Trustees, the former from the Individual Members' constituency and the latter from the Institutional category.

Shri Ashok Vajpeyi and Shri Suhas Borker were elected to the Executive Committee from the Individual category. Shri P.K. Das and Professor Dr. Mahesh Verma from the Institutional category and University category, respectively, were elected to the Executive Committee. Smt. Praveen Mahajan and Dr. Ajit K. Nagpal were nominated to the Executive Committee by the Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees reconstituted the Finance

Committee for the two-year period April 2021 to March 2023 with Dr. Rakesh Mohan as Chairman, and Shri Suhas Borker and Shri Deepak Kapoor as Members.

The Library, Editorial and House Committees were also reconstituted for the period April 2021 to March 2023.

It is a matter of pride for the Centre that one of our members, Dr. B.M. Hegde (CM-235) has been awarded Padma Vibhushan and Ms. Bombay Jayashri Ramnath (AT-112) has received Padma Shri for the year 2021. The Centre offers its hearty congratulations to both Members.

The Centre records the contribution of the 116 Members who passed away during the period of this Report. Some of them had been closely associated with the programme activities of the Centre for many years, and their departure is a significant loss.

The Centre suffered a great loss with the passing away of Shri Soli Sorabjee, Life Trustee of the Centre, on 30 April 2021. His departure has left a void and his support will be greatly missed. Life Trustee Justice Srikrishna resigned due to personal reasons on 22 April 2021. Dr. Meenakshi Gopinath and Dr. Shailesh Nayak have been appointed Life Trustees against the two vacancies.

**Dr. Meenakshi Gopinath** is an eminent educationist. She is the Founder and Director of WISCOMP (Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace), an initiative that seeks to promote the leadership of South Asian women in the areas of peace, security and regional cooperation. She was

formerly Principal of Lady Shri Ram College, New Delhi, for 26 years. In recognition of her contribution to the field of women's education and empowerment, she has received several awards including the Padma Shri.

**Dr. Shailesh Nayak** is Director, National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bengaluru, and Chancellor, TERI School of Advanced Studies (TERSAS), New Delhi. He specialises in the field of Earth System Science and Sustainability. He was formerly with ISRO's Space Application Centre in various capacities. He is Chair of several advisory

committees, and is the author of many research papers and articles. He has also authored and edited several books. We extend a very warm welcome to both of them and wish them a very fruitful association with the Centre.

The untiring efforts of the IIC's regular and contractual staff need special mention; without them it would be impossible to run this unique institution 365 days, round the clock, efficiently. Thanks also to the Director, Secretary and the Heads of Departments who have kept their respective teams motivated and inspired.

# Executive Summary

The global COVID-19 pandemic crippled life in the year 2020. All hope that 2021 would see normalcy return were dashed with the scourge of the Delta variant and the havoc it wreaked. The IIC was deeply affected, both financially and in its activities.

We made full use of new technology like social media, video recordings of programmes made especially for the Centre, and Webinar discussions/talks to keep our Members engaged throughout the year. As and when the pandemic restrictions were eased, we opened the Centre's facilities to the extent permitted. Physical programmes are being revived, albeit slowly, but hybrid programmes still remain predominant. Webinars and Library book discussions have proved very valuable by drawing a wide audience, both from within the country and abroad, and the chat facility has resulted in many thought-provoking interactions.

The highlight this year was the annual IIC Experience: A Festival of the Arts, a popular five-day event held in October, that could not be held in 2020. The three streams of the Centre's activities are represented on this occasion: cultural, intellectual and social.

Some series were concluded, some are ongoing, and 12 new series were added: 'Talking Architecture' (conceptualised by Anisha Shekhar Mukherji); Dialogues in Health and Wellness (conceptualised by Ashwani Kumar); Banking and Finance (a collaboration with RIS); Conversations with Indian Women on Radio and Television (a collaboration with The International Association of Women in Radio and Television (IAWRT), and Goethe Institut/Max Mueller Bhavan, New Delhi); IIC/WISCOMP Dialogues (a collaboration with Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace [WISCOMP]); IIC/WNCB Dialogues on Child Labour (a collaboration

with Work: No Child's Business [WNCB]); Meet the Artist (a collaboration with J.D. Centre of Art, Bhubaneswar, Odisha); India's National Security Challenges (conceptualised by Shri N.N. Vohra); Ahimsa Conversations; Of Bridges & Breaks—The Constitution at a Crossroads (jointly curated and presented by Charkha, the Constitutional Law Research Centre, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy); Art, Culture and Literature of Bhojpuri and other Languages (a collaboration with Bihar Tourism, Government of Bihar, and Dhanu Bihar); and State of the Indian Economy (a collaboration with Working Group on Alternative Strategies).

The IIC–International Research Division has started a project called 'SAMHiTA: South Asian Manuscript Histories and Textual Archive', to consolidate metadata on manuscripts housed in repositories outside India on an online platform accessible to scholars worldwide. Select manuscripts are in the process of being digitised, published online, and transcribed in the form of searchable texts, in its pilot phase.

The Centre has digitised its own rare collections and legacy records and created a digital repository of about 20 lakh pages. This digital resource portal has been christened 'DigiLib', and can be accessed through the newly-designed IIC Website by Members and non-Members.

During the year, the Centre has held 551 programmes in different formats. The issues discussed have been both topical and of global concern, including, among others, environment and climate change, health, national security, international relations, crisis of governance, education, gender and media. Art, heritage, literature, films, exhibitions and performance are other areas around which programmes have been held.

As the financial health of the Centre has been adversely affected this year, various possible initiatives were taken to recover the losses. However, these measures were not able to bridge the very large gap in our revenues. Consequently, it was decided to enhance the Annual Subscription Fee (ASF) by 25 per cent w.e.f. 1 April 2021, for all categories of Members. We are hopeful that with this step, the Centre will be able to balance its revenue income and expenditure next year.

The Centre has upgraded its bulk email services by implementing the powerful cloud-based email service that leverages a dedicated infrastructure. This professional service provides analytics to ensure delivery of emails to Members. It also supports anti-spam and anti-virus to prevent disruptions.

The Centre has acquired the requisite hardware and software and trained its manpower to conduct Webinars. This in-house facility, besides being financially viable, also enables the Centre to conduct Webinars without any limitation. A separate Webinar Room has been allocated with the necessary infrastructure.

As part of its ongoing commitment to green initiatives, the Centre commissioned two eco-green projects in the recent past: the Solar Power Plant and Bio Gas Plant. This year, the Centre generated more than 90,000 units of electricity by harnessing solar power, as a result of which we were able to reduce emission of about 80,000 kg CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere.

An Architectural Design and Advisory Committee comprising a few eminent Member-architects has been set up to advise the Centre on various technical matters. Maintenance of the buildings is only done on the basis of its advice to ensure that the original structure is not disturbed. Members will be glad to know that an elevator to the Dining Hall and Conference Room 2 is being installed and is expected to be commissioned by end April, 2022.

The safety of staff and Members is a key concern. The Centre maintains round-the-clock vigil of strategic locations, both in the Main and Annexe, through 143 CCTV cameras. With the installation of an Automatic Number Plate Reader (ANPR) at the entry/exit gates, all vehicles entering the Centre are monitored.

Safety measures relating to the pandemic continue to be observed. The premises are sanitised regularly, masks are mandatory, and visitors are screened with a thermal scanner. Workshops in fire-fighting and safe use of LPG connections have been held.

Staff welfare is a priority. The annual health check-up of Catering and Kitchen staff was done on 27 September; a free Eye Camp was organised on 22 November 2021 for IIC employees and their family members; a free Heart Check-up Camp was organised on 14 December 2021. The entire staff of the Centre and their dependent family members are now covered under the Medical Insurance Scheme and can avail of the best treatment from reputed hospitals in Delhi and elsewhere in the country on a cashless basis.

Like all other activities at the Centre, Catering was also adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and successive lockdowns. Take-away services were introduced and they continue to be extremely popular. The dining venues have now opened, but with restricted seating capacity till pandemic-related restrictions are further lifted.

Hostel rooms and other venues are being gradually refurbished. The Centre continues to remain known for its lush green gardens, its trees, climbers, annuals and beautiful creepers. Dr. N.S.K. Harsh, Senior Scientist of Forest Research Institute, is advising us on all matters regarding the maintenance of older trees and planting of new ones.



# IIC Experience

The *IIC Experience: A Festival of the Arts* is an annual festival held in October, between Dussehra and Diwali. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this festival could not be held in 2020. With the progressive lifting of restrictions, however, we were able to hold the festival this year, from 22 October to 26 October. It was a delight to see Members and their guests participate with great enthusiasm.

The Festival featured exhibitions, films, performances and cuisine. It was inaugurated by Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC. The two performances were ‘Shiva—Facets of Him’, a Bharatanatyam performance by Vaibhav Arekar, the renowned Bharatanatyam dancer/choreographer, and the dancers of his Sankhya Dance Company. The iconic representation of Shiva as ‘Nataraja’, the greatest motif of all times, a metaphor for all cosmic activity, was a delight to watch. This was followed by a Hindustani vocal recital by Vidushi Shalmalee Joshi, the renowned vocalist of the Jaipur–Atrauli gharana.

Other performances included Carnatic vocal by Vignesh Ishwar, described as ‘an artist to be watched’; the very lively ‘Sagun Nirgun’, a collective of Kabir and Meera bhajans by Mir Mukhtiyar Ali and his group from Bikaner; and a play, titled ‘Elephant in the Room’, a quirky representation of Ganesh, performed entirely by solo artist Yuki Elias with the masterful use of voice and body ably supported by creative costumes, sets, sound and lighting effects.

Three Exhibitions were held. ‘Kshetraja’, a collaboration with National Gallery of Modern Art, showcased 12 artists who not only infused new meaning into Indian art but also embodied a Swadeshi consciousness. Deeply influenced by Gandhi’s leadership, their art mirrored their anti-colonial

stance. The second was ‘Flights of Materiality’, put together by Gallery Espace. It was a sculpture display that stressed the impact of man on the planet, proposing they change the earth’s systems more than all the natural forces combined.

The third exhibition was ‘The King’s Gambit’, a display of the original costumes, stills and working stills, copies of letters, and pages from Ray’s *kheror khata* or cloth-bound notebook, from Satyajit Ray’s 1977 film, *Shatranj Ke Khilari*. The exhibits are a part of Suresh Jindal’s collection.

‘Pen, Ink, Action: Satyajit Ray at 100’ was the screening of a selection of films by Satyajit Ray to commemorate his centenary year. These included, among others, *Jalsaghar* (1958), *Mahanagar* (1963), *Charulata* (1964), *Sonar Kella* (1974) and *Shatranj ke Khilari* (colour, 1978). Another festival of films was ‘Glimpses of World Cinema’, with entries from Hungary, Spain and Germany.

This year’s thematic issue of the *IIC Quarterly* is titled *Indian Cinema Today and Tomorrow: Infrastructure, Aesthetics, Audiences* (Winter 2020–Spring 2021). It was launched by Dr. Karan Singh.

The dining experience at the *IIC Experience* is always popular. This year there was a ‘Focus on Chefs’. These included ‘From the Land of the Five Rivers: Traditional Punjabi Cuisine’ by Chef Manjit Gill and Chef Priteeka Gill Malik; ‘Tok, Jhal, Mishti: A Bengali Dinner’ by Chef Chitra Ghose; ‘Kaeshur Khyen: Cuisine of Kashmiri Pandits’ prepared by Chefs of Samavar Restaurant; ‘From the Land of the Magyars: A Hungarian Dinner’ by Sonia Taank, Chef of the Embassy of Hungary; and ‘Revisiting IIC Classics’ by Chef Vijay Thukral of the IIC.

# IIC Series

## Indian Archaeology

‘Brahmin, Buddhist, Jain Art and Culture of the Vindhya Region’ or ‘Vindhya-Kshetra ke samanvit Brahmana, Jaina, evam Bauddha purasthal paryatakiya vikas ke sandarbh mein’ was an illustrated lecture in Hindi by Shishir Kumar Jain. The plateau around the Vindhya mountain range is traditionally called the Vindhya area. This region is important from political, cultural, geographical, social and economic points of view. Several Brahmanical, Buddhist and Jaina composite archaeological sites have been discovered here.

‘Chariots of Sanauli—Shedding Light on the Chariot and Cart Controversy’ was an illustrated lecture by Sanjay K. Manjul. The Archaeological Survey of India’s ongoing excavations of the 4,000-year-old burial sites at Baghpat district of Uttar Pradesh have unearthed underground sacred chambers, decorated legged coffins, etc., as also chariots, shields, swords and helmets, which Manjul said point towards the existence of a ‘warrior class in the area around 2,000 BCE’.

Vasant Kumar Swarnkar delivered a talk on the ‘Conservation of Mughal Monuments of Agra’, in which he spoke about the ancientness of Agra, dating back to c.1504 CE when Sikander Lodi re-established the city built during the Mahabharata period. Being a centre of learning in the arts, commerce and religion, a continuous historical chronology has been traced to the year 1658 when Aurangzeb shifted the entire court to Delhi.

## Archaeology and Heritage

The Italian Embassy Cultural Centre, New Delhi, and Bell’Italia 88 collaborated in a series of virtual tours.

- ‘City of Ravenna’ was a virtual tour of this city conducted by Caterina Brazzi Castracane. The last capital of the Roman Empire in the West, the city of Ravenna is famous for its early Christian and Byzantine mosaics. The tomb of Dante Alighieri, considered the father of the Italian language and one of the most important poets in world literature, is also located in this city where he died in 1321.
- Caterina Brazzi Castracane took us on a virtual tour of ‘Parma—A Paradise Between Art and Gastronomy’. Parma is famous for its architecture, music, art, prosciutto (ham), cheese and the surrounding countryside. It is home to the University of Parma, one of the oldest universities in the world. Parma is divided into two parts by a stream of the same name, and has been declared a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy.
- ‘Ferrara: The Ideal City’ was another virtual illustrated lecture by Caterina Brazzi Castracane. Ferrara is the first modern city and one of cultural importance among Italian Renaissance city states. The historic centre of Ferrara was designated a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1995.
- The illustrated tour on ‘Verona—The City of Love and Wine’ was also by Caterina Brazzi Castracane. This city in Italy’s Veneto region was founded in the 1st century BC. A UNESCO World Heritage City, it flourished under the rule of the Scaliger family in the 13th and 14th centuries and as part of the Republic of Venice from the 15th to the 18th centuries. The city has preserved a remarkable number of monuments from antiquity, and represents an outstanding example of a military stronghold.

- Another virtual tour by Caterina Brazzi Castracane was ‘Vicenza and the Genius of Palladio’. Vicenza prospered under Venetian rule from the early 15th to the end of the 18th century. The work of Andrea Palladio (1508–80), based on a detailed study of classical Roman architecture, gives the city its unique appearance. His work inspired a distinct architectural style known as Palladian.

‘Art and Technology of South Indian Bronzes and the Chola Nataraja’ was an illustrated lecture by Sharada Srinivasan, which linked the connections between history, devotional poetry, philosophy, temple architecture, dance and astronomy to the metallurgical proficiencies of the changing dynasties in south India. Her talk traced the lineage of these magnificent bronzes with provenance attributions that dated them to their historic periods of creation. This was a video recording for IIC online programmes.

## Mapping Sustainable Agriculture

This series has been conceptualised by Siraj Hussain.

In the Webinar on ‘How much are Indian Farmers Supported? Findings from an ICRIER–OECD Study’, Shweta Saini focused on the stepwise calculations of support provided to farmers. The presentation centred on Producers’ Support Estimate (PSE); and the methodology and details of what has been done for India, along with examples.

There have been several reports about the enormous potential of the export of processed food products from India, but this vision has not materialised so far, and India continues to be an insignificant player in the export of processed food items. The online lecture by Hemant Malik, titled ‘Opportunities and Challenges of Exporting Processed Food from India’, addressed some of the challenges that the country faces from becoming a major hub for producing processed food.

Deepak Pental spoke on ‘Indian Agriculture and the Research and Development Deficit’. With grants from the National Dairy Development Board and later from Dhara Vegetable Oil and Foods Company Limited, Pental established the Centre for Genetic Manipulation of Crop Plants (CGMCP), working on improvement of mustard. From his research, mustard DMH1 with improved yield reached the farmers’ fields.

In the Webinar, ‘The Trials and Tribulations of India’s Nutrition Journey: Connecting the Dots between Evidence and Policy in a Fast-moving Context’, Purnima Menon reflected on India’s nutrition policy in the last decade. Tackling complex challenges such as malnutrition requires comprehensive approaches that fully consider the intersections of evidence with the diversity of policy and action communities.

## Neighbourhood First

This series is coordinated by Ashok K. Mehta.

The panelists at the discussion on ‘The Coup in Myanmar: Implications for India’ said that the unique civil–military power sharing arrangement has come unstuck and the infantile democracy has derailed. Myanmar has strategic importance for India and is the centre of gravity for India’s Act East policy, Indo–Pacific, and Neighbourhood First policy, as four states have borders with it. The coup is a setback for India. The question is: Is China to become the main beneficiary of the military rule?

The programme, ‘Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Bangladesh’s Independence Day’, marked 50 years of Bangladesh–India diplomatic relations after the 1971 liberation war. It also coincides with the birth centenary of the Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rehman. The panelists held a dialogue on the tempestuous birth of Bangladesh,



the post-independence scenario, and bilateral ties between Bangladesh and India.

Afghanistan is on the cusp of a monumental change. American and NATO troops will leave Afghanistan unconditionally without any reassuring mechanisms to ensure that Afghanistan can preserve the gains of two decades of democracy. Can its security forces withstand the Taliban's military assaults? Who will fill the power vacuum? How will Pakistan, Afghanistan and India secure their national interests? These were some of the many questions addressed in the programme, 'Afghanistan Post-US Withdrawal'.

The panelists at the Webinar on 'The Future of Afghanistan–Post US Withdrawal' highlighted their belief that the Taliban seemed headed towards imposing a military solution in Afghanistan, triggered by the hasty and irresponsible withdrawal of US and NATO forces. The Taliban have reportedly captured nearly 200 of the country's 419 districts, including trade and transit points on borders with Pakistan, Tajikistan and Iran.

The stunning collapse of Kabul in a 10-day lightning offensive by the Taliban has unravelled a 20-year-old campaign for state building initiated by the US and its allies. How will the international community deal with a non-state actor (for many, a terrorist organisation) apparently supported by Pakistan in its seizure of force of Afghanistan, and not through negotiations, as pledged? This was the subject discussed by panelists at the Webinar, 'Collapse of Kabul'.

The panelists at the Webinar, 'The New Challenges to India from Pak-Af under the Taliban', discussed the possible contours of change to meet the new threats to redeem India's isolation. The general perception is that the international community has walked away from Afghanistan. The end result is general turmoil, with China and Pakistan stepping into the power

vacuum. The big picture is that the region might go back into the hands of China and Russia.

After Bhutan, Maldives is the smallest country in India's neighbourhood. Its strategic location along Channel 8 in the Indian Ocean allows it to dominate major shipping routes. Maldives follows an India First policy, although not long ago it was considered 'lost to China'. This was discussed in the programme, 'India–Maldives Relations'.

India's greatest military triumph was the decisive victory in 1971 against Pakistan, leading to the birth of a new nation—Bangladesh. Fifty years on, its strategic, tactical, political and diplomatic lessons and gains are still worth evaluating. This was attempted in the Webinar, '1971 Liberation War'.

## Talking Architecture

Conceptualised by Anisha Shekhar Mukherji, this series of dialogues endeavours to present and discuss the role of architecture in contributing positively to society and engages with a wide variety of people, professionals and lay-persons alike. The Webinar, 'The Discovery of Architecture—A Contemporary Treatise on Ancient Values and Indigenous Reality' was a conversation with Narendra Dingle and Savyasaachi. It offered an analysis of how pedagogy and the practice of architecture can become more meaningful. Educational spaces should facilitate the growth of talent lying unexplored. The programme brought to the fore issues that were universal in the creation of meaningful architecture. This Webinar was dedicated to the memory of Professor M.N. Ashish Ganju, Founding Director of TVB School of Habitat Studies.

In his talk, 'The Legacy of Modernism', Snehanshu Mukherjee dealt with what modernism meant, and what it means today. Is it synonymous with

progressive? Modernism has specific connotations in literature, art, music, theatre and architecture. It also has global repercussions on human and other forms of life. This was followed by a dialogue with Srinivas Murthy.

In the Webinar on 'Indian Architecture: Tradition, Texts and Principles', Sudhir Lall explained the contextual background of the Indian arts and the cyclic notion of time observed in Indic thought—and how this leads to architecture that is functional, aesthetically fulfilling and in harmony with nature. The talk was followed by a dialogue with Anisha Shekhar Mukherji.

## **Art Matters**

This series is a collaboration with the Raza Foundation.

The online programme, 'Visual Arts in Corona Times', consisted of a discussion with Mithu Sen, Ranjit Hoskote and Sadanand Menon. The panel sought to explore what is happening in the arts during the COVID-19 pandemic. The performing arts have been affected by the pandemic, but not the visual arts to the same extent. The attitude of the state has led to mass migrations, and artists are trying to survive aesthetically. Whether online art can become a significant art practice remains to be seen.

Anamika, K. Satchidanandan, Priya S. Chabria and Sudeep Sen participated in the discussion on 'Poetry in Corona Times'. The questions that arose were how did poets cope with writing during the pandemic? how did the expansion of poetry platforms on social media affect poetic practice? and, finally, did the pressure to communicate easily and quickly undermine the more subtle and complex aspects of poetry writing?

Sharmila Biswas, Leela Venkataraman, Shama Bhate and Parwati Datta discussed 'Dance in Corona Times', and sought to explore what happened to arts and literature during Corona—the difficulties, inadequacies and deprivations. How has the pandemic affected the essential structures of performance and expression, as well as aesthetics?

## **Music Appreciation Promotion**

'Christmas Music through the Centuries' was an illustrated lecture by Nicholas Hoffland, who took viewers on a musical journey using audio and film clips of Christmas music, written by Western classical composers, from the early music of the 12th and 13th centuries through the renaissance, baroque, classical, romantic and modern periods, ending with current popular music.

## **Dialogues in Health and Wellness**

This series of medical presentations on early signs, prevention and management of diseases/conditions in common medical perspectives by eminent medical consultants has been conceptualised by Dr. Ashwani Kumar.

J.S. Titiyal spoke on 'Common Eye Problems—Understanding the Symptoms, Management and Prevention'. Cataract, glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy, age-related macular degeneration and corneal opacities impair visual acuity as well as adversely affect the quality of life in advanced stages. Knowledge of these disorders may help to halt the progression of some diseases and allow timely intervention. The talk shed light on various misconceptions regarding eye donation.

In the programme, 'Heart Attacks: Do's and Don'ts', Nitish Naik drew attention to the facts that: heart attacks have been a major health concern in our country for many years; its importance appears even

more amplified in the current COVID-19 pandemic; and young and healthy individuals are succumbing to this illness. The talk also highlighted several personal and lifestyle measures to promote cardiovascular health.

A special session was organised to assess the cardiac status of Members and Staff of the Centre for prevention of heart attacks. There was a demonstration of the 'Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Technique' so as to get hands-on experience of the technique, as well as using an Automated External Defibrillator (AED).

## **IIC/Open Health Systems Colloquium**

The lead speaker in the Webinar titled 'In Doug's Words: Remembering Doug Engelbart' was Jim Spohrer, who spoke about Engelbart's method of 'Improving Improvement', which involves the coevolution of human and tool systems; improving collective intelligence; and the advantages of conceptualising computers as Intelligence Augmentation vs automation of human abilities with Artificial Intelligence.

## **River Dialogues**

This series of river conversations, a collaboration with New Imaginations, Jindal School of Journalism and Communication, O.P. Jindal Global University, are critical to re-evaluate histories, reconnecting civilisations, cultures and peoples, ideas and regions and opening streams of thought for a future with exciting possibilities. The panelists at the Webinar, 'Of Travel and the River', emphasised that although rivers in India have been exploited, dammed and polluted, there is still hope for rivers such as the Ganga, Yamuna and Brahmaputra, as well as the smaller, lesser-known ones. They elucidated different aspects of river travel. The integral relationship of rivers to

the sacred landscape of the region, as well as their importance in commerce and economic activities, were discussed.

'Two Banks of a River—The Indus in Ladakh' was a virtual illustrated lecture by Isaac Tsetan Gergan, who took the viewers on a journey inspired by the river's spectacular course in Ladakh. His commentary brought home the local skills in water management, but spelt out the mounting challenges of melting glaciers, ruinous floods, dams upstream threatening aquatic life, and pollution caused by tourism.

## **IIC/Media Foundation Dialogues**

This is an ongoing series of conversations featuring prominent voices and highlighting different perspectives on issues challenging the Fourth Estate. 'Public Health: Gaps in the Narrative' was a Webinar held during the second surge of the COVID-19 pandemic in Mumbai. The health journalists who covered the two waves of the pandemic highlighted the fact that the private sector's contribution was slow and patchy; a weak public health communication strategy of the government that created fear and anxiety in the lay public; lack of preparedness of the health service infrastructure and the shortage of human resources; and, in addition, long-term invisible gaps like the effects on children out of school being denied nutritional support.

As the media in India adjusts to new commercial and regulatory compulsions, news organisations are adapting to a new environment. One significant move has been the appointment of a Readers' Editor, most visibly in online news websites. The panelists at the Webinar on 'The Readers' Editor: Regaining the Trust' reflected on the expectations of the role of the Readers' Editor and how the need to engage with readers and reiterate trust are occupying centre stage in some news platforms.



## Banking and Finance

This series is a collaboration with RIS.

The keynote address at the Webinar on 'Development Financial Institution (DFI)' was by Rakesh Mohan. The question of DFI was raised by Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman, in the recent budget session, along with the issue of enhanced budgetary allocation for capital expenditure. DFIs would be responsible for guiding and financing our infrastructure as well as for domestic resource mobilisation. The proposed National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development Bill 2020 is a step in the right direction. The question of getting resources from outside, and the inability of pensioners to connect was raised. Finally, the issue as to what kind of institutions we need from the development perspective, and not only from the financing end, was discussed.

Banks and financial institutions worldwide are facing a rapid technological transition enabled by new digital technologies like Big Data, Artificial Intelligence, Block Chain, Distributed Ledger Technology, Machine Learning, etc. Financial technology (FinTech) is one such dynamic sector which is growing at a faster pace with enormous potential for bringing efficiency and cost-effectiveness in intermediation, financial inclusion and retail payment services. This was discussed in the programme, 'Banks, Finance and Changing form of Technology: New Options with FinTech'.

How can banks help in the COVID-19 era? What stimulus can they provide to the weakened economy, particularly the informal sector? The Webinar, 'Role of Banking and Financial Sector: Overcoming Pandemic Challenges', discussed the current problems while also searching for solutions. The speakers focused on governance, and the current stereotypical responses to the two COVID-19 waves, with special emphasis on the micro, small and medium sectors, and the informal sector.

## Conversations with Indian Women on Radio and Television

This is a series of dialogues organised in collaboration with The International Association of Women in Radio and Television (IAWRT), and Goethe Institut/Max Mueller Bhavan, New Delhi, focusing on the contribution of women to the media. 'Something in the Air' was a conversation with Sukhjinder Kaur and Rita Mukherji from All India Radio who spoke about their professional and personal journeys as producers, journalists and pioneers in creating new and livelier programming on radio, expanding its role in music and messaging.

## IIC/WISCOMP Dialogues

The Webinar, 'Gender and Disability', foregrounded the reality of the invisibilisation of persons with disabilities, despite national laws and international covenants that mandate full and equal participation of persons with disabilities in socio-economic and political processes. Recognising that a sense of 'agency' is pivotal to transformation, the programme provided an opportunity to learn from the struggles and triumphs of activists, researchers and institutional leaders who work to create conditions for differently abled people to lead a life of dignity and choice.

Education, especially higher education, has borne the brunt of the pandemic in very specific ways. As teachers committed to transformative and critical pedagogy, the speakers at the dialogue on 'Pedagogy in the Times of the Pandemic' highlighted the experiences of faculty and students in campuses of higher learning while battling the anxieties and losses unleashed by the pandemic. Meaningful interventions by the students and faculty of educational institutions to extend care and logistical support are a significant initiative, but accompanying these efforts have been accounts of gendered

experiences and challenges posed by the existing social inequalities which have been exacerbated by online processes.

## **IIC/WNCB Dialogues on Child Labour**

In the Webinar, ‘What does India think and do about Child Labour?’ Shantha Sinha, Sudarshan Suchi and Vicky Roy, formerly a Delhi street child, now an acclaimed photographer, were in conversation with Monica Banerjee. Focusing on the causes of child labour, the panelists emphasised the absence of social norms to abolish child labour, poor attention by the elite, and lack of sensitivity by the state towards the first-generation learner, among others. This programme was organised in collaboration with Work: No Child’s Business (WNCB) to mark International Year for Elimination of Child Labour (IYECL–2021).

## **Meet the Artist**

This series is a collaboration with J.D. Centre of Art, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, and engages with artists, craftpersons and scholars about their art form.

In ‘Fifty Years of Dashrath Patel’s Work’, Sadanand Menon spoke on Dashrath Patel, artist, designer and educator, whom he considered his mentor. The online lecture explored Patel’s multi-faceted life. He was the first Director of the National Institute of Design (NID) when it was founded in 1961, and over two decades made the institution an iconic design school.

Industrialist Samuel Courtauld ensured that the great impressionist and post-impressionist paintings that he purchased, and so loved, were primarily in the collections of public institutions. Yet, the concept of ‘Art for All’ that gained impetus in the 1920s is different from today, and arts and cultural institutions

are rightly being challenged about what they do, what they hold, whose work they show and whom they are for. This was the subject of the virtual talk by Deborah Swallow, titled ‘Art for All: Samuel Courtauld, Collecting and Public Patronage’.

Laila Tyabji, Chairperson, DASTKAR, spoke on ‘A Crafted Journey’. She shared her artistic journey with grassroots artisans and her attempts to seek new livelihood avenues for the marginalised. Unfortunately, she said, from being a way of life, art has become a museum piece.

Balan Nambiar spoke on ‘Golden Ratio, Fibonacci Sequences, Fractals and the Arts’. A painter, sculptor, enamellist and photographer, Nambiar is also a research scholar on the ritual arts of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. He discussed the effects of the golden ratio, Fibonacci sequences, and fractals on his work and in art at large.

Amit Ambalal presented an illustrated lecture on ‘Krishna as Shrinathji: Paintings from Nathdwara’. Mingling reality and mythology, his paintings are populated by a multiplicity of characters. His wit and insight often draw upon Indian traditional miniature painting, amongst other inspiration.

## **India’s National Security Challenges**

This series has been conceptualised by Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC.

‘Higher Defence Management Reforms—Some Challenges’ foregrounded the fact that the military is in the midst of a major restructuring exercise with a focus on enhancing jointness and carrying out integration in the three services. The first step in this direction is the creation of integrated theatre commands that will exercise operational control over

the assets of the three services, enable joint planning and warfighting, and lead to resource optimisation. However, there are some apprehensions, particularly in the Air Force, that air resources are limited and the allocation of these within the integrated commands could lead to a weakening of our overall capability.

‘India’s National Security Challenges and the Way Ahead’ was a talk by Sujan R. Chinoy. For him a key national security challenge is for India to achieve rapid economic growth. Although it is normal for us to refer to national security in terms of either hard power, or smart power, or sharp power, beyond soft power, for him the essential challenge is economic growth, economic strength in absolute terms, as well as in relative terms.

The talk on ‘India’s National Security Challenges: Centre–State Responsibilities’ was by C. Uday Bhaskar. India stands at a stage where its very existence is under threat if it does not frame a holistic, pan India national security policy. Under the Indian Constitution, the state is responsible for the maintenance of police and public order, as against the union which is responsible for protecting the states, the territory of India against external aggression (war) and internal disturbance. This constitutional segregation, said the speaker, translated into ‘governance’ terms, is a myth.

‘Towards Progressive Defence Reforms’ was a talk by the newly appointed Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), General Bipin Rawat. He provided an in-depth perspective of reforms that are underway, including the setting up of theatre commands facing Pakistan, China and the Indian Ocean Region. He felt that the changing character of war demanded a change in how future wars are envisaged and fought, with special emphasis on non-contact warfare, including cyber and space as well.

## **Ahimsa Conversations**

‘The Seville Statement on Violence’ was drafted in 1986 by a group of natural and social scientists from several countries. Later adopted by UNESCO, the Seville Statement marshalled scientific evidence to show that violent behaviour is not generally programmed into human nature. Ashis Nandy from India and David Adams from the USA were two of the leading academics who drafted the Seville Statement. Both scholars looked back at the significance of the Seville Statement and reflected on possibilities of non-violence in our times.

## **Of Bridges & Breaks—The Constitution at a Crossroads**

This series of monthly conversations has been jointly curated and presented with Charkha, the Constitutional Law Research Centre, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy. The conversations are envisaged to spark thoughtful, nuanced discussions on some of the most significant constitutional challenges of our times. The conversations will focus on three broad themes—understanding Indian democracy, unpacking Indian federalism, and unearthing civil liberties.

‘Electoral Democracy in India: From Spectacle to Substance’ debated several crucial issues, among them the Supreme Court’s directions on dedicated special criminal courts for MPs/MLAs and the harsh statistic that 43 per cent of legislators had criminal antecedents; the role of the Election Commission and whether there was a requirement for greater protection; and the lack of a regulatory framework for political parties themselves.

Ritwika Sharma presented Vidhi’s Report on Article 282 and Fiscal Federalism in the Webinar, ‘Article 282, Fiscal Federalism and Centrally Sponsored Schemes: Scratching the Surface’. Centrally Sponsored



Schemes (CSSs), which are designed by the centre and implemented by the states, form a substantial proportion of the total fiscal transfers from the former to the latter. The panel deliberated over the tensions in the scheme of fiscal federal relations between the centre and states.

## **Art, Culture and Literature of Bhojpuri and other Languages**

This series discusses languages such as Bajjika, Magahi, Angika of Bihar and eastern Uttar Pradesh. It is organised in collaboration with Bihar Tourism, Government of Bihar; and Dhanu Bihar.

The panelists in the programme, 'Introduction to Bhojpuri and its Civilisation', pointed out that when one thinks of Bihar, one thinks of Emperor Ashok and Baudh Bhikshus. The programme was an introduction to the finer aspects of Bihar life and

culture, as well as music. Bihar Tourism and Bhojpuri Samaj have cooperated in many initiatives, including the setting up of ropeways, guest houses, nature and jungle safaris, and international convention centres.

## **State of the Indian Economy**

For India's industrial sector, a mere recovery to the pre-COVID situation would not amount to much, given that stagnation and a shrinking relative significance in the economy have been its features for the past decade. In response to the pandemic, fiscal policy was not leveraged and redistribution was given short shrift; can the continued eschewal of fiscal policy to expand demand and reduce inequalities, and reliance mainly on supply side measures produce a magic that has been conspicuous by its absence for a long time? This series is a collaboration with Working Group on Alternative Strategies.

# IIC–International Research Division

SAMHiTA: South Asian Manuscript Histories and Textual Archive is an initiative of IRD–IIC to consolidate metadata on manuscripts housed in repositories outside India on an online platform accessible to scholars worldwide. Select manuscripts are in the process of being digitised, published online, and transcribed in the form of searchable texts.

On 19 July 2021, a scoping meeting on SAMHiTA was convened online, with 21 participants, including diplomats and scholars from India and abroad. It was inaugurated by Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC. Shri K.N. Shrivastava, Director, IIC, and Shri Shyam Saran, Life Trustee, made the welcome and opening remarks, respectively, and Dr. Sudha Gopalakrishnan, Executive Director, International Research Division, introduced the project. Participants welcomed the initiative, speaking of its importance for retrieving knowledge, giving scholars access to manuscripts, translating and publishing for posterity, and applying technology to decipher damaged manuscripts.

Based on these deliberations, a proposal was drafted for a five-year project to inventory, catalogue and selectively digitise manuscripts from South Asia in public and private repositories outside India, to build an open online knowledge resource, and convene activities for research, education and public awareness. It was decided to start with a one-year pilot, where IRD would work with select universities and libraries with a view to establishing frameworks for cooperation, standards and guidelines, and to build a network of scholars in different countries. The three main areas of activity would be technology, cataloguing and digitisation.

During the pilot, the IIC will coordinate the cataloguing and digitisation of collections at institutions in Denmark, the UK, Nepal and the US, in collaboration with the team of ‘PANDiT: Prosopographical Database of Indic Texts and Records’. In tandem, the IIC has started mapping repositories across the world with holdings of Indic manuscripts, in collaboration with the Sanskrit Research Institute, Auroville.

Meetings were held through 2020 with the proposed institutional partners for the pilot and after. On 3 September, a proposal was submitted to the Ministry of External Affairs for a pilot project.

On 16–17 September, IRD convened an online international colloquium on ‘Afro–Asian Musical Imaginaries: Interconnected Histories across Continents’, which brought together 15 scholars and musicians from India, South Africa, Italy and Tanzania. Papers and demonstrations showed how centuries of trade and migration led to the flowering of common musical traditions in Asia and Africa, and how this transforms our understanding of history. The programme was convened in collaboration with the ‘Recentring Afro–Asia Project’, of the University of Cape Town; and Ambedkar University, Delhi.

There were presentations on music as a lens on history, on performance as research, and on the methodologies for tracing musical connections. Scholars spoke of how musical traditions circulated between Western Sahara, India and Europe in the medieval period, and between India, China and the Caribbean in the modern period; of the travel of spiritual and healing practices with carriers of music;

and of diasporic identities and encounters in the post-colonial metropole. The colloquium concluded with a session on comparative drumming traditions in southern Africa and south India. The papers will be published as a book.

On 11 December 2021, a day-long Webinar was convened on 'Ramayana', a work that has been retold across languages and in all genres, to capture how recitations are key to elaborating its meaning (e.g., in Kerala the text is recited through the month of Karkidakam), and to recreate the experience of collective listening. Twelve scholars from India and abroad took part, reading and reflecting on works they had translated. Unfortunately, efforts to represent Southeast Asian versions did not succeed owing to COVID-19 restrictions.

The programme opened with a discussion of the new book edited by Professor Parul Pandya Dhar, *The Multivalence of an Epic: Retelling the Ramayana in South India and Southeast Asia* (Manipal University Press), which referred to how the adaptations of the epic may be interpreted in light of parallel political and cultural developments in medieval South and Southeast Asia. There were recitations from works

by medieval and modern poets in Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam and Telugu, a rendition of songs of the Mappilas of Kerala, and the oral traditions of the Adiya tribe in Wayanad. The programme closed with a rendition of Carnatic *kritis* dedicated to Rama in his many aspects, performed by Smt. Sangeetha Sivakumar.

In January 2022, IRD published the proceedings of the conference organised in November 2016 on 'Linguistic Diversity in South and South-east Asia'. The volume is edited by Professor Anvita Abbi and (Late) Kapila Vatsyayan, and brought out by Primus Books.

Work continued on the compilation and editing of papers from earlier conferences of the IIC-IRD: 'The Blind Owl: Hooting for 80 Years' (held in February 2016), 'India and Indonesia: Exploring Cultural, Religious and Linguistic Pluralities and Inclusive Identities' (held in February 2018), 'India and Central Asia' (held in December 2018), 'Understanding Africa: Continuity and Change' (held in February 2020), and 'Afro-Asian Musical Imaginaries: Interconnected Histories across Continents' (held in September 2021).



# Other Programmes

## Governance

In the Dr. C.D. Deshmukh Memorial Lecture 2021 on ‘Indian Constitution: What it Should Mean Today’, Justice Venkatachaliah recalled the diversity of the nation at the time of independence, and how the Western press had been cynical of Indian democracy at the start. He referred to the constitutional alternatives available today. He talked of how the scourge is not ‘judicial explosion’ but rather ‘judicial exclusion’.

‘Justice Not Revenge—Examining the Concept of Revolutionary Justice’ was a recording of Mahmood Mamdani’s Edward W. Said London Lecture 2017. Mamdani examined the question of justice in the postcolonial period in the writings of Aime Cesaire and Nelson Mandela. He looked at how South Africa’s transition from apartheid presents a critique of the lessons drawn from the Nuremberg trials of Nazi war criminals.

Mahatma Gandhi’s vision and his programmes for the development of the common man have influenced the processes and model of development globally. His model of the cottage industry, for instance, has been widely accepted and implemented around the world and is based on sustainable development. Further, his vision of Ahimsa, peace and tranquility for all is still relevant in the present time of global conflicts. These were the issues dealt with in the Webinar, ‘Mahatma Gandhi and Development’.

There was a conversation with K.P. Shankaran in another Webinar on ‘Gandhi’s Philosophy: Its Relevance to the Contemporary World’. He argued that Gandhi, like the Buddha and Socrates, was an inventor of an ethics-led philosophical way of life. However, what differentiates Gandhi’s ethics-led

philosophical way of life from theirs is its very visible political content. Only through political action, according to Gandhian ethics, can we implement the constructive programme.

V. Srinivas spoke on ‘Civil Services Reforms in India, United States and Nigeria 1950–2021’. A New India@75 needs a governance model that brings together innovation, technology, enterprise and efficient management with a clean and fair public administration. Since independence, the union government has constituted more than 50 commissions and committees to look into administrative and civil service reforms. He presented the strengths and challenges of India’s civil services reforms vis à vis civil services reforms in the USA and Nigeria.

‘Intellectual Space’ was a conversation with Ashis Nandy, Ashok Vajpeyi and Suhas Borker. The context of the conversation was the strong public perception that there is an ‘undeclared emergency’ and that the ‘media is under siege’ in India. Fake news, tweets and violent threats from assembly lines of troll factories are subverting democratic processes. TV studios have become courts, anchors have become judges, and prime time debates are hearings.

## International Affairs

The United Nations was established in 1945, in the wake of World War II, ‘to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war and to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nation.’ The Webinar on ‘The United Nations at 75: A Balance Sheet’ examined to what extent the goals envisaged have been realised.

The Webinar, 'In Search of Peace for Afghanistan: Historical Letters of President Najibullah and Dr. M. Hassan Kakar—A Collection of Essays' was based on the book of the same name edited by Jawan Shir Rasikh. In their correspondence, they spoke candidly about the hopes and desires of the Afghan people for peace, and about the national and regional-global actors, factors and obstacles concerning the states of war and peace then in post-Soviet Afghanistan.

The discussants at the Webinar, 'Israel–Palestine Dispute', focused on the recent flare-up of the Israel–Palestine dispute, with the Hamas firing rockets into Israel and the latter retaliating with air strikes. The panelists addressed two questions: Why did this crisis occur when it did? What is the role of the United States? What next?

The Webinar on 'President Biden's Foreign Policy towards the Middle East' examined what Biden can do to promote reconciliation between Israel and Iran, and between Iran and Saudi Arabia; and to bring about a cease-fire in Yemen. Questions raised were: Will Biden re-enter the Iran nuclear deal as he had promised as a candidate? What are the implications of Benjamin Netanyahu's exit and the arrival of the new president in Iran?

In the Webinar, 'Orienting: An Indian in Japan', participants discussed Pallavi Aiyar's book of the same name. She was in conversation with James Kondo, Chairman, International House of Japan, Tokyo. Aiyar spoke about the civilisational links between India as exemplified in Buddhism in China and Japan. She was emphatic about writing of a country, in this case Japan, through an Asian gaze.

'The World from 1954' was a Webinar with Thomas R. Pickering to mark the birth centenary of A.K. Damodaran, one of the doyens of Indian diplomacy and a freedom fighter. In his talk, Ambassador

Pickering looked at how the world and its future appeared in 1952, when he and Damodaran were classmates at the Fletcher School of Law and Democracy in Boston, USA, how it has eventually shaped over the past 67 years, and the contributions of India and the United States to that shaping. In the programme, 'The Civil War in Ethiopia', the panelists discussed the raging war which began in November 2020, with no visible signs of a cease-fire. They spoke of the origins and the likely trajectory of this civil war, already marked by culpable violations of accepted international laws and norms.

## Environment

The virtual talk by A.K. Srivastava, titled 'Targeting Sustainability of Forests through Certification and NCCF Standards', elaborated how certification is an emerging global movement that supports sustainable development, while ensuring compliance to all forest and wildlife related legislations, rights of local communities, including tribals and workers, economic growth, fair trade, livelihoods, value chains and consumer protection.

'Internationalism or Extinction' was a landmark lecture by Noam Chomsky about the threats to planetary survival that are of growing concern today. The prospect of human extinction emerged after World War II—the dawn of a new era scientists now term the Anthropocene. Chomsky traced the duality of existential threats from nuclear weapons and from climate change—including how the concerns emerged and evolved, and how the threats can interact with one another. This was a video recording of the lecture delivered in 2016.

'Dakshin Gangotri at Antarctica: A Miracle' combined the release of this book, authored by Harsh Gupta, followed by an illustrated lecture. This was the third Indian Scientific Expedition to Antarctica led

by Gupta, who set up India's first wintering station, 'Dakshin Gangotri', during the Antarctic summer of 1983/84.

## Economics

The Webinar on 'Privatising India's Public Sector—Impact and Implications' focused on the impact and implications of dismantling the public sector from the perspectives of policy aspects; an assessment of the performance of public enterprises; impact on the economy and the common man, etc. India's public sector is the repository of huge assets and an instrument to attain a self-reliant economy and create the industrial base of the country.

The outbreak of the pandemic has caused millions of Indian nationals to return, and Kerala alone has received more than 15 lakh people. The discussion, titled 'Reverse Migration to India from GCC and Elsewhere', addressed the issue of the plight of the returnees, the rehabilitation measures undertaken by the union and state governments, the adequacy thereof, and related issues. A major question is: Does India have a comprehensive policy set up to address the plight of these citizens who have been sending billions of US dollars annually to support the economy?

## Science and Technology

In his illustrated talk on 'Even at Nanoscale', dealing with society's deep impact on science, technology and innovation in India, Pankaj Sekhsaria addressed some important questions: How does a lab create pioneering instruments in spite of resource constraints? How does a doctor-researcher engage with a society that will let their girl child die because she might not be married in the future? What conversations might a modern nano-scientist have with a practitioner of ancient Ayurveda? This was a video recording of a lecture for IIC online programmes.

## History and Heritage

'Art and History: Texts, Contexts and Visual Representations in Ancient and Early Medieval India' was a discussion on and launch of this book by R. Mahalakshmi. The discussion examined the historical contexts of premodern Indian art traditions and engaged with questions of what were the purposes served by art? How were religious and political ideas and philosophies conveyed through visual representation? How central were prescription, technique and style to the production of art? Who were the makers and patrons of art?

'Culture as Power: Buddhist Heritage and the Indo-Japanese Dialogue' was a discussion based on the book edited by Madhu Bhalla. The panelists said the book presents new studies on intellectual and cultural interactions in the context of Buddhist heritage and Indo-Japanese dialogue in the late 19th and early 20th centuries on art, religion and cultural politics.

'Painting with a Needle' was an illustrated lecture by Shernaz Cama who traced the origin, history and evolution of traditional Parsi embroidery. An aesthetic combination of pictorial traditions and an emblem of elegance, Cama explored the techniques and narratives that underpin each piece of embroidery. These pieces of embroidery capture the intersection of Persian, Indian and Chinese cultures to evolve a unique style and design for the Parsi community. This was a video recording of a lecture presented for the Zoroastrian Association of Metropolitan Washington, D.C., on 26–27 April 2021.

In the Webinar 'Reimagining Indian Urbanism and Design', lead presenter A.K. Jain said that urban India is arguably passing through the Anthropocene. The discussion focused on how to address the issues of public health, housing, jobs, pollution, energy and water, and make buildings and cities green, carbon negative, sustainable and inclusive.

In the late 1990s, political theorists, economists and politicians were talking confidently about the ‘end of history’ and the undisputed triumph of liberal ‘democratic’ capitalism. Communism was written off as dead and buried. However, after 9/11, the Arab Spring, and the protests spreading over Europe, the ideological gloss of capitalism may be beginning to fade. This was the subject of the video recording of a lecture delivered by Slavoj Žižek, titled ‘Let us be Realists and Demand the Impossible: Communism’.

The talk on ‘Architecture—The State of Educational and Professional Standards’ by Ranjit Sabikhi dealt with the need for design intervention by trained architects as towns and cities expand and grow. Among the issues discussed were the lack of commitment and cohesion in the profession as a whole to stand up for essential changes in educational standards, as well as in professional practice; the failure of the Council of Architecture to establish and follow necessary safeguards and regulations; and the overwhelming preoccupation with numbers over quality.

In her virtual talk, ‘Writing Histories of Revolutionaries’, Aparna Vaidik examined the issues that a historian encounters while researching and writing the history of revolutionaries in the Indian context. The questions that this talk explored were: How do we study the history of revolutionaries? Does studying their history have any significance? What relationship does revolutionaries’ history have with Indian nationalism?

Tracing the history and evolution of the arts in the 20th century, Alain Badiou addressed the new conditions posed by the 21st century which, he said, is facing technical challenges comparable only to the invention of the printing press, or to the emergence of oil painting: the ability to digitise, including basic creative gestures, affords a sort of independence to the term ‘art’ from the notion of ‘craft.’ This was

the subject of his talk, titled ‘Contemporary Art Confronting the 21st Century’. This was a video recording organised by Miguel Abreu Gallery, New York, on 7 February 2015.

There was a video recording of the annual International Institute for Asian Studies, Leiden University Lecture, delivered by Peter Frankopan, author of the acclaimed book, *The Silk Roads: A New History of the World*. It is an exploration of the forces that have driven the rise and fall of empires, determined the flow of ideas and goods, and are now heralding a new dawn in international affairs.

‘The Legacy of Divide—Tracing the Presence of Partition Memories in Contemporary Indian Films’ was an illustrated lecture by Meera Shirodkar. The talk focused on the journey and experiences of a Partition survivor as portrayed in the film *Bhaag Milkha Bhaag* (2013). She spoke of the reconstruction of the peaceful days before 1947, the tragic events that took place during the division, and the tumultuous times after Partition.

## Health

Suhas Borker introduced the ‘COVID-19 Vaccination Facilitation Camp for Awareness and Registration’. Although coronavirus was discovered by scientists 60 years ago, it remained associated with mild infections in humans, until the spread of the novel COVID-19 mutation. When will the COVID-19 pandemic end? The answer depends on nature’s way, changes in human behaviour, progress in developing effective treatment and vaccines, and protection through vaccination. This was followed by a physical workshop.

‘Meditation and the Mind’ was an online workshop with Yongey Mingyur Rinpoche, world-renowned Buddhist teacher and practitioner. He investigated



the nature of our mind, explored the techniques that can help contain our ever-restless mind; inquired whether meditation can be employed as a tool to calm our mind; and explored how we can incorporate meditation as a habit into our daily routine.

‘Yoga and Meditation in the Wake of COVID-19’ was a lecture-demonstration by Alka Tyagi and Sanya Tyagi, who shared the tools that can be integrated in our routine to retain health and well-being during these critical times. Yogic techniques have proven to prevent and alleviate illnesses and suffering of people in their daily life. This programme was organised on the occasion of International Yoga Day on 21 June 2021. It was a video recording of an illustrated lecture for IIC online programmes.

A key plank of development infrastructure is eliminating communicable diseases. The virtual talk by Monica Das Gupta, titled ‘Epidemic Control in India: Re-focusing Public Health Services for Better Outcomes’, outlined the institutional requirements for effective public health services, and the key gaps in India’s current public health system. It highlighted how India’s public health services can be greatly strengthened within the existing government budgets for health.

A programme was held to discuss the book by Pranay Lal, titled *Invisible Empire—The Natural History of Viruses*. Demystifying our understanding, Lal said that the existence of viruses is essential for our existence. He described the importance of viruses in climate change, and those which live in the human body. In the case of a significant reduction in the number of such viruses, the entrapped carbon dioxide will start emitting from oceans and contribute to accelerated climate change. Removing those in the human body may lead to many other diseases. For example, the absence of anellovirus in the human body can lead to the development of skin cancers. The author

concluded the session by stating that viruses are the drivers of evolution.

## Literature

There was a discussion around the book *Rebel Angel: Collected Prose of Hoshang Merchant*, with the author present to talk about his work. This is Merchant’s first book of prose; he is the author of 20 books of poetry. This collection contains his essays on the content and art of writing, including ‘Sexuality, Poetry and Spirituality’ and ‘What is Culture?’, among others. Merchant emphasised that the role of the writer is first transgression against patriarchy/Zionism/racism, etc., and later transcendence. A balance between the two is needed.

‘Salman Rushdie: A Chance of Lasting’ (2014; English) was a video recording of an interview by Marc-Christoph Wagner, in which Rushdie talked about his early love for reading, his Indian childhood, his early attempts at writing, about the years of hiding, and how reading and literature helped him through those dark years.

‘The Bible through the Eyes of European and Mughal Painters—A Comparison’ was an illustrated lecture by Aparna Joshi that took the audience on a virtual journey of European and Indian versions of a range of paintings on Biblical themes and characters like St. Jerome, the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ, the Virgin Mary, etc. The lecture also dwelt on broader issues such as the kinds of roles women were depicted to be playing in the paintings. References from the Ragamala and the Baramasa paintings were brought in as well.

## Culture

In ‘Talking Asian Cinema’, Siddharth Srinivasan, award-winning independent filmmaker, was in

conversation with Aruna Vasudev, film scholar, editor, film festival curator and artist, who first introduced Asian Cinema to Indian audiences. Siddharth delved into Aruna's early years in Paris during the heydays of the student revolution in the 1960s working alongside legendary French Nouvelle Vague filmmakers like Alain Resnais and Claude Chabrol; her time in New York working as a film editor; her missed opportunity of assisting Satyajit Ray on a film; and her journal, *Cinemaya*.

## Performance

The online 'Concert for Cairo—Amália Rodrigues in the Voice of the Portuguese Guitar' was presented by Arte Institute and RHI Initiative to mark the centenary year of this legendary Fado singer. The musicians were Ricardo J. Martins (Portuguese guitar); Nuno Martins (classical guitar); and Luis Tindade (bass).

'The Three Tenors in Concert 1994' was a video recording of the concert by the three internationally celebrated opera artists—José Carreras, Plácido Domingo and Luciano Pavarotti—held at Los Angeles' Dodgers Stadium on 16 July 1994, with conductor Zubin Mehta and the Los Angeles Philharmonic and Chorus of the Los Angeles Music Center Opera.

'Uptown Blues: Ellington at 100' was a concert by The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra in collaboration with the New York Philharmonic. Wynton Marsalis and Kurt Masur took turns leading their orchestras in alternating movements of Grieg's Peer Gynt Suite and Ellington's jazz arrangements of the same work.

'Mozart: Great Mass in C minor, K. 427' is considered one of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's greatest works. This large-scale work, a *missa solemnis* (Solemn Mass),

is scored for two soprano soloists, a tenor and a bass. This was a video recording of a concert presented by Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra on 18 March 2016 with Kiera Duffy (soprano); Emöke Barath (soprano); John Mark Ainsley (tenor) and Leon Kosavic (bass baritone). The Conductor was Nathalie Stutzmann, Bergen Philharmonic Choir; Edvard Grieg Choir; Collegium Musicum Choir; and the Chorus Master was Håkon Matti Skrede.

'Mozart: Requiem Mass in D minor, K. 626' was a video recording of a live concert at Grieghallen on 6 October 2017, also by the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra. The conductor was Thierry Fischer, with Ann-Helen Moen (soprano); Kristina Hammarström (mezzo soprano); Thorbjørn Gulbrandsøy (tenor); and Leon Kosavic (bass baritone); the Bergen Philharmonic Chorus; and Edvard Grieg Choir, with Chorus Master, Håkon Matti Skrede.

'Concert—Triple Concerto' was written for Kosmos Ensemble by Errollyn Wallen. Kosmos Ensemble is a chamber-folk trio led by violinist Harriet Mackenzie which aims to create bridges between classical music and folk. They are Harriet Mackenzie (violin); Meg-Rosaleen Hamilton (viola); and Miloš Milivojevic (accordion). This was a video recording of a concert presented by Kosmos Ensemble at the Festival of Chichester, Chichester Cathedral, July 2018.

In 'Concert—Nuits du piano', renowned pianists Clément Lefebvre and Philippe Bianconi presented works by Wagner, Liszt, Chopin and Schumann. The concert closed with extracts from Schumann's Images d'Orient for four hands. This was a live video recording of a concert held at the Salle Cortot, Paris, on 21 January 2021.

A Hindustani vocal recital was presented by Asit Roy from Bangladesh, disciple of Sangeetacharya Amiryanjan Bandyopadhyaya, Jagdish Prasad,

Rahim Fahimuddin Dagar and Kaberi Kar, and accompanied by Alamgir Parvez on the pakhawaj. The artist presented two Ragas–Raga Malkosh and Raga Shankara. This was a video recording of a recital for IIC online programmes.

There was a Bharatanatyam recital by Binal Wala from Ahmedabad, disciple of Ellakshiben Thakore, Kubernath Tanjorekar and Swathi Daithankar. The accompanists were Somnath Natarajan (vocal); R. Natarajan (mridangam); Alap Parikh (flute); and Hemanth Sadhu (violin). This was a video recording of the recital for IIC online programmes.

There was a Kuchipudi recital by Gururaju N. from Bengaluru, disciple of Vyjayanthi Kashi. This was a video recording of a recital for IIC online programmes.

The ‘IIC Double Bill Recitals’ comprised:

- Sarod by Aayush Mohan from Delhi, disciple of the late Sharan Rani, Balwant Rai Verma and Tejendra Majumdar;
- Sitar by Smarajit Sen; by Lakshay Mohan from Delhi, disciple of Uma Shankar Mishra; by Suhel Saeed Khan from Dilli gharana, disciple of Saeed Zafar Khan, accompanied by Akbar Latif on the tabla;
- Odissi recital by Moumita Vaats Ghosh from Delhi, disciple of Madhavi Mudgal; by Manisha Manaswini, disciple of the late Gangadhar Pradhan and Aruna Mohanty.
- Kathak performance by Sangita Chatterjee; by Pratibha Sharma from Delhi, disciple of Geetanjali Lal; by Asavari Pawar and the Kalaashish repertory.

- Hindustani vocal by Pulkit Sharma from Delhi, disciple of Ojesh Pratap Singh; by Subhasish Bhawal from Kolkata, disciple of Amaresh Chandra Chawdhury, Samaresh Chawdhury, Ramashreya Jha and Ulhas Kashalkar; by Ayush Dwivedi from Kanpur, disciple of Vinod Kumar Dwivedi.

These were video recordings for IIC online programmes.

Double Bill Concerts held in live mode included: Abhik Kumar Sarkar, disciple of Amjad Ali Khan on the sarod, accompanied on the tabla by Shubhendu Das from Kolkata. This was followed by an Odissi recital by Vrinda Chadha from Delhi, a disciple of Ranjana Gauhar Padmashri. The next presentation was an excerpt from Mahakavi Kalidas’s *Ritu Samhara* describing the advent of spring, of *Rituraj Basant* who bestows new life to all living beings. There was a Kathak recital by Sangita Chatterjee from Delhi, disciple of Vaswati Misra. Hindustani vocal recitals were presented by Nila Sinha Roy from Faridabad, disciple of K.C. Lahiri, Amiya Ranjan Banerjee and Dipali Nag, with accompanists Akram Khan (tabla), Murad Ali Khan (sarangi) and Sumit Mishra (harmonium); and by Rita Dev from Delhi, disciple of Girija Devi, with accompanists Durjoy Bhowmik (tabla), Zakir Dholpuri (harmonium), Aanchal Singh and Harvinder Singh (tanpura); Kathak recital by Sangita Chatterjee from Delhi, disciple of Vaswati Misra.

Ruchika Theatre Group presented three programmes:

- ‘Teesri Kasam’ was an online play in Hindi with Radhika Alkazi and Jaipreet Singh, directed by Feisal Alkazi. It is Phaneshwar Nath Renu’s unforgettable story of the relationship between a nautanki dancer and a bullock cart driver.

- ‘Zindagi Yahan aur Wahan’, directed by Feisal Alkazi, was an online play reading in Hindi with Gurleen, Sachin, Smita and Qaisar. It is Nirmal Verma’s tender tale of an affair in and around Connaught Place in the 1980s.
- ‘We need to Talk about Dhruv’ was a visual enactment of a new play directed by Feisal Alkazi with a script devised by Ritvik Mohan Bhagat and Feisal Alkazi. It is the story of a young boy’s body found in Jahanpanah forest and the investigations around the incident.



# IIC Collaborations

## Governance

The Annual Social Change Golden Jubilee Lecture for 2021 was presented online by G.N. Devy on 'Thinking of Crime: The State, Migrant Population and the Missing Justice?' He explained the 'idea of crime' as understood by the colonial government in India, and also subsequent governments. He dealt with the infamous colonial Criminal Tribes Act (CTA), and the more recent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), the provisions of which are to deal with terrorism. This was a collaboration with Council for Social Development.

Development is a process of bringing change in the physical quality of life. Mahatma Gandhi's vision and his programmes for rural development, i.e., cleanliness, social equality, cottage industry, and in particular empowering the habitat of rural and tribal India, envisages sustainable growth and development. This was discussed by eminent panelists at the programme 'Mahatma Gandhi and Sustainable Development in Tribal India'. A collaboration with Society for Empowerment, Patna.

The '16th Annual Discussion on State of Parliamentary Democracy in India' was held in collaboration with Working Group on Alternative Strategies. The speakers felt that Parliament has been marginalised in our time, and a new building also speaks of physical marginalisation. They spoke on citizenship and how the concepts of justice, liberty, equality and fraternity as embodied in the Constitution are becoming biased. The pandemic has also shown the limits of state power.

## International Affairs

The V.P. Dutt Memorial Lecture 2021, 'Biden's China Policy: Old Wine in New Bottles?' was delivered by Andrew J. Nathan. He said that the Biden administration's policy towards China differed in five important ways: first, it is coordinated within the administration; second, it seeks cooperation with allies; third, it places emphasis on strengthening the US rather than weakening China; fourth, it raises the profile of the human rights issue; and finally, besides competition, it seeks cooperation with China on issues of common interest. This was a collaboration with Institute of Chinese Studies.

In the 4th Nelson Mandela Lecture, 2021, titled 'Nelson Mandela: The Man of Our Times', the participants expressed their deep concern about recent happenings in South Africa, but were confident that the 'major challenge' would be overcome, and the polity shaped in 1994 under Nelson Mandela's leadership will hold. This Webinar was a collaboration with the South African High Commission; and Working Group on Alternative Strategies.

## Environment

In the first edition of 'Green Conversation', a collaboration with Green Circle of Delhi, C.R. Babu was in conversation with Suhas Borker. The conversation covered the entire gamut of green issues, specifically related to Delhi NCR: from biodiversity parks, protection of the Ridge, the proposed University of Environmental Development, to the *vilayati khar* menace, a Delhi tree census, recharging of groundwater, a proposed tree ambulance network, and integration of hands-on green/environmental activity in the school curriculum. The conversation

marked the 29th anniversary of the Green Circle of Delhi and the 85th anniversary of Lodhi Garden.

Malti Goel was the lead presenter and N. Ramaiah the keynote speaker at the Webinar, 'Ecosystem Restoration: Ocean and COVID-19', which is also the theme of World Environment Day 2021. The discussion was an awareness programme on how we can safeguard the environment post-COVID-19. There is a need to prioritise science and technology to find solutions to handle the increasing COVID-19 waste, and take restorative actions to protect marine bio-resources. This was a collaboration with Climate Change Research Institute.

## Health

There was a Webinar on 'Development of COVID-19 Vaccine—India a Global Hub'. Amidst the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, India has become a hub for developing and providing COVID-19 vaccines globally. This programme, with eminent experts and representatives from industry and allied fields discussed the critical elements of the development, production and implementation of the COVID-19 vaccine. This was a collaboration with Department of Biotechnology, Government of India.

'Dialogue to Develop a Vision for the Environment of Delhi—2025' is dedicated to the memory of Mahesh N. Buch, and is a collaboration with Green Circle of Delhi. The Webinar on 'Health Eco-System for Delhi' focused on the catastrophic scenario when Delhi was struck by the second wave of COVID-19, and the failure of its healthcare system. Among the issues dealt with were: Can Delhi develop a sustainable model of primary healthcare led Universal Health Coverage? Can Delhi strengthen its health ecosystem to manage regular and emergency healthcare as well as prepare for biological disasters? Can a transparent plan of action be prepared and

implemented, laying down clear lines of institutional accountability?

## Education

At a time when the nation is reeling under the impact of the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, an insightful and stirring discussion took place on 'Who is Afraid of Caste?' It also marked the 130th birth anniversary of Babasaheb B.R. Ambedkar, the observance of May Day and Maharashtra Day. Some pertinent questions were raised: Why was India hyper-sensitive and reluctant to discuss the caste issue in international forums, including the UN? Will tokenism and lip service go on, or will India jettison the centuries-old dehumanising baggage of caste stigma once and for all? This was a collaboration with Maharashtra Sanskritik ani Rannaniti Adhayana Samiti; and Working Group on Alternative Strategies.

## Economics

There was an online discussion on 'Three Farm Laws and Ground Reality—Land to Market', organised in collaboration with Working Group on Alternative Strategies to mark its 29th anniversary. The speakers analysed the agitation for the repeal of the new farm laws from both sides—of the striking farmers and the government. The farmers argue that the three farm laws will erode their bargaining power and make them vulnerable to exploitation by big agri- businesses; the government has maintained that the laws aim to ease restrictions on farm trade by setting up free markets.

Financial inclusion has been defined as the process of ensuring access to financial services, and timely and adequate credit for vulnerable groups such as weaker sections and low-income groups at an affordable cost. To ascertain the extent of financial inclusion among tribes and nomadic tribes, financial literacy *haats* on a weekly basis have been organised.

The Webinar on ‘Financial Inclusion in Tribal India’ discussed the current status and gaps in their financial inclusion. This was a collaboration with Society for Empowerment.

The Dr. Durgabai Deshmukh Memorial Lecture 2021 was on ‘The Janus Face of Agricultural Policies—Kisan and Sethias: Local and Global’, and was delivered virtually by Y. K. Alagh. He spoke about the present-day dilemmas in Indian agriculture: while India is globalising and liberalising, the agriculture sector remains unproductive and underinvested. This is evident from the fact that 80 per cent of farmers in India remain marginal or small. The only logical course in a liberalising economy is agricultural reform, within which there can be more agricultural investment with food subsidies for the starving. This was a collaboration with Council for Social Development.

## Women and Society

Bhanwri Devi spoke about her struggle for justice to Kavita Srivastava in a programme titled ‘A Woman’s Quest for Justice’. Bhanwri Devi, hailing from the potter community of village Bhattari, and working as a *sathin* of the state government’s Women’s Development Programme, described her work in social issues such as dowry, caste, child marriage, girl’s education, etc. However, her stand against child marriage irked the dominant Gujar family whose 9-month-old daughter was being given in marriage. In retribution, she was gang raped by five men of the village. Despite the framing of new laws and the Vishakha guidelines, Bhanwri’s appeal languishes in the Rajasthan High Court even after 25 years. This was a collaboration with the Business and Community Foundation.

In the Webinar ‘Status of Tribal Women: Retrospective and Perspective’, organised in collaboration

with Society for Empowerment, Patna, the panelists discussed the current status of tribal women and what should be done in terms of policy, programme implementation, and bringing them into the mainstream.

## History, Art and Culture

The Sogetsu School of Ikebana, Delhi Chapter, and Embassy of Japan organised the following programmes on Ikebana:

- ‘A Breath of Spring from Japan’ by Ken Katayama. He is Master Instructor, Sogetsu School, Tokyo, has a Riji degree, and has assisted and worked with the founder of Sogetsu School, Sofu Teshigahara. He has published a collection of his works, titled *Ryo*.
- ‘Sakura Heralding Spring’ by Eiko Sumura, senior Master Instructor of the Sogetsu School, and Yuka Okubo, a third-generation Sogetsu teacher. The mother and daughter duo used different varieties of Sakura for their demonstration.
- ‘Compositions Showing the Relation of Form to Vase’ by Takayuki Fukazawa, award winning artist and leader of the Ikebana performance unit ‘Za-Sogetsu’. Fukazawa presented a demonstration of ‘All the Way from Japan’—his own unique and innovative composition.
- In ‘My Ikebana, My Pottery’, Neera Makhija explored the intersections of Ikebana art with her own pottery pieces.
- ‘Signs of Life’ by Ursula Altenbach, artist and Ikebana teacher from Gersau, Switzerland.
- In ‘Japanese Bamboo Baskets and Ikebana’, Koka Fukushima, senior Master Instructor, Sogetsu

School, explained the various kinds of Japanese baskets and the different types of weaves used.

- ‘Japanese Autumn’ was by Kosa Nishiyama, Sogetsu First Grade Riji Teacher, Sogetsu Headquarters Master Instructor, Member, Ikebana International, and a Fellow of the Nippon Ikebana Art Associations.
- ‘Sogetsu for Everyone’ was a lecture-demonstration by Datin Kid Ching Ong from Johar Bahu, Malaysia. A renowned ceramic and Ikebana artist in Singapore and Malaysia, she is best known for her creative approach to marrying both her ceramic art and Ikebana.

Parzor and Jiyo Parsi collaborated in the following programmes:

- The online Parzor Friday Forum presented ‘There’s more to Life than a House in Goa’, a free-ranging discussion on heritage protection, adaptive reuse, and the economics of conservation between two leading heritage conservationists Heta Pandit and Pheroza Godrej.
- ‘Discovering Iran—A Unique Drive through Persia’ was an illustrated lecture by auto journalist Hormazd Sorabjee. He took us on a 10-day road journey through Iran in 2019, that started in Tehran and ended in Shiraz, with Kashan, Isfahan, Chams, Yazd, Pasargadae and Persepolis in between. This was a video recording of a Zoom talk.
- In the Webinar, ‘History of Delhi Parsis’, Shernaz Italia, well-known producer, and Zenobia Panthaki, consultant with The World Bank, were in conversation with Shernaz Cama. Interspersing the history of the Parsis in Delhi with the growth and development of the city, both Shernaz Italia and Zenobia Panthaki, Delhi-born Parsis, have

been witness to the changing cityscape of Delhi of the early 1950s and 1960s to the present; changes reflecting a collective memory of generations past and people long gone, yet here in spirit. This was a video recording of the Friday Forum conversation held on 27 August 2021.

- ‘Catalyst for Creative Spaces—Kekoo and Khorshed Gandhi’ was a programme centred around the family associated with the Chemould Art Gallery, the first commercial art gallery of India. Shernaz Cama was in conversation with the Gandhi siblings—Rashna, Behroze and Shireen—focusing on their important contribution to the arts in post-Independence India. There was a screening of a film, *Kekee Manzil: House of Art*, preceded by a conversation with Adil Gandhi, who continues the Chemould Art Gallery.
- ‘An Evening with Boman Irani’ consisted of the screening of a short documentary film, *Not Just Milk and Sugar*, written and directed by Divya Cowasji, and produced by the Ministry of Minority Affairs. With Boman Irani as narrator and protagonist, the film is an accessible inquiry into the Zoroastrian faith, its basic teachings, uniqueness and myths—told through a bedtime story by a grandfather to his grandson. This was followed by a conversation between Boman Irani and Shernaz Cama. This was a Zoom recording of the programme held on 9 July 2021.

## Literature

In the online programme, ‘Poet and Storyteller’, a collaboration with Parzor and Jiyo Parsi, Keki N. Daruwalla was in conversation with Amrita Bhalla. She introduced him as a multi-faceted writer who carries on an engagement with the past and our contemporary world. Daruwalla started the session by reciting a poem from his collection *Fire Altar: Poems*



*of the Persians and Greeks*. He related his visit to the Tomb of Cyrus; the time he spent in Junagadh (1945–1948); his meetings with writers; and members of his family through photographs.

‘Finding the Raga’ was an online conversation between the author of this book, Amit Chaudhuri, and Ashis Nandy. Chaudhuri said the book was by turn essay, memoir and cultural study; an account of his discovery of, and enduring passion for, north Indian classical music. He introduced the telling characteristics of Hindustani music as a form of ‘Bliss’; and its departure from the libretto of Western music by the production of gliding notes (*meend*), characterising the concept of ananda as a form of serenity. This was a collaboration with Penguin Random House India.

‘Pico Iyer: When Houses are not Homes’ was a video recording of a lecture delivered by Pico Iyer, arguably the world’s greatest living travel writer, at the International Festival of Arts and Ideas, Yale University, June 2016. Pico Iyer suggested ways in which our ideas of home have grown fluid, portable—and even secret.

Hema Devare and Suhas Borker were in a webcast conversation with Kaumudi Marathé, Chef-at-Large based in California, who has done immense work in the United States to popularise Maharashtrian cuisine. This programme was a collaboration with Maharashtra Sanskritik ani Rannaniti Adhyayan Samiti, and included a Members’ dinner, ‘Royal Cuisine from the Kitchen of the Peshwas’, curated by Hema Devare and Suhas Borker as part of the Ganesh Chaturthi Festival.

The Webinar, ‘Kunwar Narain’s Poetry: The Translator’s Voice’ consisted of readings from the poems of this eminent Hindi poet, and excerpts from 12 original collections by 21 translators in 15 different

languages, organised by the University of Lausanne, Switzerland, as part of the programme ‘Remembering Kunwar Narain’. There were readings by Indians and foreigners in Italian; English; Russian; French; Polish; German; Estonian; Bulgarian; Marathi; Hungarian; Assamese; Spanish; Gujarati; Polish; Malayalam; and Japanese.

‘Against the Deluge of Darkness: Reflections on Kunwar Narain’s Poetry’ was an online talk by Ranjit Hoskote, who spoke as an Anglophone poet of a younger generation on this eminent Hindi poet. This was organised in collaboration with Sahitya Akademi’s ‘Through My Window’ series of programmes.

Aaj Kavita is a series organised in collaboration with the Raza Foundation.

- In ‘Evening of Poetry’, poets Prayag Shukla (Noida); Rupali Sinha (Delhi); Amber Pandey (Indore); and Amitabh Chaudhury (Churu) read from their works. The moderator emphasised the importance of listening rather than reading; not just words but sounds. This brought a dramatic and heated quality into the poetry.
- Another ‘Evening of Poetry’ featured poets Malay (Jabalpur); Teji Grover (Hoshangabad); Natasha (Patna); and Krishna Mohan Jha (Silchar), who read from their works. The moderator said that poetry nowadays is being written more to be read, rather than listened to. The concatenation of words and sounds is equally important.
- In the same theme—‘Evening of Poetry’—there were readings by women poets: Tithi Dani (Reading, UK); Rupam Mishra (Pratapgarh); Ruchi Bhalla (Phaltan); and Naazish Ansari (Lucknow).
- Other poetry readings were by Pawan Karan (Gwalior); Sushila Puri (Lucknow); Joshna

Banerjee Aadvani (Agra); and Rajeev Kumar (Delhi). The four poets read their original poems.

‘Memories and Confessions—An Evening of Contemporary Poetry’ was a collaboration with The Poetry Society, India. It featured the reading of verses by Amarendra Khatua (‘Acknowledging Loss’); Sanjeev Sethi (‘Hesitancies’); and Deepa Agarwal (‘Forgotten Kaleidoscopes’). Amarendra Khatua presented a bouquet of poems that he wrote during his stay in Argentina, a combination of memories with images of melancholia, love and despair. Sanjeev Sethi read a variety of poems, including some short, humourous ones. Deepa Agarwal’s ‘Forgotten Kaleidoscope’ is her much acclaimed second collection of verse.

## Media

The Chameli Devi Jain Awards 2020, presented to an Outstanding Woman Journalist, was followed by the B.G. Verghese Memorial Lecture. This is a collaboration with the Media Foundation. Alan Rusbridger spoke on ‘What Journalists Can and Should Learn from Social Media’. ‘We need to rethink how trust is earned in the 21st century’, he said, and prodded one to rethink what words mean to us as journalists, and what they would mean to our readers. This was a video recording of the award function and lecture for IIC online programmes.

The Webinar on ‘State of Indian Media’ marked the 31st Anniversary of the Presidential Assent to the Prasar Bharti Act 1990 and was the 28th discussion in the annual series. The speakers emphasised the fact that dissent, or the voicing of different opinions, was no longer possible. The right to dissent is a crucial basis of press freedom. Was the media a lapdog or a watchdog? This was a collaboration with Jan Prasar.

## Performance

There was a ‘Piano Recital’ by Joao Bittencourt, well-known artist from Brazil, an accomplished pianist, accordionist, composer, producer and musical director. This was a collaboration with Embassy of Brazil, and a video recording of a programme for the IIC.

‘Brazilian Concert—Bianca and Julio’ was an online concert by Bianca Gismonti (vocal and piano) and Julio Favignola (drums), well-known contemporary jazz artists. Accompanied by other guest artists, they presented three compositions—‘Festa do Carmo’ with Mestrinho, accordion (Brazil); ‘Escadas da Penha’ with Frank Colón, percussion (Puerto Rico); ‘Celestial Sphere’ with Navin Gandhari, belabhar (India); and Paolo Andriolo, bass. This was also a collaboration with the Embassy of Brazil.

‘Desi Chopin’—Should the great Polish piano composer Frederic Chopin’s music be played only on the piano? Why not on the tabla, sitar or veena? This programme was an interpretation of Chopin’s masterpieces by leading Indian musicians on traditional Indian musical instruments. The project was organised and arranged by the Polish Institute, New Delhi. The artists featured were: Saraswati Rajagopalan (veena); Kailash Sharma (flute); Suhel Saeed Khan (sitar); Narinderpal Gill (keyboard); Manohar Balachandirane (mridangam); Varun Rajasekharan (ghatam and kanjira); Ujith Udaya Kumar (tabla); and Tomasz Pajak (violin). This was a video recorded at the Embassy of Poland in September 2020.

‘Dara Shikoh and Rana Dil’, conceptualised, created and directed by Manjari Chaturvedi, was a unique online theatrical dance production under ‘The Courtesan Project’. The performance traced the strange love story, poignant and tragic, of Dara Shikoh and Rana Dil, a dancing girl of humble

birth. This was a collaboration with Sufi Kathak Foundation; and Ganga Jamuna Culture Foundation. The performance was webcast live on the Centre's website and on Facebook@Manjari Chaturvedi.

'Feeling India' was an online Flamenco concert with Maria del Mar Fernández (vocals); Manuel Lucas (guitar); and Ana González and Alejandro Molina (dance). This was an online live concert of songs, music and dance, presenting a mix of Spanish and Indian compositions reinterpreted by the artists. This was a collaboration with Cervantes Institute, New Delhi. The concert was webcast live on 4 September 2021 on YouTube.

The live programme, 'Radhey Shyam', included the screening of the film *Uma*, directed by the late Buddhadeb Dasgupta, and introduced by Aruna Vasudev; and *Shree Radha*, a short film produced by Uma Sharma. This was followed by thumri, abhinaya and Raas Leela presented by Uma Sharma and her disciples, with dance choreography by Uma Sharma and music by Late Jwala Prasad. This was a collaboration with Uma Sharma School of Dance and Music—Bharatiya Sangeet Sadan; and Sangeet Natak Akademi.

# Festivals

To Mark International Women's Day 2021, 'The 17th IAWRT Asian Women's Film Festival' was organised in collaboration with International Association of Women in Radio and Television, India Chapter. It brought together a collection of 33 films from 10 countries, directed by women filmmakers from Asia, and of Asian origin—films from India, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Afghanistan, Armenia, Malaysia, United States, Finland, Belgium and Iran. This year, the experiences of living through the pandemic shaped the underlying thread of uncertainty that ran through the voices and practices that the festival presented. The selection of films was curated by Nina Sabnani, Smriti Nevatia and the festival director, Deepti Khurana. Apart from film screenings, the festival included conversations around the films and two Master Classes which focused on questions of craft and practice, and how women practitioners respond to challenges in their work. This year, the festival took place online. Discussions with filmmakers and Master Classes were live streamed, and were free and open to all. There was a screening of films that explored ideas of conflict, resistance, and yearning at the individual and collective level; an agricultural tradition rooted in the political expression of women in Telangana; vignettes from the everyday life of Namdol Lhamo, an anonymous Tibetan exile living in Brussels; and loneliness, through the eyes of a hardworking and introverted widower.

The 'Women's Film Festival' was organised in collaboration with the Federation of Film Societies of India, and screened documentary and feature films made by leading women filmmakers. The films covered various issues: recalling the trauma of women during the mindless, unspeakably violent Partition of India in 1947; local superstition and the spirited

attempts of a couple to overcome traditional prejudice; women's memories of the Nawab of Bhopal's family of a glorious past in the British era; among others.

Several programmes were held in 'Pen, Ink, Action: Satyajit Ray at 100', both in virtual and physical mode, to celebrate the life and work of Ray. The programmes included exhibitions, films (documentary and features), talks and discussions to present both the known and lesser known aspects of Satyajit Ray. The films screened were *Satyajit Ray* (India/1985; English) by Shyam Benegal, produced by Films Division, where he is seen on the sets, at home, in conversation with a fellow artist, opening up in a manner rarely seen; a close-up of a major presence in world cinema.

*The Inner Eye* (India/1981; English), a documentary on Benode Behari Mukherjee by Ray, produced by Films Division, where Ray delineates a beautiful portrait of the life of a remarkable man—a devoted artist, a born fighter and, in more ways than one, a great philosopher.

The 'ArtEast Festival 2021: Tell Me a Story' was organised in collaboration with New Imaginations, Jindal School of Journalism and Communication, and curated by Kishalay Bhattacharjee. This virtual festival included exhibitions, film screenings, and talks/discussions.

'Art as Storytelling' was an online exhibition of paintings, photographs and photographic collages, illustrations, texts and video installation with works by Prakash Patra, Pattachitra artist from Bhubaneswar; photographic collages and paintings by Isaac Tseten Gergen from Ladakh; illustrations by Sirawon Tulisen



Khathing from Shillong with texts by Rachel Lyngdoh; crafting stories by Siddhartha Das; and photographs and video installation by Parasher Baruah.

Films included:

- *Living Stories: Storytelling Traditions of India* (2011; English, with subtitles), directed by Neela Venkataraman. It is about a journey to different parts of India to explore various kinds of storytelling arts—from Pandvani in Chhattisgarh to Kathakali in Kerala.
- *Unfolding the Pata Story* (2014; Bengali, with English subtitles) directed by Supriyo Sen celebrates the unique life and dynamic spirit of the Patua community and other traditional scroll painters, who have fought all odds to redefine their position as social commentators in the global world.
- *Janambhumi Charaoli* (Leaving my Motherland/ 2021; with English subtitles), directed by Parasher Baruah, is a short documentary on the songs of the Adivasi community working in the tea gardens of Assam.
- *Divinity Cloth—Mata ni Pachedi*, directed by Partha Protim Baruah, is an introduction to the making of ‘Mata ni Pachedi’, an impressive form of textile art that serves the purpose of a shrine for the marginalised and excluded.
- *Of Bards and Beggars* (2003; with English subtitles), directed by Shweta Kishore and Yask Desai, documents a musical ritual called ‘Pabuji Jaagran’, an all-night epic recitation by Rajasthani folk musicians.
- *In the Shadow of Time* (Samayara Chhaire/2016; Oriya, with English subtitles), directed by Shankhajeet De, explores the journey of the

Ravanna Chhaya, a shadow puppet form practised in Odisha.

‘Crafting Heritage’ was an illustrated lecture by Siddhartha Das, who shared some of the projects done in the last 20 years where he has created spaces, installations and products collaborating with traditional craftspeople and artists from across the country. ‘The Intriguing Tale of the Patta Chitra Patuas of Bengal and other Concerns’ was an illustrated lecture by Ritu Sethi, who followed the transformation of the evolving nature of this form. ‘Stories on Warp and Weft’ was an illustrated lecture by Sentila Tsukjem Yanger on the transmission of oral traditions of the Nagas relayed through songs, folklore and in the language of cloth.

Nina Sabnani screened four of her films:

- *Hum Chitra Banate Hain* (2015; with English subtitles), an animated interpretation of an origin myth from the Bhil community in Madhya Pradesh. The film is a collaboration between the indigenous artist Sher Singh from the Bhil community and filmmaker Nina Sabnani.
- *Tanko Bole Chhe* (The Stitches Speak; with English subtitles) is also an animated documentary which celebrates the art and passion of the Kutch artisans associated with Kala Raksha.
- *Baat Wahi Hai* (It’s the Same Story) uses painted images from the wooden portable shrine called the Kaavad from Rajasthan. The film is a collaborative work between traditional Kaavad storytellers and the Kaavad artists from Rajasthan, together with the filmmaker.
- *Mukund and Riyaz* is a story based on the fragmented memories of Mukund, and his childhood friend Riaz.

Eight National Panorama Films and National Award winning films were screened in collaboration with Directorate of Film Festivals.

- *Ek je Chhilo Raja* (Bengali/2018; Blu ray; with English subtitles) by Srijit Mukherji is based on the intriguing real-life incident of the raja of Bhawal Estate, a large zamindari in modern-day Bangladesh.
- *Hellaro* (Gujarati/2019; Blu ray; with English subtitles), written and directed by Abhishek Shah, is set in a remote village in Kutch in 1975, and deals with women shackled by patriarchal mandates.
- *House Owner* (Tamil/2019; Blu ray; with English subtitles) is directed by Lakshmy Ramakrishnan. Set against the backdrop of the Chennai Floods (2015), the film narrates the poignant romantic story of an elderly couple during the natural disaster.
- *Iewduh* (Market; Khasi/Garo/Nepali/2019; Blu ray; with English subtitles) is directed by Pradip Kurbah. Set in Shillong, it is about making the journey from the margins of human experience to the core where lie strength and hope.
- *Mai Ghat: Crime no: 103/2005* (Marathi/2019; Blu ray; with English subtitles), directed by Ananth Narayan Mahadevan, is the true story of a mother's protracted 13-year fight for justice for her son who was tortured to death in custody.
- *A Dog and His Man* (Chhattisgarhi/2019; Blu ray; with English subtitles), directed by Siddharth Tripathy, is about the large-scale displacement of villagers due to coal mining.
- *Eigi Kona* (Stallone my Pony; Manipuri/2019; Blu ray; with English subtitles), directed by Bobby

Wahengbam and Maipaksana Haorongbam, is about a young polo player and the fate of his pony.

- *Kalira Atita* (Yesterday's Past/2021; Blu ray; Odia, with English subtitles) is directed by Nila Madhab Panda and is the story of a man's struggle to survive a cyclone.

'Espacio Femenino/Feminine Space' was a festival of Spanish films directed by women filmmakers, organised in collaboration with Cervantes Institute, New Delhi. The five award winning films were by film directors who made their cinematic debut in the 1950s and 1960s and are pioneers in the history of Spanish cinema.

- *Segundo López, Urban Adventurer* (Segundo López, aventurero urbano, with English subtitles) directed by Ana Mariscal, is a comedy that tells the story of a man from the provinces, who, after the death of his mother, decides to sell the modest family business and go to Madrid to try his luck.
- *The Cuenca Crime* (El crimen de Cuenca, with English subtitles), directed by Pilar Miró, is about two men wrongly accused of murder, tortured and sent to prison, only to discover on their release that the victim is alive and well.
- *Evening Performance* (Función de noche, with English subtitles), directed by Josefina Molina, is about the actress Lola Herrera and her ex-husband, the actor Daniel Dicenta, analysing their failed marriage.
- *Después de... No se os puede solos* (with English subtitles), also by Cecilia Bartolomé y José Juan Bartolomé, is a documentary film that shows some of the keys to the social and political crises which Spanish democracy faces since it includes the changes registered after Franco's death, the

reactions of the Spanish to the new situation and the problems posed by a democracy born, without rupture, from the previous dictatorship.

- *Después de... Atado y bien atado* (with English subtitles), directed by Cecilia Bartolomé y José Juan Bartolomé, was made between April 1979 and the end of 1980, three years after Franco's death, and reflects on Spanish democracy.

Another festival of Spanish films in the same collaboration was the work of four exceptional filmmakers with different perspectives on the diversity, vitality, robust presence and promising future of Spain's younger directors. It was organised in collaboration with Cervantes Institute, New Delhi, and Alcalá de Henares Film Festival (ALCINE). The festival included the films of directors Juanjo Giménez, Álex Montoya and Belén Macías, and producer María del Puy Alvarado.

- *Lucas* (with English subtitles) is about how a high-school boy attempts to impress a girl.
- *The Meeting* (Asamblea) (with English subtitles) is the last meeting before the summer, and Josep wants to get his final proposal for a concert approved, no matter what!
- *Bad Feeling* (Mala espina) (with English subtitles) is about the confrontations and discord in a family.
- *Marseille* (Marsella) (with English subtitles) asks viewers these questions: Who has the better claim to a child: the struggling working-class biological mother unable to 'properly' raise it—or the wealthy, middle-class adoptive mother who can? Does having money give you a greater claim on motherhood?
- *Rodilla* (with English subtitles) is about a middle-

aged man's chance meeting with the legendary football player Rodilla, who is now working as a taxi driver.

- *We Need Each Other* (Nos hacemos falta) (with English subtitles) is about Alex, who, once out of prison, finds himself on a journey with others who need trust and understanding.
- *Pulse* (Press) (Ukrainian, with English subtitles) is the story of a 14-year-old girl who is found dead on the outskirts of Kiev.
- *Antonio Muñoz Molina: The Writer's Job* (Antonio Muñoz Molina: El oficio del escritor) (with English subtitles) is a documentary on the life of this great figure in Spanish contemporary literature.

The 'Dutch Children's Film Festival 2021' featured the following:

- *Romy's Salon* (The Netherlands) (2019; with English Subtitles) by Mischa Kamp plunges us into the daily life of Stine and Romy, between the hair salon and the grandmother's apartment upstairs, where the granddaughter stays after school as her parents, currently in the process of getting divorced, cannot look after her.
- Also by the same director is *Miss Sing Song* (2017; with English subtitles), the musical adventure of 16-year-old Jasmine who goes to Suriname to attend a song contest, but is secretly looking for her mother.
- *Life According to Nino* (Het leven volgens Nino) (2014; with English subtitles), directed by Simone van Dusseldorp, begins on the birthday of the lead protagonist, 8-year-old Nino, who receives, as a gift—not the dog that he had wished for—but a rabbit.

- *The Horror Bus* (De griezel bus) (2005; with English subtitles) by Pieter Kuipers follows 11-year-old Onnoval who is an outsider at school. A gifted storyteller, he writes ghost stories and poetry.

The 'IIC Winter Festival of Dance and Music' featured delightful fare with Sitar, Saptguitar along with Kuchipudi and Bharatanatyam dance recitals.

There was a melodious sitar recital by Rajeev Janardan of the famed Imdadkhani Etawah Gharana. Next was an intriguing Sapta-Guitar performance by Satish Sharma, who has himself created this seven-string nylon fretless Guitar. A captivating Kuchipudi recital was performed by Gururaju, a disciple of Vijayanthi Kashi and a senior dancer of her Shambhavi Ensemble. The conclusion was a mesmerising Bharatanatyam recital by the SNA Yuva Puraskar Awardee Lakshmi Parthasarathy Athreya from Chennai, who presented two stories from the Ramayan.



# Films

'Focus Japan' was a screening of NHK documentary films on Japan's history, literature, art, culture and heritage. This was organised with the support of NHK World and Embassy of Japan, New Delhi.

The film *Bonsai: Nature in a Pot* explains the origin of this ancient Chinese horticultural practice, part of which was then redeveloped under the influence of Japanese Zen Buddhism. The film explores the essence of the Japanese spirit as reflected in the art of bonsai.

Will computers someday be as creative as artists? This was the subject of the film, *Coding Art: When Artificial Intelligence Writes, Paints and Sings*, directed by Angelika Kelhammer. Humans have long believed that only they can express themselves through art—but will they be forced out of this process?

*Never Forget to Lie* is an autobiographical film by Marion Marzynski in which he explores his wartime childhood and the experiences of other child survivors, teasing out their feelings about Poland, the Catholic Church, etc.

*The Warsaw Ghetto: Memories of Horror*, directed by Eric Bednarski, is a documentary about a Polish businessman who risked his life to film everyday life in the Warsaw Ghetto.

Considered the first feature length documentary, Robert J. Flaherty's *Nanook of the North* (silent, with English title cards) tells the story of Inuit hunter Nanook and his family as they struggle to survive in the harsh conditions of Canada's Hudson Bay region.

Simon Schama's *Shakespeare: Episode One: England*, and *Shakespeare: Episode Two: Hollow Crowns*, is a two-part series which concentrates on Shakespeare's view of history, and on how important it is to understand his place in it for an understanding of his plays. The first film concentrated on the history plays themselves, the second looked at the great tragedies.

*Seeing through the Viewfinder: Ishu Patel* was a selection of short animation films by this acclaimed animation film director/producer and educator whose films have received theatrical and television distribution worldwide, and produced by the National Film Board of Canada.

- *Bead Game* (1977) is inspired by the bead work of Inuit women. Thousands of beads are arranged and manipulated in shapes of aggressive creatures, both mythical and real. It is a film intended as a cautionary tale about human hostility and nuclear weapons.
- *Afterlife* (1978) attempts to answer the eternal questions: What is dying? And how does it feel?
- *Top Priority* (1981), set in an unspecified third world country, is based on a short story by Enver Carim, and suggests that 'top priority' means different things to governments and to the governed.
- *Paradise* (1984) is based on a cautionary tale that Patel's father told him as a boy: a blackbird in a forest covets the high life and status of a beautiful palace bird who dances for an emperor in a gilded palace.

In the early 1970s, Sixto Rodriguez had a short-lived recording career but his musical story continued in South Africa where he became a pop music icon. Long rumoured to be dead, a few fans in the 1990s decided to seek out the truth of their hero's fate. This is the story of *Searching for Sugar Man* (Sweden/UK/Finland), directed by Malik Bendjelloul.

*Mon Oncle Antoine* (Canada) is directed by Claude Jutra and is a sweeping portrait of village life in 1940s Quebec. The film illustrates the way a young boy sees the world and those closest to him—first through the eyes of a teenager, and later, as events change him, through the eyes of an adult.

*Children Full of Life* (Japan, Canada/English subtitles), directed by Noboru Kaetsu, is the story of a teacher of a 4th grade class, who teaches his students not only to be good students, but how to live, by giving them lessons on teamwork, community, the importance of openness, how to cope, and the harm caused by bullying.

*Art of the Western World* is a series presented by Michael Wood, exploring magnificent masterpieces of the Western world in their cultural and historical settings. The series consists of 18 episodes, each of which focuses on the artistic contributions of one period in the history of the West, from Ancient Greece to the late 1980s.

*Footsteps of Alexander the Great* (1998), directed by David Wallace, is a four-part BBC series, also written and presented by Michael Wood. He retraces Alexander's journey from Greece to India, searching for the truth behind the legend. He recreates the drama of Alexander's epic marches and bloody battles. All along the way he finds proof of the survival of the legends surrounding Alexander, a leader whose life has excited the world's imagination for 2,000 years.

*On and Off the Records* (English), directed by Pratik Biswas and produced by Public Service Broadcasting Trust, explores the intimate and integral relationship between the evolution of Hindustani classical music in the 20th century and recording technology.

*Bhutan—Change Comes to the Happy Kingdom* (English), directed by Irja von Bernstorff, is a complex examination of the crossroads between honouring the past and embracing the future in this remote Himalayan kingdom.

*Civil Society and Reconciliation: Rethinking History to Embrace Memory* by Claudia Astrarita is based on case studies and interviews in Japan, Germany and Italy which provide empirical evidence on how media critically shaped the narration of post-Second World War events and how this interpretation is instrumentally linked to the rhetoric on peace and stability.

*Nine Months to Freedom* (English, with subtitles), directed by S. Sukhdev and produced by Films Division, is about the struggle for the freedom of Bangladesh (formerly East Pakistan), which began with the military crackdown on 25 March 1971 by the Pakistani Army, and ended with the surrender of the Pakistani Army to the Indian Armed Forces under the command of Lt. Gen. Jagjit Singh Aurora.

*The Power of Choice: The Life and Ideas of Milton Friedman* (English), directed by Katherine Anderson, is the story of Friedman's life, one of the 20th century's greatest proponents of free markets and individual liberty.

*Treasures in the Sand—Turkmenistan's Ancient Heritage* (English, with subtitles), directed by Michael Gregor, is about the world's least known countries which, 4,000 years ago, was home to one of the ancient world's centres of power. The film uncovers excavations, among which the ruined cities of Merv

and Kunya-Urgench have been declared UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

*Around the World with Joseph Stiglitz* (English) by Jacques Sarasin is about the perils and promises of globalisation, told by Nobel laureate Stiglitz.

Why are anxiety disorders on the rise? Is there a pill for fear? How is the coronavirus pandemic affecting our sense of fear? In recent years, scientists around the world have succeeded in decoding human fear and developing completely new therapies. *Be Afraid—The Science of Fear* (English) examines these issues.

*Margaret Atwood: You Have Been Warned!* (2017; English), directed by Katy Homan, reveals what shaped this universally acclaimed Canadian writer, fearlessly outspoken in life and in her work, an unrelenting provocateur.

*Rabindranath Tagore* (India/1961; b/w; English), by Satyajit Ray, is a celebration of Tagore's birth centenary in May 1961, and comprises dramatised episodes from the poet's life and archived images and documents.

*Ancient China from Above: Secrets of the Great Wall* (2020; English), a National Geographic series, shows aerial footage of how earlier landscapes in China were shaped, including the Great Wall, Kublai Khan's legendary lost city, and a newly-discovered city from 4,000 years ago.

*Cave of Forgotten Dreams* (2010; English) by Werner Herzog is a look inside France's Chauvet Cave, where the walls are covered with the world's oldest surviving paintings, dating back over 30,000 years.

*Into the Universe with Stephen Hawking* is Discovery Channel's mini science documentary series with Stephen Hawking, who reveals the wonders of

the universe as never seen before. He looks at the possibility of alien, intelligent life; explores the possibility of time travel; how the universe began, how it creates stars, black holes and life.

*The Ten-Year Lunch: The Wit and Legend of the Algonquin Round Table* (1987; English), directed by Aviva Slesin, is a fascinating look at the most vibrant writers of the 1920s who gathered daily to dine at New York City's Algonquin Hotel.

*In Montezuma* (2009; English), directed by John Trefor (A BBC production), Dan Snow travels to Mexico to investigate the history, character and legacy of Montezuma, the last great ruler of the Aztecs of Central America.

*The Godmother of Rock & Roll: Sister Rosetta Tharpe* (UK/2011; English), directed by Mick Csáky, is about this influential and popular musician during the 1940s, '50s and '60s.

*Jorge Luis Borges: The Mirror Man* (France; 1999; English), directed by Philippe Molins and written by Alberto Manguel, features the life of this great Argentine writer and poet, considered one of the main progenitors of the school of 'magical realism' in literature.

*Chasing a Rainbow—The Life of Josephine Baker* (1986; English) is directed by Christopher Ralling and narrated by Olivier Todd. It profiles the life and career of this major artist from 1927 until her death in 1974. The film is also a commentary on race relations across the world in the 1920s.

Using a wealth of rarely seen archival footage, correspondence, and new and illuminating interviews, Julia Newman's documentary *Albert Einstein: Still a Revolutionary* (USA; 2020; English) makes the case that Einstein's example of social and political activism

is as important today as are his brilliant, ground-breaking theories.

*The Indus Valley Civilization: The Masters of the River* (English, with subtitles), made by NHK (Japan) and Canadian TV, looks at the early Indus Valley civilisation, focusing on one of the lesser known sites at Dholavira. With the help of CGI animation, the documentary reconstructs the ruined city and shows how the civilisation was able to grow to a formidable size by its innovative harnessing of a now vanished river system.

*The Hitch—Christopher Hitchens* (2014; English), directed by Kristoffer Seland Hellesmark, profiles the controversial author and literary critic, featuring a selection of Hitchens' fascinating clips, speeches and thoughts.

*Ballet 422* (English), directed by Jody Lee Lipes, shadows Justin Peck, the 25-year old choreographer of the New York City Ballet, as he undertakes the Herculean task of creating the company's 422nd original piece while simultaneously fulfilling his role as a Corps de Ballet member.

*Climate Change—The Facts* (UK/2019; English/A BBC Documentary), presented by David Attenborough, takes a stark look at the facts surrounding climate change in today's world, detailing the dangers we are already having to deal with and future threats, but also the possibilities for prevention and radical political, social and cultural change.

*Before the Flood* (2016; English) by Fisher Stevens follows Leonardo DiCaprio, actor, environmental activist and UN Messenger of Peace as he travels to five continents and the Arctic, speaking to scientists, world leaders, activists and local residents to examine first hand the devastating effects of climate change and concrete solutions.

*Genius of the Ancient World* (2015) is a three-part BBC series in which historian Bettany Hughes travels to India, Greece and China on the trail of three giants of ancient philosophy—Buddha, Socrates and Confucius—whose radical ideas signalled a key change in human consciousness.

Dan Cruickshank, well-known British art historian and television presenter, unearths some of the surprising stories that shaped the famous gardens in the film, *Kew: The Garden that Changed the World* (2011; English/A BBC 2 production), uncovering tales of bravery, high adventure, passion and drama.

*Taking Root: The Vision of Wangari Maathai* (2008; English), directed by Alan Dater and Lisa Merton, tells the story of Kenyan Nobel Peace Prize laureate Wangari Maathai, whose simple act of planting trees grew into a nationwide movement to safeguard the environment, protect human rights and defend democracy.

*Olympia*, by Leni Riefenstahl, is a two-part documentary that records the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games and attempts to combine sporting reportage with a celebration of physical beauty and the spectacle involved in this uniquely unifying event. Part 1 begins with a history of the Olympic Games until it reaches the lighting of the Olympic cauldron in Berlin; and Part 2 features the track and field events, capturing the grace of athletes during field hockey, soccer, cycling, equestrian, aquatic and gymnastic events.

*Maps: Power, Plunder and Possession* (2010) is a three-part series produced by BBC 4 in which Jerry Brotton, British historian, tells extraordinary stories behind maps, and uncovers how they aren't simply about getting from A to B, but are revealing snapshots of defining moments in history and tools of political power and persuasion.

For millions of people living in East Africa, the climate has a direct bearing on their existence. Farmers and Masai pastoralists alike join with Tanzanian scientists and government officials in describing the transformations they are making to adapt to a new reality in the film, *Living at the Edge of Climate Change* (2017; English subtitles), directed by Kirk David Mason.

*Picturing a People: George Johnston, Tlingit Photographer* (Canada), written/directed by Carol Geddes, is the story of George Johnston, a hunter, trapper, entrepreneur and photographer. The Tlingit are indigenous peoples of the Pacific Northwest Coast of North America. The film is an engaging portrait of an extraordinary man and the evocative photos he took documenting a fascinating part of Canadian history.

In *Delphi: Bellybutton of the Ancient World* (2010; English), directed by David Wilson, Michael Scott of Cambridge University uncovers the secrets of the most famous oracle in the ancient world. A vital force in ancient history for a thousand years, it is now one of Greece's most beautiful tourist sites, but in its time it has been a gateway into the supernatural, a cockpit of political conflict, and a beacon for internationalism.

*The Gene Code* (2011) is a two-part BBC 4 programme presented by Adam Rutherford, British geneticist, author and broadcaster. It takes viewers on a rollercoaster ride as we explore the consequences of one of the biggest scientific projects of all time—the decoding of the entire human genome in 2000.

Written and presented by renowned art critic Robert Hughes, and directed by Ian MacMillan, *Goya: Crazy like a Genius* (2002; English) charts his achievements as a court painter, satirist and war reporter, as well as a topographer of the inner self—of madness, fear and despair.

*The Forbidden City: The Great Within* (1995; English) by Francis Gerard is filmed on location at the famous Imperial Palace complex in Beijing, and dramatises scenes of daily life at the palace during the Qing dynasty (1644–1911). The film focuses on the last 150 years, concluding with Pu Yi, the last emperor in the 1920s.

*Notes on Blindness* (2016; English), directed by Peter Middleton and James Spinney, is the story of the life-changing experiences of theology professor John Hull. The film is built upon the voices of John and his family (from audio diaries, taped letters, domestic recordings and interviews).

*Chapi: The Essence of the Zarzuela* (2015; English), directed by Domingo Rodes, is about Ruperto Chapi Lorente (27 March 1851–25 March 1909), one of the most important and acclaimed Spanish composers of the 19th century. Chapi is best known for the music he composed for zarzuelas (Spanish musical theatre). The film features the Orquestra Sinfonica de Alicante conducted by Joan Iborra.

On 25 April 1953, the science journal *Nature* announced that James Watson and Francis Crick had discovered the double helix structure of DNA, the molecule that is fundamental to life. However, absent from most accounts of their Nobel Prize-winning work is the contribution made by molecular biologist and crystallographer Rosalind Franklin. This is the story of the film *DNA Secret of Photo 51* (2003; English), written, produced and directed by Gary Glassman.

*Kumpania: Flamenco Los Angeles* (2011; English), directed by Katina Dunn, explores the Romani origins of flamenco in 17th century Spain and juxtaposes it to the flamenco culture in contemporary Spain. It also focuses on a group of flamenco dancers, singers and guitarists based in Los Angeles who are



dedicated to preserving the art in its original form. 'Kumpania' is a Romani word meaning 'people who travel the same territory'.

*Act of Dishonour* (2010; Dari with English subtitles), written and directed by Nelofer Pazira, is a nuanced portrait of life in Afghanistan, part lament against injustice, part testament to the spirit of a people who have survived decades of war.

To commemorate International Women's Day, the 'Ruth Wieder Magan Retrospective' was organised with the support of The Foundation for Independent Artists, Ministry of Culture and Sport, Israel. The films screened were: *Mirror Sky*; *Come Away Human Child*; and *Kadayil Shabbaso*. The screenings were followed by a Webinar, 'The Ecstatic Voice. What is the Female Voice?'

*José and Pilar* (José e Pilar/2010; Spanish and Portuguese, with English subtitles), directed by Miguel Gonçalves Mendes, is a story about love, loss and literature, and follows the Nobel Prize winning Portuguese author José Saramago and his Spanish journalist wife Pilar del Rio during his last years.

Three films by Japanese director Yasujiro Ozu (1903–1963) were screened:

- *Late Spring* (Banshun/Japan/1949; Japanese, with English subtitles), the story of a widowed father who feels compelled to marry off his beloved only daughter.
- *Early Summer* (Bakushu/Japan/1951; Japanese, with English subtitles), a family drama set in Kamakura, about taking up the challenge of finding a husband for Noriko, a happily unmarried 'working girl'.
- *Tokyo Story*, which follows an ageing couple's

journey to visit their grown children in bustling post-war Tokyo.

*W.B. Yeats: No Country for Old Men* (Ireland/2012; English), directed by Maurice Sweeney, documents this Irish poet's later work and the themes that inspired him as he aged. His best-known poetry is his early work, but it is now acknowledged that perhaps his greatest poems followed his Nobel Prize for Literature in 1923.

*Sylvia Plath: Voices and Visions* (1988; English) by Lawrence Pitkethly follows in detail Sylvia Plath's life from her childhood in Massachusetts to her suicide at age 30. Included are the candid recollections of her mother and acquaintances, and perspectives on her work by scholars.

In *Oliver Sacks: Tales of Music and the Brain* (2008; English), directed by Louise Lockwood, Alan Yentob talks to Sacks about his book *Musicophilia: Tales of Music and the Brain*, which deals with the power of music and how it helps those with extreme neurological conditions.

*Leonard Bernstein Conducts West Side Story—The Making of a Recording* (1984; English) presents a behind the scenes look at the recording session of this blockbuster, and includes rare insights into a rather tense recording session before the final musical was complete.

*The Invisible Visible* (*Ek Koshish*/2021; English, with subtitles), directed by Kireet Khurana, focuses on the work of Koshish, the field action project of the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, and raises important questions on the Bombay Beggary Prevention Act, 1959.

*Baghdad Twist* (2007; English), directed by Joe Balass and produced by the National Film Board of Canada,

features a collection of archival images, home movies and family photographs from Iraq, that pulls back the curtain on Iraq's once thriving Jewish community.

*Still Waters: The Poetry of P.K. Page* (1990; English), directed by Donald Winkler and produced by the National Film Board of Canada, encapsulates the life of Patricia Kathleen Page, or P.K. Page, an acclaimed Canadian poet, novelist, scriptwriter, playwright, essayist, journalist, librettist, teacher and artist.

*Chasing Trane: The John Coltrane Documentary* (2016; English), directed by John Scheinfeld, is about John Coltrane and his music. We witness his humble beginnings playing not-very-good sax in a military band, and then learn of his obsessive devotion to practising.

*Living at the Edge of Climate Change* (2017; English subtitles), by Kirk David Mason, are stories of older people who have witnessed the effects of life-altering temperature increases, as well as younger people rethinking their sense of future. Farmers and Maasai pastoralists alike join with Tanzanian scientists and government officials in describing the transformations they are making to adapt to a new reality.

*My Octopus Teacher* (2020; English), directed by Pippa Ehrlich and James Reed, follows the story of a man who meets a young octopus who displays remarkable curiosity. Visiting her den and tracking her movements for several months in the freezing ocean at the tip of Africa, he eventually wins the animal's trust and they develop a never-before-seen bond between human and wild animal.

*Grizzly Man* (2005; English) by Werner Herzog is about the devastating death of grizzly bear activists Timothy Treadwell and Amie Huguenard, who were killed in October 2003 while living among grizzly bears in Alaska.

*Pavarotti* (UK) (2019; English), directed by Ron Howard, lifts the curtain on the icon who brought opera to the people. This cinematic event features history-making performances and intimate interviews, including never-before-seen footage and cutting-edge Dolby Atmos technology.

The series 'Films of the Spirit', curated by Rajiv Mehrotra, featured *Making of the Mahatma* (1996; English), directed by Shyam Benegal. It takes us on a journey into the early life of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi during his 21 years in South Africa. The joint Indian and South African production is based on Fatima Meer's book, *The Apprenticeship*. This was a collaboration with Foundation for Universal Responsibility of His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

'The Ancient Worlds' (2010) is a series of documentaries presented by historian Bettany Hughes. Travelling across present locations, Hughes explores the cultural and political pasts of ancient peoples, including the Greeks, Minoans and Egyptians. The films featured were:

- In *The Ancient Worlds: Helen of Troy* (English), Hughes travels across the eastern Mediterranean to disentangle myth from reality to find the truth about the most beautiful woman on earth. She is 'the face that launched a thousand ships'; the woman blamed for the Trojan War—a conflict that caused countless deaths—but who was the real Helen of Troy?
- *The Ancient Worlds: Athens—The Truth about Democracy* (English) explores what Athens was really like. Hughes goes deep underground to explore a treasure trove of pre-historic bones and ancient artefacts. This was a democratic city built on slave labour, manipulated by aristocrats, where women wore the veil and men pursued a bloody foreign policy, slaughtering thousands in the pursuit of the world's first democratic empire.

- Hughes goes in search of a lost civilisation in *The Ancient Worlds: Alexandria, the Greatest City* (English), revealing the story of a city founded out of the desert by Alexander the Great in 331 BC to become the world's first global centre of culture, into which wealth and knowledge poured from across the world. Until its decline in the 4th and 5th centuries AD, Alexandria became a crucible of learning; Hughes uncovers the incredible discoveries and the technical achievements of this culture.

Water is essential for life on earth, but what do we really know about this amazing substance. From its less dense state at freezing temperature to its recently discovered 'memory effect', *Water: The Great Mystery* (Russia) (2008; English), directed by Saida Medvedeva and Vaisily Anisimov, looks into research experiments from the viewpoints of scientists, theologians and philosophers that will hopefully help give people a greater understanding of the universe.

In *Charles Darwin and the Tree of Life* (2009; English), David Attenborough asks three key questions: how and why did Darwin come up with his theory of evolution? Why do we think he was right? And why is it more important now than ever before? David starts his journey in Darwin's home, and revisits Cambridge University where the DNA double helix was discovered, providing the foundations for genetics.

*Fear, Faith and Genius—It's Gothic!* (2021; A DW DocFilm; English) by Grit Lederer focuses on some of the most spectacular panels and paintings of the Gothic period. Gothic specialists walk us through the beauty of the colours, show us just how daring the erotic scenes can be, highlight the raw power of the devils and monsters, and explain how special macro-optic technology sheds new light on the tiniest details of the art.

*Is There One Who Understands me? The World of James Joyce* (Ireland) (1983; English) by Shep Morgan and Seán O'Mórdha is the story of one of the most influential and innovative writers of the 20th century—James Joyce. It includes interviews with Joyce's relatives and Richard Ellman, the world's greatest Joycean scholar.

'Monty Don's Paradise Gardens' (2018) is a two-part BBC television series with British gardener and broadcaster, Monty Don.

- In Episode I: *Spain, Morocco and Iran* (58 min; English), directed by Jason Holmes, Monty starts in Spain, a country synonymous with Christian traditions but which, for 800 years, was actually Islamic. He visits the Alhambra in Spain; the wide variety of paradise gardens in Morocco; and in the cultural centres of Isfahan, Kashan and Shiraz, Monty visits some of the most exquisite gardens in the world and then, in the middle of the desert, comes across the secret to their creation.

- In Episode II: *Turkey, India and UK*, Monty is dazzled by a display of the Ottoman Empire's favourite flower—the tulip—and learns of its sacred significance. Travelling to India, he encounters a new type of spirituality in the tomb gardens of the Mughal Empire. Returning to the UK, he sets out to see how the concept of paradise gardens have fared in some very different places: in Bradford, Hestercombe and Somerset.

Seán O'Mórdha's *Samuel Beckett: Silence to Silence* (Ireland) (1984; English) brings together the man's life and work in a way that offers glimpses of how the one flowed into the other. The documentary provides illuminating details of his childhood, school days and his war years with the French Resistance.

Built in 1793, the Brandenburg Gate received little attention at first. That changed when Napoleon entered the city through the gate after his victory over Prussia in 1806, and took its Quadriga to Paris as a spoil of war. More than any other German monument, the Brandenburg Gate has been exploited again and again for the politics of power. This is the story of the film, *The Brandenburg Gate: History of a Symbol* (2021; English; a DW DocFilm), directed by Florian Optiz.

A timeless treasure, nearly lost forever. Without UNESCO's unprecedented rescue operation, future generations might have only seen the stunning temples of Ramses II and Cleopatra in the pages of history books. This is the subject of the film, *Saving the Temples on the Nile* (English; a DW DocFilm).

*Magic Numbers: Hannah Fry's Mysterious World of Numbers* (2018) is a BBC series in which mathematician Hannah Fry explores the mystery of maths. It underpins so much of our modern world that it is hard to imagine life without its technological advances, but where exactly does maths come from? Is it invented like a language or is it something discovered and part of the fabric of the universe?

- In Episode I: *Numbers as God*, Hannah goes back to the time of the ancient Greeks to find out why they were so fascinated by the connection between beautiful music and maths. Even the shapes of some of the smallest structures in nature, such as viruses, seem to follow the rules of maths. All strong evidence for maths being discovered. But there are those who claim maths is something we invented.

# Film Club

Organised in collaboration with Cervantes Institute, New Delhi, Ángela Molina—Goya Prize of Honour 2021, was a tribute to well-known Spanish actress, Ángela Molina, with a career spanning over four decades and an extensive filmography of almost a hundred films. Three feature films were screened:

- *La Sabina* (Spain/Sweden; Spanish, with English subtitles), directed by José Luis Borau, is about an English scholar who visits a small Spanish town in the Andalusian mountains to investigate the disappearance of another English scholar long ago. He learns of the legend of Sabina, a mysterious dragon woman who becomes his obsession.
- *Half of Heaven* (*La Mitad del cielo*; Spanish, with English subtitles) is directed by Manuel Gutiérrez Aragón. After the civil war, a beautiful and industrious woman falls in love with a knife-sharpener who turns out to be a con man.
- *The Things of Love* (*Las cosas del Querer*/Spanish, with English subtitles), directed by Jaime Chávarri, is about a performer who takes a string of male lovers, while his pianist friend pines for a loose singer in 1940s Spain.

‘Director in Focus: Rafeeq Ellias’: Rafeeq Ellias is a multiple award-winning photographer and filmmaker, whose films explore and engage with India’s smallest minority communities.

- *The Ninety First Symphony: The Musical Journey of Homi Dastoor* (2016; English) introduces audiences to Homi Dastoor, who loved Western classical music with a passion and spent a lifetime exploring its treasures and sharing it with the world.

- *What Man Joe: Portrait of a Funeral Musician* (2018; English, with subtitles) is about Joe Vessaoaker, who lives and breathes the trumpet. A life-long teacher and musician, he represents a dying tradition of funeral music in the East Indian community of Christians in Bombay.

‘Berlanga Celebrates One Hundred Years’. A series of films were screened to celebrate the centenary year of Luis García Berlanga (1921–2010), arguably one of the greatest Spanish film directors of his time and an arch-satirist of Spanish society. The online film series was organised in collaboration with Cervantes Institute, New Delhi; Filmoteca de la AECID, ICAA; Filmoteca Española, AC/E; and Academia del Cine, Spain.

- *That Happy Couple* (*Esa pareja feliz*; 1951; b/w; Spanish, with English subtitles), directed jointly with Juan Antonio Bardem, is a tender and funny story about a young couple who seek to improve their quality of life. It is a satire on Spanish values and propaganda of the early 1950s.
- *Calabuch* (Spain/Italy; 1956; b/w; Spanish, with English subtitles) is the story of an American scientist, worried about working on the construction of atomic bombs during the Cold War, who flees his country and takes refuge in the anonymity of a peaceful town on the Mediterranean coast called Calabuch.
- *Plácido* (Spain; 1961; b/w; Spanish, with English subtitles) recounts the adventures of a motorbike driver, hired in a sordid advertising promotion campaign called ‘sit a poor man at your table’ charity initiative. The townsfolk can bid in a charity



auction to have a second-rank starlet attend their Christmas meal, but are expected to also take a homeless or infirm person as well. The script is scathing in its depiction of petty hypocrisies but also humorous.

- *National Heritage (Patrimonio nacional/Spain; 1981; Spanish, with English subtitles)*, a satire on the Spanish aristocracy, is set in the period following General Franco's death. An elderly marquis and his insane son decide to return to Madrid after years away, in order to claim a rundown palace.

István Szabó, one of the most critically acclaimed Hungarian filmmakers, and Martin Scorsese were honoured with the first Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award at the 52nd International Film Festival of India (IFFI) held from 20 to 28 November 2021. To mark this occasion, the IIC Film Club in collaboration with Liszt Institute-Hungarian Cultural Centre Delhi, and University of Delhi, organised the 'István Szabó Retrospective: Central European Present and Past in Film'. The retrospective included a workshop and a screening of four films.

- *Budapest Tales (Budapesti mesék/Hungarian) (1977; dvd; Hungarian with English subtitles)* is an allegorical film in which a group of people find a broken-down tram while trying to go to the city. Most of the characters speak in capital letters about Life, Love and the Need to Keep Calm while hitching a ride on the tram of Adversity.
- *Hanussen (Hungary) (1988; dvd; Hungarian, with English subtitles)* tells the story of an Austrian soldier who becomes a clairvoyant after he is shot in the head during World War I. Before long, he has foreseen Hitler and the Nazis' rise to power, and he soon finds himself in danger.
- *Father (Apa/Hungary) (1966; dvd; Hungarian, with*

English subtitles) is a coming of age story of a young Hungarian boy named Tako. After his father is killed in World War II, Tako concocts a fantasy image of the parent he never really knew.

- *Colonel Redl (Hungary) (1985; dvd; Hungarian, with English subtitles)* is about the rise and fall of Alfred Redl, an ambitious young officer who proceeds up the ladder to become head of the Austro-Hungarian Secret Police, only to become ensnared in a web of political deception.

Other films included:

*Eames: The Architect and the Painter (USA; 2011; English)*, directed by Jason Cohn and Bill Jersey, is about the husband-and-wife team of Charles and Ray Eames, who were among the most important American designers of the 20th century. They visited India in 1957 at the invitation of the Government of India to explore the problems of design and to make recommendations for a training programme. Their *India Report* defined the underlying spirit that would lead to the founding of the National Institute of Design and the beginning of design education in India.

*When the Moors Ruled in Europe (2005; English)* by Timothy Copestake traces the story of the mysterious and misunderstood Moors, the Islamic society that ruled in Spain for 700 years, but whose legacy was virtually erased from Western history.

*The Umbrellas of Cherbourg (France/Les parapluies de Cherbourg; 1964; French with English subtitles)*, directed by Jacques Demy, deals with so-called 'ordinary' characters who have experienced the pain of lost love. Unlike most Hollywood musicals, there is no conventionally uplifting resolution, but a bitter-sweet acceptance of happiness' transience and fate's unexpected workings.

*Badiou* (USA/France/2018; French, with English subtitles), directed by Gorav Kalyan and Rohan Kalyan, is about the life of Alain Badiou, France's most famous living philosopher.

Carol Reed's *Night Train to Munich* (UK/1940; b/w; English) is a cloak-and-dagger delight, combining comedy, romance and thrills. It takes viewers on a journey from Prague to England to the Swiss Alps as Nazis pursue a Czech scientist and his daughter.

*Witness for the Prosecution* (USA/1957; b/w; English), directed by Billy Wilder, is about an ailing barrister who is thrust back into the courtroom in what becomes the most unusual and eventful murder case of his career when he finds himself defending a man being tried for the murder of a wealthy woman.

*Rebetiko* (*Rembetiko*/2010) by Yannis Adoniou explores the origins and evolution of Rembetiko, the 'illegal' folk music of the underground hashish dens of Pireaus and Thessaloniki, frequently compared to the American Blues as a form of musical expression for the desperate and despairing.

*The Unorthodox* (Israel/2018; Hebrew and Yiddish, with English subtitles), directed by Eliran Malka, is the true story of an orthodox single father whose daughter was expelled from school on the basis of ethnicity. He runs for the city elections and almost single-handedly established the first ethnic political group in Israel. This was a collaboration with the Embassy of Israel.

*In Otto Preminger's Laura* (USA/1945; b/w; English), Manhattan detective Mark McPherson investigates the murder of Madison Avenue executive Laura Hunt in her fashionable apartment. On the trail of her murderer, McPherson quizzes Laura's arrogant best friend and her comparatively mild fiancé, and finds himself falling in love with the dead woman.

*Persepolis* (France/USA/2007; English), directed by Vincent Paronnaud and Marjane Satrapi, is an animated biographical drama film based on graphic novelist Satrapi's autobiographical novel of the same name. The film shows the young Marjane growing up in a communist family in Tehran, becoming politicised and rebelling at college in Austria.

*Philip Larkin: Love and Death in Hull* (UK/2003/English) by James Kent, Nicolas Kent and Ian MacMillan captures the greatness as well as the profound gloom of one of Britain's best-loved poets. Philip Larkin died in 1985, yet his poetry is still widely read and broadcast.

*The Maltese Falcon* (USA/1941/English), directed by John Houston, is arguably the best detective movie ever made in Hollywood. In this classic film noir, detective Sam Spade gets more than he bargained for when he takes a case brought to him by a beautiful but secretive woman.

*The Cow* (Gaav/Iran/1969/Persian, with English subtitles) is directed by Dariush Mehrjui. In Iran in the 1960s, Masht Hassan owns the only cow in his village, which affords him importance and prestige. This tight-knit village is concerned about the inhabitants of a neighbouring village, the Boulouris, whom they suspect of wanting to do harm to the cow, and help him keep it safe.

*The Tin Drum* (*Die blechtrommel*/Germany/1979; German, with English subtitles) is Volker Schlöndorff's adaptation of Nobel Laureate Günter Grass's novel about Oskar, born in Germany in 1924, with an advanced intellect. Repulsed by the hypocrisy of adults and the irresponsibility of society, he refuses to grow older after his third birthday.

*Ashes and Diamonds* (*Papiół i diament*/Poland/1958; b/w; Polish, with English subtitles) by Andrzej

Wajda entwines the story of one man's moral crisis with the fate of a nation. In a small Polish town on the final day of World War II, Maciek, a fighter in the underground anti-Communist resistance movement, has orders to assassinate an incoming commissar. However, he begins to question his commitment to a cause that requires him to risk his life.

Alfred Hitchcock's *Shadow of a Doubt* (1943; b/w; English) is based on a story by Gordon McDowell and inspired by the real-life 'Merry Widow' murderer Earle Leonard Nelson who was hanged in 1928.

To Mark Spanish Cinema Day 2021, the film *Voyage to Nowhere* (*El viaje a ninguna parte*/Spain/1986; Spanish, with English subtitles), written and directed by Fernando Fernán-Gómez, was screened. Before there was cinema, television, or radio, the world of entertainment circled around stage actors. Set in Spain during the Franco regime, the film follows one such group of actors enjoying the last gasps of this adventurous way of life. This was a collaboration with Cervantes Institute.

*Ivan's Childhood* (*Ivanovo detstvo*/Russia/1962; b/w; Russian, with English subtitles) by Andrei Tarkovsky is a poetic journey through the shards and shadows of one boy's war-ravaged youth. Moving back and forth between the traumatic realities of World War II and serene moments of family life before the conflict began, the film depicts the impact of war on children.

*Ninotchka* (1939; b/w; English), directed by Ernst Lubitsch, is known for being one of the first American films which, under the cover of a satirical, light romance, depicts the Soviet Union under Joseph Stalin as being rigid and grey, in this instance comparing it with the free and sunny Parisian society of pre-war years.

*Miles Ahead* (USA/2015; English), directed by Don Cheadle, is a Miles Davis biopic that gives the much-deserved big-screen treatment to jazz legend Miles Davis. The offbeat, semi-fictional approach accounts for a few days in his 'lost' years—the mid-1970s—when he disappeared from public view.

*The Great Dance: A Hunter's Story* (USA/South Africa/2000; English) by Craig Foster and Damon Foster is the story of three San (Bushman) hunters at their most extreme limits of endurance, culminating in 'the Chasing Hunt'. It is a discovery of the extraordinary spiritual relationship between the hunter and the hunted.

*The Last Time I Saw Paris* (USA), directed by Richard Brooks, is a 1954 romantic drama loosely based on F. Scott Fitzgerald's short story, 'Babylon Revisited'.

*The Railrodder* (1965), a short film directed by Gerald Potterton, is about 'the railrodder', who crosses Canada from east to west on a railway track speeder. The film is full of sight gags as the protagonist putts his way to British Columbia.

*A Matter of Life and Death* (UK), directed by Michael Powell, is a cheerful film, full of human warmth and cheer, using the archetype of a courtroom drama.

*Gigi* (USA), directed by Vincente Minnelli, is about a rich playboy weary of the conventions of Parisian society, and a youthful courtesan-in-training enjoying a platonic friendship, but it may not stay platonic for long.

*Zero for Conduct* (*Zéro de conduite: Jeunesdiabes au college*/France/1933; b/w; French, with English subtitles), directed by Jean Vigo, is a portrait of prankish boarding-school students. Based on the director's own experiences as a youth, the film presents

childhood as a time of unfettered imagination and brazen rule-flouting.

*Whisky Galore!* (UK/1949; b/w) by Alexander Mackendrick is a warm and funny 1949 portrait of a Scottish island thrown into panic when the wartime allotment of whisky runs out. Conveniently, an American ship loaded with 50,000 cases of Scotch flounders just off-shore, and the islanders go to the rescue.

*How Green Was my Valley* (1941; b/w) by John Ford is about the ebb and flow of life in a small community and the family of the Morgans, a hard-working Welsh mining family living in the heart of the South Wales valleys during the 19th century.

*Amreeka* (USA/Palestine/2009; Arabic & English, with English subtitles), directed by Cherien Dabis, follows the lives of a Palestinian single mom and her teenage son who immigrate to a small town in Illinois during the US invasion of Iraq in 2003.

*Shakespeare Unwrapped—Shakespeare's Kings & Queens* is a family drama, performed by drama students at Niagara University, USA, during lockdown in October 2020 as part of the educational work of The Live Literature Company founded by Valerie Doulton. Shakespeare's kings and queens are all shown in scenes which dramatise their family relationships. Doulton chose to end with King Lear's dying words because of the current tragic situation in the world today.

*The Old Man and the Sea* (Russia/1999; English) is Aleksandr Petrov's animation film based on Ernest Hemingway's 1952 novella of the same name. More than two years of painting on glass sheets, using brushes but mostly his own fingers, resulted in over 29,000 paintings that enabled Petrov to produce this feast of colours, images and emotions that celebrate the famous work of literature and its creator.

There was a screening of a selection of seven classic black-and-white film noir. The word film noir was first coined in 1946 by a group of French critics to describe the emerging movement of mainly black and white Hollywood films with dark, pessimistic themes.

- *Gaslight* (USA) (1944; b/w), by George Cukor, is about a woman who begins to notice strange goings-on: missing pictures, strange footsteps in the night and gaslights that dim without being touched. As she fights to retain her sanity, her new husband's intentions come into question.
- *Double Indemnity* (USA) (1944; b/w) by Billy Wilder is a chilling tale about murder, immorality, lust and greed. The film perfectly captures the dark atmosphere of pre-war Los Angeles.
- *And Then There Were None* (USA) (1945; b/w) directed by Rene Clair is based on Agatha Christie's mystery tale about 10 strangers who are summoned to a remote island, and while waiting for their mysterious host to appear, they soon start being murdered, one by one.
- *The Postman Always Rings Twice* (USA) (1946; b/w) by Tay Garnett is about a married woman and a drifter who fall in love, and then plot to murder her husband.
- *The Third Man* (UK) (1949; b/w) by Carol Reed is about an American in Vienna, searching the city's black market for the killer of his best friend.
- *Séance on a Wet Afternoon* (UK) (1964; b/w), directed by Bryan Forbes, is about a professional medium who holds séances, but decides that she needs more publicity. She stages a kidnapping so that she can gain public exposure by providing the police with the location of both the child and the ransom money.

# Exhibitions

‘Not the Whole Body is Flesh’ was an online exhibition of paintings by Daniela Reis from Portugal, who works with oil on canvas, oil on paper, enamel and digital painting. The exhibition was based on the words of Portuguese poet David Mourao-Ferreira: ‘Not the whole body is flesh: it is also water, earth, wind, fire...’ This was a collaboration with the Portuguese Embassy Cultural Centre.

In the same collaboration was ‘Eudaimonia–Happiness’, an exhibition of paintings in oil on canvas and on wood by Ana Romero from Portugal. Eudaimonia, happiness for the Greeks, or a good performance of their demons, is achieved by doing what their fear called for or evoked.

‘Aks-e-Mausiqui’ (Shadow of Music) was an exhibition of archival portraits by Rakesh Sinha of leading Indian classical artists, taken during their live performances. Stellar artistes such as Birju Maharaj, Kishori Amonkar, Sitara Devi, among others, were subjects in this exhibition. His repertoire does not only include performances of dancers and musicians, but also that of theatre and literature personalities.

‘What To Do With Difference: Art & Artists as a Bridge’ was an international group exhibition of artworks by 12 international artists of Art for Change Foundation. It brought together a concept which dealt with what we perceive as ‘difference’, through aspects of personal and individual relationships to the larger picture of community and social identity.

‘The Floating World of Ukiyo-e Prints’ was an exhibition of Japanese woodblock prints known as ukiyo-e, or ‘pictures of the floating world’. A 250-year-old art style, it is practised even today. The

woodblock prints depict aspects of pleasure, from courtesans, to prostitutes, tea ceremonies, and the kabuki theatre.

‘Albrecht Dürer: Perfection of Form and Beauty’ presented selected works of Albrecht Dürer (1471–1528), regarded as the greatest artist of the German Renaissance. The online exhibition included paintings (oil and watercolour), woodcuts, etchings and drawings covering an eclectic mix of religious works, portraits, landscapes, studies of animals, of plants and of people.

‘The Haft Awrang of Jami’ exhibited a selection of illuminated manuscripts from the Haft Awrang of Jami, a compilation of seven masnavi poems written in the 15th century. The Haft Awrang is recognised as one of the greatest Persian literary classics, and the illuminated and illustrated folios considered a masterpiece of Islamic art.

‘Aap kya Sandesh Laya’ was an exhibition of a selection of the covers of *Sandesh* (Bengali: Shondesh), illustrated by Satyajit Ray. *Sandesh* (meaning both information as well as sweetmeat), is the iconic Bengali children’s magazine started by Ray’s grandfather. Ray painted and designed each of the covers apart from contributing his own stories, creating riddles, puzzles, and editing and illustrating other contributors’ works.

‘Two Banks of a River—The Indus in Ladakh’ was an exhibition of photographs by Isaac Tsetan Gergan. The photographs followed the length and breadth of Ladakh, from Nubra to Zaskar and Leh to Kargil, telling the story of the river and of the state. This was a collaboration with Living Waters Museum.



‘Fleeting Footprints of Light’ was an online exhibition of photographs by Mala Mukerjee from Kolkata. She presented a mix of colour and abstract compositions—a play with light, exploring the limits of form, colour and texture.

‘Outstanding Polish Women’ celebrated the life and achievements of outstanding Polish women from Marie Skłodowska-Curie to mountaineer Wanda Rutkiewicz, Irena Sandler, a heroine who saved Jewish children from the ghetto in German-occupied Warsaw during World War II, to the leading Polish suffragettes, and to Nobel laureate Olga Tokarczuk. This was a collaboration with the Polish Institute, New Delhi.

In the online exhibition ‘Pristine’, Navin Sakhuja’s photographs engaged with the power and beauty of nature. The photographs on view covered three different visits to the Arctic Circle, Iceland (2010); Antelope Canyon, Arizona USA (2010); and the Great Namib Desert, Namibia (2015).

‘Glorious Past and a Shining Future for Dhakai Jamdani’ was a physical exhibition of museum quality Dhakai Jamdani sarees from the collection of Siddhartha Tagore. On display were Jamdanis from the late 19th century woven in Dhaka, and some from an earlier period including rare pieces produced by the East India Company. This was curated by Puneet Kaushik and Rema Kumar, and was a collaboration with Art Konsult.

‘Heat and Dust—Between India and Zion’ was an online exhibition of works by various artists, and was curated by Shimon Lev and Yael Margalit. This was an attempt to investigate how artists in a wide

range of media use their work to represent hidden and revealed aspects of India and its culture. Most of the artists were Israeli, while some were descendants of the Jewish communities in India who live in Israel or the United States. This was a collaboration with Embassy of Israel.

‘Antarctica—The Last Frontier’ was an online photographic journey to Antarctica with Ajit K. Huilgol. His visit to the Antarctic resulted in over 30,000 photographs, and the photo exhibition of his best 45 shots was breathtaking—featuring the Striated Caracara in flight, varieties of penguins, and the Southern Elephant seal.

‘Devi’ was an exhibition on the depiction of women as Devi or Goddess as seen in Indian folk and tribal art. On view were depictions in the painting traditions of Kalighat, Madhubani, Mata ni Pachedi, Pichwai; folk art paintings of Assam, Bengal and Odisha; and shadow puppets and wooden sculptures of Karnataka. This was curated by Seema Bhalla, and was a collaboration with Art Konsult.

‘Bangladesh’s War of Liberation 1971’ was an exhibition of photographic panels to mark the 50th anniversary of Bangladesh’s war of liberation.

‘Black, White and the Unseen’ was an interpretation of Impressionism consisting of an exhibition of charcoal sketches by Reshma Valliappan, aka Val Resh.

‘iSculpt for Delhi’ was an exhibition of contemporary installations and sculptures by several artists, curated by Uma Nair.

# IIC Library

The library has added **464** books this year, thereby increasing the collection to **54,646** books, excluding the rare books' collection of almost 4,500 titles, including the India Collection, the Himalayan Club Collection and the Bilgrami Collection. It received **165** periodicals, magazines and newspapers, **65** CD/DVDs, and continues to provide services out of JSTOR database, GrantSanjeevani and Critical Collective. The Library took the initiative to develop information about chapters in edited books to enhance the value of such books. **2,585** chapters from edited books have been added this year to the Online Public Access Catalogue. In all, a total of **23,169** book chapters have been included in the database so far.

The Library continued to provide inter-library loan services using various network resources, including the services offered by DELNET, and has borrowed **158** books from different libraries and loaned out **192** books to other institutions. During this period, **6,558** books have been borrowed by Members from the Library.

Twenty-four scholars have been granted temporary membership to use the Library facilities for their works.

## DigiLib Portal

The Centre has digitised its rare collections and legacy records and created a digital repository of about 20 lakh pages. The aim was to preserve these invaluable collections for maximum visibility. The digitised resources include the Bilgrami Collection, Walter Sykes George Collection, Himalayan Club Collection, India Collection, etc. Some of these publications date back to the 18th century and include rare maps and sketches as well.

This digital resource portal has been christened '**DigiLib**' and can be accessed through the IIC Website by Members and non-Members. These digitised resources are available free of cost for viewing by Members and non-Members. However, in the case of downloading any digital content, a nominal charge is being levied which can be paid through the online payment gateway.

## Book Discussions and Webinars

*Food Matters: Role Your Diet Plays in the Fight against Cancer* by Shubham Pant (Noida: HarperCollins, 2020) was discussed under the Chairmanship of Pushpesh Pant. The discussants were Ramesh Sarin, Neeti Leekha Chhabra, Jasleen Vohra, and the author. Oncologist at the MD Anderson Cancer Center, Shubham Pant asks us to 'focus on the mundane solutions' and recommends eating a good diet, maintaining a healthy weight, and other lifestyle interventions to keep cancer at bay.

The discussion on *Portraits of Power: Half a Century of being at Ringside* by N.K. Singh (New Delhi: Rupa Publication, 2020) was under the Chairmanship of Indira Rajaraman. The speakers were Rakesh Mohan, Prachi Mishra, Jessica Seddon, and the author. The book, the panelists said, is not just an autobiography of a man, who, for several decades played an active role in India's march towards becoming a formidable economy; it profiles myriad institutions that work in harmony to make things happen.

Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC, presided over the discussion in *Method in the Madness: Insights from the Career of an Insider-Outsider-Insider* by Parmeswaran Iyer (Noida: HarperCollins, 2020), with discussants N.C. Saxena, Yasmin Haque, Hari Menon, Raj

Chengappa, and the author. The author reflects on the unique path he chose—from cracking the IAS to becoming a globe-trotting World Bank technocrat, to playing the role of a coach to his professional tennis-playing children, to finally returning to India and implementing the Swachh Bharat Mission.

*Words. Sounds. Images: A History of Media and Entertainment on India* by Amit Khanna (Noida: HarperCollins, 2019) presents the history of media and entertainment in India from the times of the Indus Valley Civilisation right up to the 21st century, including details from the *Natyashastra*; the early drama, music and dance of Kalidasa; the development of ragas; musical instruments and early folk traditions; the genesis of classical dance forms and developments through the ages. Rajiv Mehrotra was Chair, and the panelists were Annurag Batra, Kaveree Bamzai, and the author.

Shri N.N. Vohra chaired the discussion on *Khaki in Dust Storm: Communal Colours and Political Assassinations (1980–1991) Police Diaries Book 1* by Amod K. Kanth (New Delhi: Bloomsbury, 2020) with discussants Ambassador Shyam Saran, Arun Shourie, and the author. The book follows the immersive investigations led by celebrated police officer Kanth, who found himself at the vortex of India's tumultuous period of the 1980s and early 1990s, which witnessed the assassination of Indira Gandhi and the riots that followed.

Tenzin Geyche Tethong, author of *His Holiness the Dalai Lama: An Illustrated Biography* (New Delhi: Roli Books, 2020), was in conversation with Tendzin Choegyal (Ngari Rinpoche), Brother of His Holiness and author of the Foreword to the book, and Rajiv Mehrotra. This biography—blessed by His Holiness himself—is the most authentic and intimate profile of the world's greatest living spiritual figure. The author offers readers unprecedented access to the Dalai Lama in this beautifully illustrated book.

*Betrayed by Hope: A Play on the Life of Michael Madhusudan Dutt* by Namita Gokhale and Malashri Lal (Noida: HarperCollins, 2020) was discussed by Harish Trivedi, Aruna Chakravarti, Oroon Das, and the two authors. It is a play-script based on the letters Dutt wrote to friends, well-wishers and patrons, and paints the portrait of an artist as he plunges headlong into crisis after crisis, even as his imagination and creativity soar. The authors pay tribute to his extraordinary life in a story that will lay bare our deep-set contradictions about art and life.

Rehana Munir, Jasleen Vohra, and Shoba Narayan, author of *Food & Faith: A Pilgrim's Journey through India* (Noida: HarperCollins, 2020), discussed how the author approaches spirituality and religion from the point of view of a sceptical seeker. She partakes of sacred food in shrines across India—Puri's bhog, Amritsar's langar, Palani's *panchamirtham*, among others—to show how sacred food is linked to history, myth, and identity of specific shrines and their faithful.

*Krishna in Indian Thought, Literature and Music* by Mandira Ghosh (Gurugram: Shubhi Publication, 2021) was discussed under the Chairmanship of Amarendra Khatua, and the speakers were Radha Chakravarty, Neera Misra, and the author. The book reflects on several aspects of the magnetic Divine, who influenced Indian literature and music as no other. As the ultimate source of all energies, realisation of Him arrives through bhakti or devotion. Sanskrit to modern English verses on Krishna are included in the book.

*Geopolitics in the Era of Globalisation: Mapping an Alternative Global Future* by Yogendra Kumar (Routledge, 2020) presents an alternative roadmap for a world characterised by geopolitical uncertainty. We are faced with deeply destabilising challenges, like climate change, widespread state fragility, terrorism,

arms race, disruptive newer technologies, global economic volatility, and ineffectiveness of multilateral institutions, old and new. The Chair for the discussion was C.R. Gharekhan.

An iconic centre of learning in the national capital, Modern School is representative of the pioneering efforts in the early 20th century to create a contemporary educational structure in India. In his book, *The Modern School (1920-2020): A Century of Schooling in India* (New Delhi: Westland, 2020), Rakesh Batabyal excavates the school's origins in old Delhi and its close ideological links to the literary and cultural sensibilities of the 19th century, the values of the freedom movement, and the philosophical quest for a universal horizon for the nation. The Chair was Karthika V.K., and the speakers were Shanta Sinha, Avijit Pathak, Ashwajit Singh, and the author.

*Womb of Time* by Laljee Verma (Allahabad: Cyberwit, 2019) was discussed under the Chairmanship of Amarendra Khatua, with speakers Radha Chakravarty, Rumki Basu, Mandira Ghosh, and the author. This long (epic) poem deals in the abstract with the concepts of Time and God which have drawn the deep interest and attention of thinkers and philosophers.

A delectable experience for gastronomes, Veena Sharma's *Vegetarian Cuisine from the Himalayan Foothills* (New Delhi: Niyogi, 2020) has recipes that draw upon local bounties, some forgotten or less-used grains and greens, spices and fruits. There is an underlying desire to retain and re-establish the biodiversity that is vital for physical and mental health. The speakers were Pushpesh Pant, Gautam Mehrishi, Jasleen Vohra, and the author.

*Democracy and Public Policy in the Post COVID-19 World: Choices and Outcomes*, edited by Rumki Basu (New Delhi: Routledge, 2020), re-examines the

normative and the empirical world of policy making in the world's largest and one of the most complex democracies. It critically looks at the available theoretical frameworks, models and approaches used in the policy making process and studies their contemporary relevance, and balances theoretical approaches with concrete case studies. The Chair for this discussion was V. Srinivas, with speakers Sushma Yadav, Ramabrahmam Ivaturi, and the author.

*Matchmaking in Middle Class India: Beyond Arranged and Love Marriage* by Parul Bhandari (Singapore: Springer, 2020) was discussed under the Chairmanship of Patricia Uberoi. The speakers were Janaki Abraham, Katherine Twamley, Raphael Susewind, and the author. This book explores the intersections and dynamics of class, caste, gender and family in the context of post-liberalisation India. In doing so, it focuses on a few key themes including how Internet technology (matchmaking websites) and 'new age' professionalism (matchmaking bureaus) shape spouse-selection, the impact of romantic relationships on the choice of a spouse, and role of the family in these spaces.

*Princean: How Nehru, Patel and Mountbatten Made India* by Sandeep Bamzai (New Delhi: Rupa, 2020) was discussed with Gurcharan Das as Chair, and speakers Rajendra G. Harshe, Ashok Bhan, and the author. In the run-up to independence, a plan was devised by a handful of powerful princes to not join either India or Pakistan. The idea was to create a third dominion called Princean, where the 565 princely states would stay outside the ambit of the two free states and retain paramountcy under the aegis of the departing British.

Shri N.N. Vohra chaired the discussion around the book, *The Mystic and the Lyric: Four Women Poets from Kashmir* by Neerja Mattoo (New Delhi: Zubaan, 2019). The speakers were Malashri Lal, Shafi Shauq,

Shormistha Panja, Kaveree Bamzai, and the author. The book brings the work of these poets together for the first time, placing it in two traditions, the mystic and the lyric. Fine and nuanced translations of their poems are accompanied by brief introductions to their work that place the women in a historical context and deal with both the facts and the beliefs about their work.

*Rogues Among the Ruins* by Achala Moulik (New Delhi: Niyogi Books, 2020) was discussed under the Chairmanship of K.N. Srivastava, Director, IIC. The other speakers were Uday Balakrishna, Manish Purohit, N.S. Vinodh, and the author. The book uses irony, humour and sarcasm to unveil the reality of powerful men and women who think they rule the country. The first part of the book, 'Life Among the Ruins', provides a fascinating fictionalised account of the Archaeological Survey of India, giving us a glimpse of its history and its workings. A morally neutral civil servant caught in the conflict between power and ideals, chronicles a later era in the second part, 'Romance Among the Ruins'.

*Reflection on Mughal Art and Culture: The Indian Woman in Persianate Literary Culture*, edited by Roda Ahluwalia (New Delhi: Niyogi, 2021), takes one to the splendid world of Mughal India to explore its rich aesthetic and cultural legacy through fresh insights offered by 13 eminent scholars. Recent scholarship in this field has offered deeper analysis into established norms, explored pan-Indian connections and drawn comparisons with contemporaneous regions of the early modern world. The book was discussed by Sunil Sharma, Mrinalini Sil, and the author.

*Dancing Towards the \$5 Trillion Economy on a Holistic Beat* by Aruna Sharma (Limaye) (Bhopal: Indra Publishing House, 2021) analyses 10 sectors that must shift to a holistic approach targeting prosperity (*samruddhi*) for all. These include mining, food security, agriculture,

telecom, banking, health, MSMEs, among others. The Chair was Sachin Chaturvedi, and the discussants were Dhanendra Kumar, Priti Sudan, Ambar Timblo, and the author.

*The Execution of Bhagat Singh: Legal Heresies of the Raj* by Satvinder Singh Juss (Amberley, 2020) was discussed by Rajesh Ramachandran, Ranbir Singh, S. Irfan Habib, Indivar Kamtekar, and the author.

The inaugural volume of the *Yearbook of Indian Poetry in English 2020–21*, edited by Sukrita Paul Kumar and Vinita Agrawal (Hawakal Publisher, 2021), launches the idea of celebrating quality poetry in English published by Indian poets. The collection is bound to create a critical consciousness amongst the readers to observe the ever-evolving aesthetics of poetry in English by Indian poets. The book was discussed by Kiriti Sengupta, Jerry Pinto, Sanjukta Dasgupta, and the two authors.

(Kalidasa) *Vikramorvashiyam: Quest for Urvashi*, translated by A.N.D. Haksar (New Delhi: Penguin, 2021), was discussed under the Chairmanship of Ashok Vajpeyi, with speakers Sunit Tandon, Sudhamahi Regunathan, Amarendra Khatua, Bhaswati Mukherji, and the author. In this book, the earthly King Pururavas rescues the celestial nymph Urvashi from a demon, and thus begins a majestic love story that brings heaven and earth together.

*Amader Shantiniketan*, by late Hindi author Shivani, translated by Ira Pande (New Delhi: Vintage Books, 2021), is a memoir of studying at the experimental school set up by Rabindranath Tagore. It is a rare view and stories of life inside the ashram, of how the students' intimate relationships and interactions with Tagore and other towering personalities shaped them. This was discussed by Pushpesh Pant, Radha Chakravarty, Sanjukta Dasgupta, and Ira Pande.



*Sikkim: A History of Intrigue and Alliance* by Preet Mohan Singh Malik (Noida: HarperCollins, 2021) combines insights into the erstwhile royal kingdom's unique history with the intriguing story of how it became India's 22nd state. It examines the often fraught relationship between its original inhabitants, the Lepchas, and the Bhutias (people of Tibetan origin) who established institutions of religion and governance—Lamaist Buddhism and the Namgyal dynasty— respectively. It was discussed under the Chairmanship of K.P. Fabian, along with Nalin Surie, K.J. Singh, and the author.

Based on years of meticulous archival research, *Nehru, Tibet and China* by A.S. Bhasin (New Delhi: Penguin, 2021) details and analyses the events from 1949 to the Indo–China war in 1962 and its aftermath. It was discussed under the Chairmanship of Vijay Gokhale, along with Chandrashekhar Dasgupta, Zorawar Daulat Singh, and the author.

*Simple Life: An Inquiry into the Joys of Simplicity in a Complex World* by K. Jayakumar (Gurgaon: Shubhi, 2021) was discussed under the Chairmanship of Sudha Gopalakrishnan, with discussants Shovana Narayan, C.V. Ramanan, Mandira Ghosh, and the author. Life in the 21st century, said the author, is characterised by external and internal complexity of all kinds: financial, emotional and behavioural, cumulatively stealing simplicity from our lives.

Jairam Ramesh's *The Light of Asia: The Poem that Defined the Buddha* (New Delhi: Penguin, 2021) was discussed under the Chairmanship of Dr. Karan Singh, along with speakers Geshe Ngawang Samten, Karam Tej Singh Sarao, and the author. 'The Light of Asia' is an epic poem by Sir Edwin Arnold that was first published in 1879. Weaving together literary, cultural, political and social history, Jairam Ramesh uncovers and narrates the fascinating story of this deeply compelling poem that has shaped our thinking

of an ancient sage and his teachings.

*Jugalbandi: A Tryst with Prose and Poetry* was a unique webinar of a meeting of minds of authors and poets on varied themes under the Chairmanship of Rajni Sekhri Sibal, with discussants Achla Bansal, Rajender Krishan, P.K. Dash, and Hira Kartar Dalwani.

*Dusk to Dawn: Poetic Voices on the Current Times in South Asia and Beyond*, edited by Chandra Mohan, Rita Malhotra and Anamika (New Delhi: Heritage, 2021), was discussed with Shri N.N. Vohra as Chair. The other speakers were Ashok Vajpeyi, Sanjukta Dasgupta, Malashri Lal, and the three editors. This book mirrors a multicultural poetic journey across the mystic lands of human emotions in unharnessed poetic spirit with a focused perception of reality even as the current pandemic rages across geographical frontiers.

*This Life at Play: Memoirs*, translated from the Kannada in part by the late Girish Karnad himself and in part by Srinath Perur (New Delhi: Fourth Estate, 2021), was discussed by Nasreen Munni Kabir, Arundhati Ghosh, Suryasarathi Bhattacharya, and Srinath Perur. It covers the first half of his life, from his childhood in Sirsi and his early engagement with local theatre, his education in Dharwad, Bombay and Oxford, to his career in publishing, his successes and travails in the film industry, and his life as a writer.

*Asariri: A Life Full of Life* by Rajni Sekhri Sibal (New Delhi: Bloomsbury, 2021) is a collection of reflections that span the journey of the protagonist from bewilderment and ennui to acceptance and serenity; a journey that takes her from a quaint Himalayan town, through the Valley of Gods, to the shores of the Bay of Bengal ravaged by a calamitous tsunami. This was discussed under the Chairmanship of Yogendra Narain, with speakers K. Jayakumar, Sukrita Paul Kumar, Asha Sarangi, and the author.

*Bengal and its Partition: An Untold Story* by Bhaswati Mukherjee (New Delhi: Rupa Publication, 2021) is about the partition of this province, and answers some deeply relevant questions: Was this a tragedy waiting to happen? Was it inherent in its demographic and religious fault lines? Or was it a man-made plot, maliciously conceived by the British, played out in Bengal in bloody acts of violence and slaughter? This was discussed under the Chairmanship of Natwar Singh with discussants Hardeep Singh Puri, Rajiv Dogra, K.N. Shrivastava, and the author.

*Voices from the Lost Horizon: Stories and Songs of the Great Andamanese* by Anvita Abbi (New Delhi: Niyogi, 2021) is a collection of folk tales and songs of the Great Andamanese. These stories and songs represent the first-ever collection rendered to Abbi and her team by the Great Andamanese people in local settings. It was discussed under the Chairmanship of Arshia Sattar, Ganesh N. Devy, Mini Krishnan, and the author.

*Two Plays: A City in Sorrow and Curse*, translated from the Kashmiri by Pankaj Bhan (New Delhi: Authors Press, 2021), was discussed under the Chairmanship of Neerja Mattoo, and speakers Ashok Jaiolkhani, Ravi Kemmu, and the author. In the play, King Anantdev and Queen Suryamati are driven to exile by their son Kalashdev. Their prolonged confrontation leads to tragic consequences for the royalty as well as for the state.

*A Forgotten Ambassador in Cairo: The Life and Times of Syud Hossain* by N.S. Vinodh (London: Simon & Schuster, 2021) is an illuminating narrative of Hossain's life, interspersed with historical details that landscape a vivid political picture of that era through primary sources that include Hossain's private papers, British Intelligence files, and contemporary correspondence and newspapers. The discussion was chaired by Narayani Mahil, and the speakers

were Uday Balakrishnan, Himanjali Sankar, and the author.

*Saving the World from Hitler: India's Battles in World War II* by R. Prasannan (Kottayam: Manorama Books, 2021) tells the story of how the Indian Army and the Indian people ensured victory for the Allies in WW II, and how that victory led to the country's freedom. It was discussed by V.P. Malik, Robert Lyman, Rana Chhina, Suhas Borker, and the author.

*Forgotten Kashmir: The Other Side of the Line of Control* by Dinkar P. Srivastava (Noida: HarperCollins, 2021) examines the evolution of Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir (PoK) over the past seven decades. It includes major milestones like the 'tribal' invasion in 1947–48, the Sudhan revolt in the 1950s, the Ayub era, the Simla Agreement, the adoption of an 'Interim Constitution of 1974' and the China–Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). It was discussed under the Chairmanship of Satinder K. Lambah, and the speakers were Ishtiaq Ahmed, Satish Chandra, and the author.

*Indus Basin Uninterrupted: A History of Territory and Politics from Alexander to Nehru* by Uttam Kumar Sinha (Gurgaon: Penguin, 2021) was under the Chairmanship of the late Shakti Sinha, with panelists K. Warikoo, Ajit Jha, and the author. Using rich archival material, the book brings alive the Indus system of rivers as a powerful symbol of the passage of time, representing not only the interdependence and interpenetration of land and water, but equally the unfolding of political identities, social churning and economic returns.

*India—A Federal Union of States: Fault Lines, Challenges and Opportunities* by Madhav Godbole (New Delhi: Konark Publishers, 2021) was discussed with Shri N.N. Vohra as Chair. The other speakers were Shri Mohammad Hamid Ansari, A.P. Shah, Faizan Mustafa, Gurcharan Das, K.N. Shrivastava, and the

author. According to the author, ways have to be found for strengthening cooperative federalism and creating a common market with greater economic, commercial and trade integration. With the ineffectiveness of the Inter-State Council, alternate mechanisms need to be explored.

*The Long Game: How the Chinese Negotiate with India* by Vijay Gokhale (Gurugram: Penguin, 2021) explores the dynamics of negotiation between the two countries, from the early years after Independence until the current times, through the prism of six historical and recent events in the India–China relationship. It was discussed under the Chairmanship of Vijay K. Nambiar, with speakers Jayadeva Ranade, Neelam D. Sabharwal, and the author.

*In Mantras for Positive Ageing*, edited by Mohini Giri and Meera Khanna (England: Pippa Rann, 2021), the lived experiences of some 50 people have been brought together by the Guild of Service, a national non-profit organisation, on the occasion of its golden jubilee. The Chair was Dr. Karan Singh, and the speakers were Fali. S. Nariman, Veena Sikri, Devaki Jain, and the authors.

*Hinge: (Re)Discovering Emotional and Mental Wellness* by Vandana Kohli (New Delhi: Rupa Publication, 2021) was discussed by Amit Sen, Rajiv Mehrotra, and the author. It addresses, simply and elegantly, the complex working of emotions to better understand their cause and effect. It focuses on hinges of emotional and mental wellness, and explores how the inner may fragment, and what may help in making it whole again.

In his book, *The Great Hindu Civilisation: Achievement, Neglect, Bias and the Way Forward* (Chennai: Westland, 2021), Pavan K. Varma writes that this civilisation faces a rather unfortunate paradox. On the one hand, it is notable for its resilience and continuity, and its

spillover into every aspect of a Hindu's life; and, on the other, Hindus themselves show little real curiosity or interest in knowing more about it. It was discussed under the Chairmanship of Dr. Karan Singh, and the speakers were Seshadri Chari, K.N. Shrivastava, and the author.

*The Stranger in the Mirror* by Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra (New Delhi: Rupa Publications, 2021) is the memoir of this legendary producer–director, co-written with Reeta Ramamurthy Gupta. It chronicles the richly experiential, multi-faceted life of one of India's most celebrated and feted directors who has made critically acclaimed films like *Rang De Basanti*, *Delhi-6* and *Bhaag Milkha Bhaag*. This was discussed by Amit Khanna, Pankaj Saxena, and the author.

*In Mahanadi: The Tale of a River* by Anita Agnihotri, translated from the Bengali by Nivedita Sen (New Delhi: Niyogi Books, 2021), the tale of the river is entwined with the people through vignettes of their dynamic lives that are infused with myths, legends and archaeological anecdotes. It was discussed by Debjani Sengupta, Sumanyu Satpathy, Uttam Kumar Sinha, and the author and translator.

*Accelerating India: 7 Years of Modi Government* by K.J. Alphons (New Delhi: OakBridge, 2021) qualitatively and quantitatively evaluates the policies of the government in 25 key sectors. It was discussed by Rajiv Kumar, Sandeep Unnithan, and the author.

*The Dream of Revolution: A Biography of Jayaprakash Narayan* by Sujata Prasad (Gurugram: Penguin, 2021) is the story of Jayaprakash Narayan, or JP as he was universally known, who epitomised the Marxian and Gandhian styles of political engagement, and famously brought a powerful government to its knees. It was discussed by Rajmohan Gandhi, Om Thanvi, Raghu Rai, Narayani Basu and Suhas Borker.

In *Tagore and Gandhi: Walking Alone, Walking Together* (New Delhi: Aleph, 2021), Rudrangshu Mukherjee explores their relationship through their differences expressed in their writings and letters to each other, and also tries to understand the beliefs that acted as the bond between the two of them. The discussants were Tushar Gandhi, Ravindra Kumar, Sanjukta Dasgupta, and the author.

*Asoca: A Sutra* by Irwin Allan Sealy (Gurugram: Penguin, 2021) was discussed by R. Mahalakshmi, Shonaleeka Kaul, Arvinder Singh, and the author. Asoca—often spelled Ashoka—was hailed as Ashoka the Great, the emperor who ruled most of the Indian subcontinent and was pivotal in the spread of Buddhism from India to other parts of Asia in the 3rd century BC. But his life as emperor was not always led by non-violence.

*The Fractured Himalaya: India Tibet China 1949–1962* by Nirupama Rao (Gurugram: Penguin, 2021) is a rigorous examination of the workings of diplomacy and both its human and policy quotient; it looks at inflection points when the trajectory of the relationship could have altered, but were missed; and tells the story of the personalities involved as we moved closer to the conflict of 1962. It was discussed under the Chairmanship of Shri N.N. Vohra, with speakers Chandrashekhara Dasgupta, Manish Tewari, Zorawar Daulet Singh, and the author.

*Corona Crisis: Gems from Debris—A Spectrum of Fresh Reflections*, edited by Vikram Chopra (New Delhi: Heritage, 2021), was discussed under the Chairmanship of Dr. Karan Singh with Chief Guest Shri N.N. Vohra. The other speakers were Minoti Chatterjee, Rajiva Verma, and the editor. The book enables readers to transcend the tragedies of life and celebrate life with equipoise and equanimity. It is a piece of wisdom literature that leaves behind a practical, intellectual, emotional and spiritual effect.

*Kathmandu Dilemma: Resetting India–Nepal Ties* by Ranjit Rae (Gurugram: Penguin, 2021) provides the geopolitical context in which the relationship has been unfolding, including the rising footprint of China throughout India's periphery. There are valuable policy prescriptions which are clearly spelt out. It was discussed under the Chairmanship of Ambassador Shyam Saran, and the panelists were Constantino Xavier, Sangeeta Thapliyal, and the author.

*Women of Influence: Ten Extraordinary IAS Careers* by Rajni Sekhri Sibal (Gurugram: Penguin, 2021) is a compilation of the untold stories of 10 women IAS officers who have walked the extra mile and made a difference despite facing major pressures in governance. It was discussed by Ram Chandra Prasad Singh, Bharatendra S. Baswan, Anjuly Chib Duggal, and the author.

*K.N. Malik: An Autobiography* by K.N. Malik (New Delhi: Fingerprint, 2021) was discussed by H.K. Dua, Usha Rai, Suhas Borker, and the author. The book offers an account of the remarkable life of one of the most daring journalists of his time; a life informed by strong friendships, unforgettable experiences, and a fearless dedication to finding and publishing facts even when threatened by people in power.

The discussion on *The Great Tragedy of India's Partition* by S.S. Sharma (New Delhi: Manohar, 2021) was chaired by Shri N.N. Vohra, and the panelists were K.T.S. Tulsi, Amar Farooqui, A.S. Bhasin, and the author. This book is an outcome of six years' research by the author and describes this inhuman fratricidal war. It also attempts to clear many of the misconceptions about this period and covers broadly what happened not only in the Punjab, but also in NWFP, Sind, Baluchistan and, importantly, Bengal.

*Contested Lands: India, China and the Boundary Dispute* by Maroof Raza (New Delhi: Westland, 2021) shows

how the India–China border dispute, going back a century and a half, predates Independence. As complex as the issue is, it pivots on two key questions: Who does Aksai Chin belong to? Will China accept the McMahon Line as the international border between the two countries? It was discussed under the Chairmanship of K.N. Shrivastava, with Sujan R. Chinoy, Alka Acharya, and the author.

*Ganga: Reimagining, Rejuvenating, Reconnecting*, by Rajiv Ranjan Mishra and Puskal Upadhyay (New Delhi: Rupa Publication, 2021), asks why, despite being India's longest and most revered river, with her tributaries traversing 11 states and providing livelihood to nearly 43 per cent of Indians, the Ganga should be getting progressively polluted, with its ecology and flow endangered. This was discussed under the Chairmanship of Bibek Debroy, and the speakers were Yamini Aiyar, Abhay Mishra, Birgit Vogel, and the two authors.



# IIC Publications

## IIC Quarterly

The impact of COVID–19 was hard on the publication of the *IIC Quarterly* as well. Instead of the thematic volume that usually leads the publication year, *Summer 2021* (Volume 48, Number 1) was the first issue to be published. The diversity of this collection of articles is represented by pieces on the Constitution of India, the role of the polity and public services in governance, and cultural currents between Afghanistan and the Indian subcontinent. A tribute to 40 years of Salman Rushdie's *Midnight's Children*, an insightful look at the Mahabharata's impact on Sri Aurobindo, and Japan and Korea in the modern era as prisoners of their histories are other articles. Rounding off the issue is a superb black and white photo essay on the splendid colonial architecture and historic buildings of Chandernagor, tracking its beginnings as a tiny European trading outpost in Bengal.

*Indian Cinema: Today and Tomorrow: Infrastructure, Aesthetics, Audiences* (Winter 2020–Spring 2021; Volume 47, Numbers 3&4) was launched at the annual *IIC Experience* in the Gandhi–King Memorial Plaza by Dr. Karan Singh, Chairman, IIC Editorial Board, in the presence of Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC, and other distinguished guests. Edited by eminent film scholars S.V. Srinivas, Ratheesh Radhakrishnan and Subhajit Chatterjee, along with Omita Goyal, this contemporary enquiry attempts to analyse cinema's current position in light of some rather revolutionary technological changes that have taken place globally in the recent past, impacting traditional viewing options and the very creation of content, among other aspects. With the pandemic accelerating these radical changes exponentially, the volume is a mine

of fascinating explorations on subjects such as the impact of capitalism, the genre of horror, the rise of OTT platforms, dubbing of foreign films into Indian languages, the #MeToo movement in Indian film industries, explorations of alternative sexualities in cinema, among many others.

*Autumn 2021* (Volume 48, Number 2) draws together articles on the Indian non-cooperation struggle in its centenary year, democracy in India, a piece on steel cities and the modern republic, a personal narrative of an individual jailed for dissent, an interview with actor Boman Irani, and an Israeli's observations of the similarities between Indian and Jewish cultures. Other contributions include the status and future of India's agriculture and the intent of the three farm laws, and a tribute to Urdu litterateur Shamsur Rahman Faruqi. The centenary of renowned cartoonist R.K. Laxman is celebrated with a photo essay of some of his iconic cartoons as well as a selection of caricatures. Not many know that Laxman was also a very talented artist. Two of his little-known works of art are on the front and back covers of this issue.

## IIC Diary

Six issues of the *IIC Diary* were printed in 2021, including a special issue on the *IIC Experience: A Festival of the Arts*. They covered a mix of virtual and physical programmes, using a set of colours from the new IIC Colour palette. The Masthead of the IIC Diary has been redesigned with the new logo. The Director's Page, Notices and Departures continue as before.

## Occasional Publication

Occasional Publication 106, titled *Africa's Economic Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic*, is authored by V. Srinivas. Africa witnessed a commodity price shock amidst the pandemic. The lockdowns, leading to restrictions on domestic economic activities and associated commodity price shocks, caused a twin fiscal shock. To sustain recovery, foster job creation and address debt vulnerabilities, multi-lateral backing through grants, concessional financing and debt restructuring are necessary.

# IIC Membership

The movement of the Centre's membership in 2021 is as below:

| S.No. | Class of Membership                        | Jan-21      | Jan-22      |
|-------|--|-------------|-------------|
| 1     | Honorary Members                           | 7           | 7           |
| 2     | Patrons                                    | 1           | 1           |
| 3     | Life Members                               | 96          | 89          |
| 4     | Members                                    | 1992        | 1987        |
| 5     | Associate Members                          | 3845        | 3869        |
| 6     | Overseas Associate Members                 | 509         | 501         |
| 7     | Corporate Members (Universities)           | 30          | 32          |
| 8     | Corporate Members (Others)                 | 188         | 193         |
| 9     | Corporate Associate Members (Universities) | 25          | 25          |
| 10    | Corporate Associate Members (Others)       | 151         | 157         |
| 11    | Corporate Overseas Associate Members       | 2           | 2           |
| 12    | Short Term Associate Members               | 547         | 720         |
|       | <b>TOTAL</b>                               | <b>7393</b> | <b>7583</b> |

## Review of the Annual Subscription Fee (ASF) for the Financial Year 2021-22

The application of the 7th Central Pay Commission (CPC) Pay Scales to the Centre's staff and the consequent significant increase in the establishment cost, increase in consumer price inflation and the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, have all led to the financial health of the Centre being adversely affected.

Various possible initiatives were taken to reduce the salary cost and administrative expenses, tariffs for use of the Centre's services were revised, and various

energy saving measures implemented. However, these measures were not able to even partially bridge the very large gap in our revenues. Consequently, it was decided to enhance the Annual Subscription Fee (ASF) by 25 per cent w.e.f. 1 April 2021, for all categories of Members.

## Curtailment/termination of membership of those who have not applied for their Smart Card despite repeated reminders

Members of the Centre were repeatedly informed that use of the Smart Card had been made compulsory for all Members. They were informed that besides being

a mode of payment of bills, the Smart Card is also the new Identity Card for Members of the Centre. However, despite reminders, as of December 2021, 11.69 per cent of Individual Members and 11 per cent of Corporate Members have not applied for the Smart Card as yet.

Consequently, it was decided to Introduce a new 'Rule 7 A' in the Rules and Regulations of the Centre that states: *'All members will be issued Smart Identity Cards. The format and design of the identity card can be changed by the Centre from time to time, as necessary. If any Member refuses to apply for the new identity card, as prescribed, the membership of such member can be curtailed or cancelled by the Centre.'*

### **Review of Annual Subscription Fee (ASF) payable by Members above 70 years of age who reside outside Delhi/NCR**

The Centre has been charging a lower ASF from Members who are 70 plus and who reside outside Delhi/NCR, as compared to the ASF being charged from Members of the same age group who reside in Delhi/NCR. Additionally, Members above 90 years, irrespective of their place of residence, have been given a concession in regard to the payment of ASF. This decision was implemented w.e.f. 1 April 2009.

Several members had asked that the concessional ASF being charged from elderly Members residing outside Delhi/NCR should also be made applicable to all those residing in Delhi/NCR.

Reviving the concessions granted in 2009, the Board noted that the IIC is an intellectual Centre and not a club and the use of the lodging and catering facilities could not be the only criteria for determining the ASF for any category of membership. It has thus been decided to continue with the concession in ASF for

Members above 90 years, irrespective of their place of residence, and to withdraw the concession available to Members in the age group 70 to 90 years residing outside Delhi/NCR w.e.f. 1 April 2022.

### **Review of the Short Term Associate Membership Scheme (STAM):**

The following changes have been made in STAM Rules:

1. Applicants who are former STAM Members may be considered eligible for a fresh, second STAM tenure.
2. If a person has already done two STAM tenures, he/she will not be considered for any further tenure.

### **Financial Position**

The Centre's revenue during the financial year 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 was ₹ 3,063.34 lakh as against ₹ 5,266.11 lakh in the previous financial year, i.e., a decrease of ₹ 2,202.77 lakh due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Centre remained closed from March 2020 to June 2020 due to lockdowns. The consequent effects of the pandemic and the Delhi Government's restrictions on catering facilities have resulted in lower revenue generation throughout the year. Expenditure during the financial year was ₹ 4,039.86 lakh, as against ₹ 5,550.52 lakh in the previous financial year. The net deficit, after making a provision for depreciation of ₹ 210.94 lakh, is ₹ 976.52 lakh as against ₹ 284.41 lakh in the financial year 2019–2020.

The investment policy of the Centre, as in previous years, continues to ensure the placement of funds in risk-free investments. The investment at the end of the financial year 2020–2021 stood at ₹ 83.32 crore.

Despite the losses in the current year, the Centre was able to maintain its corpus by utilising its funds efficiently.

## Computerisation

The Instant Payment System using Smart Cards introduced in 2019 has been operating successfully. Most Members (6,689 or 89 per cent) have had Smart Cards made and are settling bills using the Card at catering outlets. Members also have the option to make payments through debit or credit cards, or using the online Internet Payment Gateway Services.

The Centre keeps Members informed about the various activities, events, notices and bills via bulk emails. The National Informatics Centre (NIC) services are being used to send bulk emails. The Centre has upgraded and modernised bulk email services by implementing the powerful cloud-based email service that leverages a dedicated infrastructure. This professional service provides analytics to ensure delivery of emails to Members. It supports anti-spam and anti-virus to prevent disruptions.

Members are also being informed about catering and other notices, Smart Card usage and Library dues through SMS.

The Centre has trained in-house manpower to conduct online Webinars. This has helped to conduct Webinars without any limitations, and is also financially viable. A separate Webinar Room has been allocated with the necessary Webinar and online meeting software and the latest equipment.

This year, 150 Webinars were held successfully, which were also live-streamed on the YouTube platform. Members are being informed about projected Webinars through emails. The archives of these Webinars and old webcast videos are available on the

IIC YouTube channel (IIC Lectures). Copies of all webcast/Webinar programmes are also available to Members in the Audio/Video section of the Library.

Keeping in view the COVID-19 guidelines, and leveraging the digital platform for ease of purchasing and submitting Short Term Associate Membership (STAM) forms, a software application was developed and made accessible through the IIC Website. Sufficient technical support in the submission process was extended to the applicants. This enabled them to submit online application forms seamlessly without having to physically visit the Centre.

The Wi-Fi service is working smoothly and as per the DoT guidelines. Members and their guests staying at the Hostel are using the facility daily.

Local Area Network (LAN) of 1 Gpbs has been working successfully to facilitate IT services of data sharing, Integrated Software System, Internet access, Attendance system, Webcasting, Webinars, Web OPAC, CCTV, Electronic Signage System, DigiLib, STAM applications, etc.

The new Website ([www.iicdelhi.in](http://www.iicdelhi.in)), which was launched in January 2021, is working successfully. It is well designed and its features are functional and easy to use. The Website design is also responsive to hand-held devices. It is updated regularly with new content on Programmes, Publications, Library, Notices, Webinars and details of outstanding dues. Virtual exhibitions held during the lockdown are also uploaded on the IIC Website. Information on events and Webinars are displayed on the Website home page under the spotlight section for the immediate attention of Members. Members can log in and make online payments of outstanding bills, update their profile information, and request bookings of the Hostel and venues.



A state-of-the art IT infrastructure has been developed in the Library for the digitisation project named DigiLib. A high-end server and optimum data storage devices have been installed with upgraded network equipment. Provision has been made to access DigiLib through the IIC Website, and it is also accessible through IIC Intranet. The DigiLib project has a collection of various communities which can be searched and viewed.

## Maintenance

The Centre has commissioned two eco-green projects in the recent past: the Solar Power and Bio Gas Plant. This year, the Centre generated more than 90,000 units of electricity which is equivalent to about 80,000 kg reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emission into the atmosphere. All high-energy consuming fixtures have been replaced with LED fixtures. The Bio Gas generated from 'food waste to energy' now partially fuels the gas burners in the staff cafeteria and Main Kitchen. This conserves 4 per cent energy and treatment of solid organic waste from the kitchens.

Mist aerators which consume less water have been fitted on faucets of select basins. The Centre is playing a small but unique role in protecting the environment, as well as contributing towards the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

An Architectural Design and Advisory Committee comprising a team of eminent Member-architects, advise the Centre on various technical matters. The following works have been undertaken on the advice of this Committee:

- The Library Store (in Basement II of Kamaladevi Block) which contains a number of old but precious collections of journals and books has been fitted with an air conditioning system to maintain

the air quality within acceptable levels. This will go a long way in preserving the shelf-life of these publications.

- The long-awaited elevator to the Dining Hall and Conference Room 2 has begun to take concrete shape and is expected to be commissioned by end April 2022.
- To facilitate new Members and their guests to navigate without difficulty within the Centre, new signages are being designed to standardise the various categories of venues, and to also ensure they are in harmony with the buildings of the Centre.
- Over time, the exterior concrete structures have started deteriorating. These have been painted to restore the original look of the buildings.

## Administration

### *Security*

The Centre maintains a round-the-clock vigil of strategic locations, both in the Main and Annexe, through 143 CCTV cameras. With the installation of Automatic Number Plate Reader (ANPR) at the entry/exit gates, all vehicles entering the Centre are monitored.

Security Guards carry out intensive patrolling of the premises to identify unauthorised/undesirable visitors. Security Personnel were needed not only to perform their normal tasks, but to also take on the additional duty of ensuring adherence to various safety protocols for the COVID-19 pandemic. These include thermal screening of visitors and employees, ensuring wearing of face mask, checking Aarogya app, etc.

## ***Fire Fighting***

Fire Fighting workshops were organised in the months of July and November to refresh the fire fighting skills of employees in fire safety drills and operation of the fire fighting equipment. Special emphasis was laid on training of kitchen staff in handling the equipment. The training was conducted by Captain Daler Singh (Retd.), Training Manager, Eagle Security Service.

## ***Workshop on Safe Usage of PNG Connection***

A Safety Awareness Training workshop was organised by a team from Indraprastha Gas Ltd. (IGL) to educate kitchen users regarding the safety measures to be taken when using PNG in their offices and their homes.

## ***Medical Examination of Employees***

The annual health check-up of Catering and Kitchen staff was held on 27 September. Blood, chest and other vitals were checked by trained NDMC officials.

## ***Free Medical Camp for IIC Employees and their Family Members***

A free Eye Camp was organised by one of our members, Dr. Vipin Buckshey, Optometrist, Visual Aids Centre, in collaboration with Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital for IIC employees and their family members. Vision testing and screening for eye ailments were carried out. The employees and their family members were also given free spectacles and referral for free treatment, including cataract surgery, at Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital.

A free Heart Check-up Camp was organised by a team of senior heart specialists from AIIMS. ECG, blood pressure and BMI tests were carried out. Fifteen selected IIC employees were given practical training in Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR).

## ***Staff Day***

On their superannuation, the Centre bade farewell to Shri D'Cruz, Shri Devender Singh, Shri M.M. Swamy, Shri Ram Kishor Rana, Shri Bhuwan Ram and Shri Sansar Chand during the year.

## ***Staff Welfare***

The entire staff of the Centre is now covered under the Medical Insurance Scheme and can avail of the best treatment from reputed hospitals in Delhi and elsewhere in the country on a cashless basis for themselves and their dependent family members. The Group Medical Insurance Scheme for employees was renewed with M/s. New India Assurance. The Centre has also entered into an agreement with M/s. Apollo Pharmacies and M/s. Yamuna Chemist, from where the staff can procure medicines at a discount and on a cashless basis. The Centre has also entered into an agreement with M/s. Dr. Lal Path Lab and Mahajan Imaging Pvt. Ltd., from where staff can avail of cashless diagnostic tests for themselves and their dependent family members.

## ***Catering***

Like all other activities at the Centre, Catering was also adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and successive lockdowns. However, as soon as restrictions were lifted, the doors of the Main Dining Hall, Lounge and Lotus Lounge were opened for Members, albeit in limited numbers, and ensuring all norms of social distancing. Take-away services were added and continue to be extremely popular.

The Annexe facilities were opened in the Summer (26 August 2021) but had to be closed again (7 January 2022) for want of usage.

An initiative that has been greatly appreciated is the weekly food festivals which have featured both national and international cuisines. Almost all states of India have been represented by their distinctive cuisines. In addition, there were some specials like Maharashtrian street food (during Ganesh Chaturti), Bengali cuisine (at the time of Durga Puja), Coorgi cuisine, Biryani-Kebabs and Curries, Gujarati cuisine, Rajasthani cuisine, Awadhi cuisine, Kerala cuisine, Kashmiri wazwan, Purani Delhi cuisine, to name a few. International cuisine featured European, French and pan Asian cuisines. Special gift hampers/baskets were prepared during Raksha Bandhan, Diwali and Christmas.

## **Hostel and Housekeeping**

As suggested by Members at the last AGM (held in March 2021), select books and magazines have been placed at the Annexe Reception for visitors and residents.

The worn out and stained carpet in the Main Lounge has been removed. The original Kota stone flooring has been polished to restore the original look. The upholstery of the sofas in the Main Lounge and the Lotus Lounge are in the process of being replaced. The main reception furniture has been refurnished.

The carpet in the Main Dining Hall and Private Dining Hall are being replaced with new carpets. The upholstery of the sofas in a few double rooms of the Old Wing (approximately 15) has been changed, and the curtains will also be changed shortly.

Throughout the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, all the areas in the Main Centre and Annexe have been sanitised regularly.

## **IIC Gardens**

The Centre continues to remain known for its lush green gardens, inspiring trees, climbers, annuals and beautiful creepers.

Winter flowers—Chrysanthemum, Sweet Sultan, Statice, Petunia, Kale Alyssum, Antirrhinum, Calendula, Sweet William (more than 50 varieties)—have bloomed well from October onwards. Geranium, Petunia and Carnation also flourished. Flowers like Impatiens, Lisianthus, Mimulus, Lilium, Salvia, Sweet Pea, Pansy, Anemone mona lisa and Bellies were greatly appreciated by our members. Bulbous plant varieties were a beautiful sight. Freesia, Daffodil, Tulip, Gladiolus, Rinki Chinki, Oriental and Narcissus added colour to our gardens. Single and Double Dahlia and Roses are also blooming well. And we look forward to Begonia (Flame Vine) and Saraca asoca (Sita Ashok) blooming in April. As in the past, about 30,000 summer and 75,000 winter flower seedlings were prepared and sold to the Members.

Our Garden staff have been working hard to maintain the Centre's lawns and gardens and deserve a pat.

Dr. N. S. K. Harsh, Senior Scientist of Forest Research Institute, has joined us to advise us on all matters regarding the maintenance of our older trees and plantation of new ones.

## **Management of the Centre**

The Board of Trustees, which provides overall direction for the management of the Centre's affairs, held three special meetings this year, in the months of April, July and October. The Executive Committee met in July, October and December. The Finance Committee held meetings in September and December. Our heartfelt thanks to the Members of all these bodies.

President has been actively participating in the Centre's activities and has held meetings via virtual and physical modes.

All our officers and staff have worked consistently and with dedication throughout the year, while adhering to pandemic-induced guidelines. I thank them for their commitment.

Finally, I and my team wish to express our gratitude to our Members for supporting the Centre in these troubled times.

**K.N. SHRIVASTAVA**

Director



## IIC FESTIVAL, 2022



Vaibhav Arekar and the Sankhya Dance Company in 'Shiva—Facets of Him', a Bharatanatyam performance.



Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC, being escorted around the exhibition 'Flights of Materiality'.



Vidushi Shalmalee Joshi performing Hindustani Vocal.



Dining at the IIC Festival, a 'Focus on Chefs'



Launch of the thematic volume of the *IIC Quarterly*, titled: *Indian Cinema: Today and Tomorrow: Infrastructure, Aesthetics, Audience*. Dr. Karan Singh and Shri N.N. Vohra are flanked by Ms Omia Goyal and Shri K.N. Shrivastava





Yuki Elias in a solo play titled 'Elephant in the Room' performed at IIC Festival, 2022



Late General Bipin Rawat, Chief of Defence Staff, being welcomed by Shri K.N. Shrivastava, Director, IIC, on 15 September 2021 to deliver a talk on 'Towards Progressive Defence Reforms'

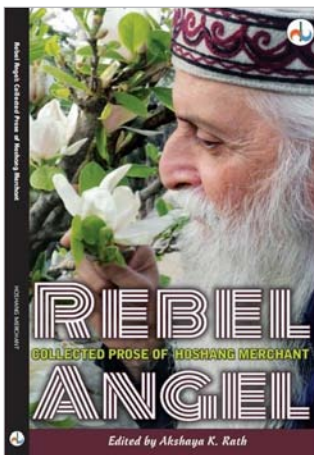


COVID-19 vaccination camp at the Centre, held in September 2021



Shri K.N. Shrivastava, Director, IIC, garlanding the bust of Dr. C.D. Deshmukh on 14 January 2021, Dr. Deshmukh's birthday

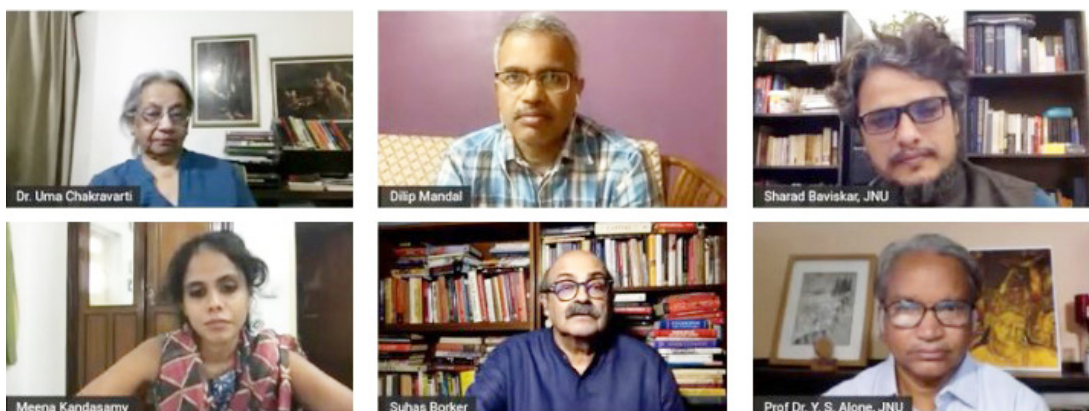
## DOUBLE BILL RECITALS



Launch of poet Hoshang Merchant's first book of prose

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | <p><b>Hindustani Music - Sarod Recital</b><br/> <b>Pt. Abhik Kumar Sarkar</b><br/>         From Delhi<br/>         Disciple of Ustad Amjad Ali Khan<br/>         Tabla Accompanist:<br/> <b>Shri Shubhendu Das</b></p>               |
|  | <p><b>Odissi Recital</b><br/>         साभिनय - SAABHINAYA<br/>         An evening of Odissi performed by<br/> <b>Vrinda Chadha</b><br/>         From Delhi<br/>         Disciple of Guru Ranjana Gauhar<br/>         (Padmashri)</p> |

A physical programme held when COVID-19 restrictions were eased



Participants at the Webinar on 'Who is Afraid of Caste'. L to R clockwise: Uma Chakravarti, Dilip Mandal, Sharad Baviskar, Y.S. Alone, Suhas Borker, Meena Kandasamy



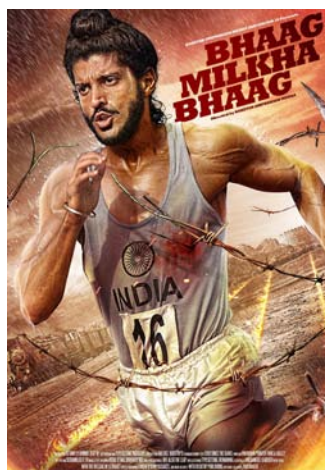
Manjari Chaturvedi performing the forgotten love story of 'Dara Shikoh and Rana Dil'



Sitar recital by Rajeev Janardan



Shyam Benegal's film, *Satyajit Ray*, part of a series of IIC programmes celebrating '100 Years of Ray'



Screening of the film based on Partition memories





Inauguration of the Centre's digital resource portal christened DigiLib by Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC



Demonstration of the DigiLib Portal by Usha Mujoo Munshi, Chief Librarian, IIC



Inauguration of the SCADA monitor by Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC



An exhibition presenting a selection of *Sandesh* (Bengali: *Shondesh*) covers, illustrated by Satyajit Ray



Images from 'The Floating World of Ukiyo-e Prints', an ancient art form from Japan



IIC Bio Gas Plant: a step towards zero organic waste



Presentation of a Walker and a Wheelchair to Brahampal (staff member of IIC) for his daughter, Kumari Aruna, by Shri K.N. Shrivastava, Director, IIC





The redesigned Reception of the Main Centre



The Lotus Lounge with a new look



A refurbished Hostel Room



## IIC GARDENS



Mix of potted Stock, Phlox and Petunia



Potted Petunia



Sweet Pea





Shri K.N. Shrivastava, Director, IIC, hoisting the National Flag on Independence Day (15 August 2021)

# Appendices

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# APPENDIX I *Seminars*

## SEPTEMBER 2021

- 16-17 Afro-Asian Musical Imaginaries: Interconnected Histories across Continents**  
International colloquium: 16th and 17th September 2021 from 2.00 pm to 6.30 pm  
**Inaugural Session**  
Welcome: Shri K.N. Shrivastava, Director, IIC  
Opening Remarks: Dr. Sudha Gopalakrishnan, Executive Director, IIC-IRD  
Inaugural Address: Shri N.N. Vohra, President IIC  
*A pdf with complete details of the colloquium was sent separately by email.*  
(Organised by the IIC-International Research Division; Recentring Afro-Asia Project, University of Cape Town; and Ambedkar University, Delhi))

## NOVEMBER 2021

- 12-13 Science of Mind in the Philosophies of the World—A Dialogue Between Science and Philosophy**  
A two-day seminar organised in collaboration with World Buddhist Culture Trust.  
Speakers at the seminar included Dr. Sudhamahi Regunathan; Prof. Mohini Mullick; Prof. Vijay Tankha; Fr. Dr. K.M. George; Dr. Zakaria Abbas; Prof. Akhlaq A. 'Ahan'; Lama Doboomb Tulku etc. Kindly please check our website for complete details of the seminar
- 27 Symposium on Qawwali: An Academic Study**  
6th Symposium in the series on 'Understanding Qawwali'  
Conceptualised by Manjari Chaturvedi
- Session I - 10:30 to 13:15**  
**Inauguration of the Seminar**  
Followed by  
**Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya's Defence of Sama and Qawwali at Sultan Ghayasuddin Tughluq's Court**  
Speaker: Prof. Raziuddin Aquil, Associate Professor, Dept. of History, University of Delhi who has published widely on religious, literary and historical traditions in Sultanate and Mughal India.
- At 12:00**  
**Breaking the Glass Ceiling—Feminine in Qawwali**  
Speaker: Prof. Danish Iqbal, Delhi based playwright who is also an actor, teacher, writer, researcher, cultural organiser, arts administrator, and media person



Followed by a **Conversation** between Prof. Danish Iqbal and Qawwal Chanchal Bharati

**At 13:00**

Screening of a short documentary film: **Sufi Sama** (15 min)

Directed by Yousuf Saeed

**Session II–14:00 to 17:30**

**Development of Qawwali in Awadh Region**

Speaker: Shri Yousuf Saeed, independent filmmaker, researcher and activist, Project

Director, Tasveer Ghar, and Director, Ektara India

**From 14:25–15:45**

**Punjabi Poetry and Qawwali–A natural alliance**

Speaker: Dr. Madan Gopal Singh, composer, singer, lyricist, actor, screenwriter, film theorist, editor and polyglot

**15:45**

**Guldasta-e-Qawwali**

A book discussion with Suman Mishra and Abdul Wasay, moderated by Panini Anand

# APPENDIX II *Talks*

## FEBRUARY 2021

### 1-7 **ARCHAEOLOGY AND HERITAGE**

#### **City of Ravenna** (49 min)

A virtual tour of the city conducted by Caterina Brazzi Castracane, historian, author and tour guide

**Webinar on 6th February 2021 at 3 pm**

#### **A Woman's Quest for Justice**

A conversation with Bhanwri Devi on her life and struggle

Kavita Srivastava, President, PUCL Rajasthan in conversation with Bhanwri Devi

Introduction: Dr. Amita V. Joseph, BCF

*The webinar was conducted in Hindi and Marwari*

### 8-14 **Even at Nanoscale**

Society's deep impact on science, technology and innovation in India

Illustrated lecture by Dr. Pankaj Sekhsaria, Associate Professor, Centre for Technology Alternatives for Rural Areas (CTARA) and Associate Faculty, Centre for Policy Studies, IIT-Bombay

*Video recording of a lecture for IIC online programmes*

### 15-21 **ARCHAEOLOGY AND HERITAGE**

#### **Art and Technology of South Indian Bronzes and the Chola Nataraja**

Illustrated lecture by Prof. Sharada Srinivasan, Professor, National Institute of Advanced Studies, IISc Campus, Bengaluru, and Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland and World Academy of Arts and Science

*Video recording of a lecture for IIC online programmes*

**Webinar on 17th February 2021 at 4 pm**

#### **Targeting Sustainability of Forests through Certification and NCCF Standards**

Introduction: Shri K.N. Shrivastava, Director, IIC

Speaker: Shri A.K. Srivastava, IFS (retd.), Director General, Network for Certification and Conservation of Forests (NCCF), New Delhi

Chair: Mr. Ben Gunneberg, CEO and Secretary General, The Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification, Geneva, Switzerland

**Webinar on 22nd February 2021 at 6 pm**

**SOCIAL CHANGE GOLDEN JUBILEE LECTURE 2021**

**Thinking of Crime: The State, Society and Justice**

Speaker: Prof. G.N. Devy, former Professor of English, MS University, Baroda, cultural activist and tribal scholar, Chief Editor, *People's Linguistic Survey of India*

Chair: Prof. Muchkund Dubey, President, Council for Social Development

**Webinar on 24th February 2021 at 4 pm**

**MAPPING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE**

**How much are Indian farmers supported? Findings from an ICRIER-OECD Study**

Speaker: Ms. Shweta Saini, Senior Research Fellow (Visiting), ICRIER

Moderator: Shri Siraj Hussain, Visiting Senior Fellow, ICRIER

The talk focused on the stepwise calculations of support provided to farmers

**MARCH 2021**

**1-7**

**Poet and Storyteller**

Keki N. Daruwalla, poet and author in conversation with Amrita Bhalla, Associate Professor in English, Jesus and Mary College, University of Delhi and Steering Committee Member, DSC Prize for South Asian Writing  
(Collaboration: Parzor and Jiyo Parsi)

**8-14**

**ARCHAEOLOGY AND HERITAGE**

**Parma—A Paradise Between Art and Gastronomy (49 min)**

A virtual tour of the city conducted by Caterina Brazzi Castracane, historian, author and tour guide

An initiative of the Italian Embassy Cultural Centre, New Delhi and Bell'Italia 88

**There's more to *Life* than a House in Goa**

Talking heritage conservation with Heta Pandit, author and Heritage Conservationist; and Dr. Pheroza Godrej, Art Historian

Moderator: Dr. Shernaz Cama

(Collaboration: Parzor; and Jiyo Parsi)

**8**

**MEET THE AUTHOR**

**His Holiness the Dalai Lama: An Illustrated Biography**

By Tenzin Geyshe Tethong (Interlink Pub Group Inc; Illustrated edition, December 2020)

Shri Tenzin Geyshe Tethong, former Secretary to His Holiness and author of the book was in conversation with Ngari Rinpoche Tendzin Choegyal, brother of His Holiness and who has written the foreword to the book; and Shri Rajiv Mehrotra, a student of His Holiness

**15-21 INDIAN ARCHAEOLOGY**

**Brahmin, Buddhist, Jain Art and Culture of the Vindhya Region**

Illustrated lecture by Dr. Shishir Kumar Jain, Consultant (archaeologist), National Monuments Authority

Chair: Shri B.M. Pande

*The lecture was delivered in Hindi*

Venue: Conference Room I

**16 My Ikebana. My Pottery**

Lecture-demonstration by Neera Makhija, Ikebana teacher and potter

Introduction: Smt. Veena Dass, Director, Sogetsu School, Delhi

In this demonstration, Neera explored the intersections of her ikebana art with her own pottery pieces

(Collaboration: Sogetsu School, Delhi)

**19 Chameli Devi Jain Awards 2020**

Presented to an Outstanding Woman Journalist

*Followed by*

**B.G. VERGHESE MEMORIAL LECTURE**

**What Journalists can and should Learn from Social Media**

Speaker: Alan Rusbridger, Chair of the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism and former Editor-in-Chief, *The Guardian*

Chair: Shri Harish Khare

*Video recording of the award function and lecture for IIC online programmes*

**20 DR. C.D. DESHMUKH MEMORIAL LECTURE 2021**

**Indian Constitution: What it Should mean Today**

Speaker: Shri Justice M.N. Venkatachaliah, former Chief Justice of India

Chair: Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC

**APRIL 2021**

**5-11 Pico Iyer: When Houses are not Homes (52:46 min)**

Video recording of a lecture delivered by Pico Iyer, arguably the world's greatest living travel writer, at the International Festival of Arts and Ideas, Yale University, June 2016.

- 7           **Sakura Herald Spring**  
An Ikebana demonstration by Eiko Sumura, senior Master Instructor of the Sogetsu School; and Yuka Okubo, a third generation Sogetsu teacher. The mother and daughter duo used different varieties of Sakura for their demonstration  
Introduction: Smt. Veena Dass  
(Collaboration: Sogetsu School, Delhi; and Embassy of Japan)

- 28           **V.P. DUTT MEMORIAL LECTURE 2021**  
**Biden's China Policy: Old Wine in New Bottles?**  
Speaker: Prof. Andrew J. Nathan, Professor of Political Science, Columbia University  
Chair: Amb. Ashok Kantha, Director, Institute of Chinese Studies

**MAY 2021**

- 3-9           **Painting with a Needle** (66 min)  
An illustrated lecture by Dr. Shernaz Cama, Founding Director, UNESCO Parzor  
  
*Video recording of a lecture presented for the Zoroastrian Association of Metropolitan Washington DC on 26/27 April 2021*

- 8-9           **Meditation and the Mind**  
An online workshop with Yongey Mingyur Rinpoche

- 24-30           **On 25th May 2021**

**India's National Security Challenges: Centre-State Responsibilities**  
Speaker: Cmde C. Uday Bhaskar, Director, Society for Policy Studies, New Delhi  
Chair: Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC

**JUNE 2021**

- 7-13           **Slavoj Žižek: Let us Be Realists and Demand the Impossible: Communism** (56 min)  
Video recording of a lecture delivered by Prof. Slavoj Žižek, well-known Slovenian political philosopher, cultural theorist and author, at the 2011 Festival of Dangerous Ideas, Sydney, Australia.

**ARCHAEOLOGY AND HERITAGE**

**Ferrara: The Ideal City** (40 min)  
Illustrated lecture by Ms Caterina Brazzi Castracane, historian, author and tour guide  
Organised in collaboration with Italian Embassy Cultural Centre and Bell'Italia 88



**21-27 Yoga and Meditation in the Wake of Covid-19**

Lecture-demonstration by Dr. Alka Tyagi and Sanya Tyagi

Introduction: Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi, Member-Secretary, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts

This programme has been organised on the occasion of International Yoga Day on 21st June 2021

*Video recording of an illustrated lecture for IIC online programme activities*

**29 TO MARK THE BIRTH CENTENARY OF SHRI A.K. DAMODARAN  
The World from 1954**

Talk by Amb. Thomas R. Pickering, former Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs (1997-2000); and US Ambassador to the Russian Federation (1993-1996); India (1992-1993); Ambassador and U.S. Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations (1989-1992); and U.S. Ambassador to Israel (1985-1988)

Introduction: Shri Shyam Saran, Life Trustee, IIC

Chair: Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC

*In his talk, Ambassador Pickering looked at how the world and its future appeared in 1952, when he and Ambady Damodaran were classmates at the Fletcher School of Law and Democracy in Boston USA, how it has eventually shaped over the past 67 years, and the contributions of India and the United States to that shaping.*

*Ambady Krishnan Damodaran (1921-2012) was one of the doyens of Indian diplomacy and a freedom fighter. An Indian Foreign Service Officer of the 1953 batch, following his retirement in 1980, he turned his formidable intellect towards scholarship, penning and editing books on India's foreign policy*

**JULY 2021**

**5-11 Discovering Iran—A Unique Drive Through Persia**

Illustrated lecture by Hormazd Sorabjee, Editor, *Autocar India*

Introduction: Kritika Mudgal

*Video recording of a Zoom talk presented by Parzor Foundation and Jiyo Parsi*

**6 Signs of Life**

Ikebana lecture and demonstration by Ms Ursula Altenbach, artist and Ikebana teacher from Gersau, Switzerland

Introduction: Smt. Veena Dass, Director, Sogetsu School of Ikebana  
(Collaboration: Sogetsu School of Ikebana, New Delhi)

**8 Meet the Artist**

Sadanand Menon, well-known arts editor and cultural journalist spoke on Dashrath Patel, artist, designer and educator.

Sadanand Menon spoke about Dashrath Patel, whom he considered his mentor. In 1998, he

curated the Retrospective exhibition Fifty Years of Dashrath Patel's Work that was held at NGMA, Delhi and Mumbai.

A new once a month series of online conversations organised in collaboration with J.D. Centre of Arts with artists, craft persons and scholars who make illustrated presentations and engage in a conversation about their art form

(Collaboration: J.D. Centre of Art, Bhubaneshwar, Odisha)

## 12-18 **ARCHAEOLOGY AND HERITAGE**

### **Verona–The City of Love and Wine**

A virtual tour of the city conducted by Caterina Brazzi Castracane, historian, author and tour guide

An initiative of the Italian Embassy Cultural Centre, New Delhi and Bell'Italia 88

## 15 **DR. DURGABAI DESHMUKH MEMORIAL LECTURE 2021**

### **The Janus Face of Agricultural Policies–Kisan and Sethias: Local and Global**

Speaker: Prof. Y.K. Alagh, eminent economist, educationist and Government Policy Adviser, former Minister for Planning and Programme Implementation, Science and Technology and Power

(Collaboration: Council for Social Development)

## 18 **THE 4TH NELSON MANDELA LECTURE 2021**

### **Nelson Mandela: The Man of Our Times**

Opening Remarks: Suhas Borker

Speaker: Amb. Talmiz Ahmad, Ram Sathe Chair Professor, Symbiosis School of International Studies, Symbiosis International (deemed University), Pune and formerly India's Deputy High Commissioner in Pretoria, 1994-97

Closing Remarks: H.E. Mr. Joel Sibusiso Ndebele, South African High Commissioner to India

Chair: Amb. Shiv Shankar Mukherjee, former Indian High Commissioner to Pretoria

(Collaboration: South African High Commission; and Working Group on Alternative Strategies)

## 26 Jul **An Evening with Boman Irani**

to Screening of a short documentary film

## 1 Aug **Not Just Milk and Sugar (16 min)**

Written and directed by Divya Cowasji

Produced by Ministry of Minority Affairs, Govt. of India

Followed by

### **In Conversation**

Well-known actor, voice artist and photographer, Boman Irani in conversation with Dr. Shernaz Cama

(Collaboration: Jiyo Parsi; and Parzor Foundation)

*Zoom recording of the programme held on 9 July 2021.*

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## MAPPING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

### Opportunities and Challenges of Exporting Processed Food from India

Speaker: Shri Hemant Malik, Divisional Chief Executive of Foods Business, ITC

Chair: Shri Siraj Hussain, Visiting Senior Fellow, ICRIER

## AUGUST 2021

9-15

### Justice Not Revenge—Examining the Concept of Revolutionary Justice (50 min)

Recording of Prof. Mahmood Mamdani giving the Edward W. Said London Lecture 2017 on 31 March 2017, at The British Museum, London. Prof. Mamdani is a Ugandan academic, author and political commentator, presently Chancellor, Kampala International University, Uganda; Director, Makerere Institute of Social Science Research; the Herbert Lehmann Professor of Government, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University; and Professor of Anthropology, Political Science and African Studies, Columbia University.

### Vicenza and the Genius of Palladio

A virtual tour of the city conducted by Caterina Brazzi Castracane, historian, author and tour guide

An initiative of the Italian Embassy Cultural Centre, New Delhi and Bell'Italia 88

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## MEET THE ARTIST

Prof. Deborah Swallow, Director, Courtauld Institute of Art, London will speak on **Art for All: Samuel Courtauld, collecting and public patronage**

The concept of 'Art for All' is universally endorsed, but what does it really mean?

Prof. Deborah Swallow is the Märit Rausing Director of The Courtauld Institute of Art, London. Founded in 1932, The Courtauld is the UK's leading specialist institution for research and study in the history of art, architecture, and conservation, with an art gallery and a world-renowned art collection. Before joining the Institute, Prof. Swallow worked for 21 years in the Indian and Asian Departments at the Victoria and Albert Museum and 8 years in the Cambridge University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology.

(Collaboration: J.D. Centre of Art)

18

### Compositions Showing the Relation of Form to Vase

Ikebana lecture–demonstration by Mr. Takayuki Fukazawa, award winning artist and leader of the Ikebana performance unit 'Za-Sogetsu'.

Introduction: Smt. Veena Dass, Director, Sogetsu School of Ikebana

Mr. Fukazawa presented a demonstration of 'All the way from Japan'—his own unique and innovative composition

(Collaboration: Sogetsu School of Ikebana, New Delhi; and The Japan Foundation)

20

### Writing Histories of Revolutionaries

Speaker: Prof. Aparna Vaidik, Associate Professor of History, Ashoka University and author

of the recently published *Waiting for Swaraj: Inner Lives of Indian Revolutionaries* (Cambridge University Press, 2021)

Chair: Prof. Madhavan K. Palat, historian

**25 MAPPING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE**

**Indian Agriculture and the Research and Development Deficit**

Speaker: Prof. Deepak Pental, Professor of Genetics and former Vice-Chancellor, University of Delhi.

Moderator: Shri Siraj Hussain, Visiting Senior Fellow, ICRIER

**SEPTEMBER 2021**

**1 Epidemic Control in India: Re-focusing Public Health Services for Better Outcomes**

Speaker: Monica Das Gupta, demographer, Research Professor, University of Maryland, USA. She has worked in the World Bank's Development Research Group, Washington DC; Harvard University's Center for Population and Development Studies, Cambridge MA; and at the National Council of Applied Economic Research, New Delhi

Chair: T.V. Somanathan, Finance Secretary, Govt. of India

**11 TALKING ARCHITECTURE**

**Indian Architecture: Tradition, Texts and Principles**

A talk by Dr. Sudhir Lal, Project Director of Vedic Heritage Portal and Bharat Vidya Prayojana and Senior Faculty, Kalakosa Division, IGNCA, explaining the contextual background of the Indian arts and the cyclic notion of time observed in Indic thought – and how this leads to architecture that is functional, aesthetically fulfilling and in harmony with nature.

The talk was followed by a dialogue with Anisha Shekhar Mukherji, Conservation Architect, Author and Visiting Faculty at S.P.A. Delhi.

The third in the bi-monthly series structured around dialogues that endeavour to present the role of architecture in contributing positively to society and to culture. Conceptualised by Anisha Shekhar Mukherji, the series, through interactions with practitioners and scholars, intends to engage with a wide variety of people—professionals and lay-persons alike

**11 MEET THE ARTIST**

Laila Tyabji, Chairperson, DASTKAR, writer and craft designer will speak on *A Crafted Journey*

(Collaboration: JD Centre of Art)

**INDIAN ARCHAEOLOGY**

**Chariots of Sanauli—Shedding Light on the Chariot and Cart Controversy**

Illustrated lecture by Dr. Sanjay K. Manjul, Joint Director General (Archaeology), Archaeological Survey of India and Director, Institute of Archaeology

Chair: Shri B.M. Pande

- 13-19      Alain Badiou–Contemporary Art Confronting the 21st Century**  
(94 min; 2015; English)  
Video recording of a talk delivered by the well-known French philosopher Alain Badiou organised by Miguel Abreu Gallery, New York on 7 February 2015.
- 15            Towards Progressive Defence Reforms**  
Speaker: Gen. Bipin Rawat, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, YSM, SM, VSM, Chief of Defence Staff of India (CDS)  
Chair: Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC
- 19            Against the Deluge of Darkness: Reflections on Kunwar Narain’s Poetry**  
A talk by Ranjit Hoskote, poet and author, art critic, cultural theorist and independent curator  
Organised in collaboration with Sahitya Akademi’s *Through My Window* series of programmes
- 30            MAPPING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE**  
**The Trials and Tribulations of India’s Nutrition Journey: Connecting the Dots between Evidence and Policy in a Fast-moving context**  
Speaker: Dr. Purnima Menon, senior research fellow, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), New Delhi who is the theme leader for South Asia Nutrition Programmes at IFPRI’s Poverty, Health, and Nutrition Division  
Chair: Shri Siraj Hussain, Visiting Senior Fellow, ICRIER

## OCTOBER 2021

- 4-10        Catalysts for Creative Spaces: Kekoo and Khorshed Gandhi**  
(75 min)  
Shernaz Cama in conversation with the Gandhi siblings–Rashna, Behroze and Shireen  
*Zoom recording of the Jiyo Parsi Friday Forum held on 24th September 2021*  
(Collaboration: Parzor Foundation and Jiyo Parsi)
- 6            On 6th October 2021 at 12 noon**
- Japanese Autumn**  
Ikebana lecture-demonstration by Ms Kosa Nishiyama, Sogetsu First Grade *Riji* Teacher, Sogetsu Headquarters Master Instructor, Member, Ikebana International and a Fellow of the Nippon Ikebana Art Associations  
Introduction: Smt. Veena Dass, Director, Sogetsu School, New Delhi  
(Collaboration: Sogetsu School, New Delhi)
- 6            Civil Services Reforms in India, United States and Nigeria 1950-2021**  
Speaker: Shri V. Srinivas, Special Secretary to Government of India, Director General,



National Centre for Good Governance and Member, Council of Administration,  
International Institute of Administrative Sciences, Brussels

Chair: Shri Sanjay Kothari, former Chief Vigilance Commissioner, Govt. of India

**9 MEET THE ARTIST**

Sculptor, enamellist and researcher Balan Nambiar spoke on *Golden Ratio, Fibonacci Sequences, Fractals and the Arts*

(Collaboration: J.D. Centre of Art)

**9 DIALOGUES IN HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

**Common Eye Problems–Understanding the Symptoms, Management and Prevention**

Speaker: Dr. J.S. Titiyal, Chief and Professor (Ophthalmology), Dr. R.P. Centre for Ophthalmic Sciences, All India Institute of Medical Sciences

Chair: Dr. Ashwani Kumar

**NOVEMBER 2021**

**8 INDIAN ARCHAEOLOGY**

**Dara Shikoh ki Qabar ki khoj** (The discovery of Dara Shikoh's Grave)

Illustrated lecture by Sanjeev Kumar Singh, Assistant Engineer, South Delhi Municipal Corporation

Chair: Prof. Aleem Ashraf Khan, Head of Department, Dept. of Persian Studies, University of Delhi

*The lecture was delivered in Hindi*

**13 TALKING ARCHITECTURE**

**Conservation for the Community**

A talk by Ratish Nanda, Conservation Architect and CEO, Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC) in India. The presentation of initiatives explained how conservation effort can be coupled with socio-economic development measures to improve the quality of life for local communities

The talk was followed by a dialogue with Anisha Shekhar Mukherji, Conservation Architect, author and Visiting Faculty, School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi

The fourth programme in the bi-monthly series structured around dialogues that endeavour to present the role of architecture in contributing positively to society and to culture. Conceptualised by Anisha Shekhar Mukherji, the series, through interactions with practitioners and scholars, intends to engage with a wide variety of people–professionals and lay-persons alike

**17 DIALOGUES IN HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

**Preventing Diabetes and its Complications–How can we meet this challenge?**

Illustrated lecture by Dr. S.V. Madhu, Director-Professor and Head, Dept. of Endocrinology,

Head, Centre for Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolism, University College of Medical Sciences and GTB Hospital, Delhi

Chair: Dr. Ashwani Kumar

From 14:00 to 16:30 hrs: Random Blood Sugar Testing was conducted for all those interested in Seminar Room I

*Second lecture in a new monthly series of medical presentations on early signs, prevention and management of diseases/conditions in common medical perspectives by eminent medical consultants. Conceptualised by Dr. Ashwani Kumar*

20

### **East Meets West**

Ikebana with Shona stone sculptures

Lecture demonstration by Ms Mary Marques from Zimbabwe, a Riji in Sogetsu School of Ikebana and President of the Harare Chapter of the Sogetsu School

Introduction: Smt. Veena Dass, Director, Sogetsu School, New Delhi

(Collaboration: Sogetsu School, New Delhi)

26

### **Crafting a Future: Stories of Indian Textiles and Sustainable Practices**

Illustrated lecture by Archana Shah, author of the new book of the same title. Archana Shah spoke about her textile journey of over 40 years

Introduction by Laila Tyabji and David Abraham

(Collaboration: Dastkar; and Creative Dignity)

26

### **MUSIC APPRECIATION PROMOTION**

#### ***Geet-prakars: Genre in Gwalior Gharana of Hindustani Classical Music***

The illustrated lecture was presented by Shashwati Mandal, senior vocalist who has trained under Pt. Balasaheb Poonchhwale, Smt Purnima Chaudhuri, Gundecha Brothers and Pt. Madhup Mudgal

24

### **HISTORY AND HERITAGE: THE AFTERLIFE OF MONUMENTS**

#### **Monuments and their Connected Histories: Stories from Delhi, Agra, and Fatehpur Sikri**

Illustrated lecture by Dr. Shashank Shekhar Sinha, independent researcher and author of *Delhi, Agra, Fatehpur Sikri: Monuments, Cities and Connected Histories, 2021*

Introduction: Dr. Himanshu Prabha Ray

Chair: Dr. Swapna Liddle

### **MAPPING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE**

#### **Farmers and Agricultural Commodity Futures in India**

Speaker: Shri Sanjay Mansabdar, founder and Managing Director, Dvara E Registry, an AgriFin Tech startup that works with farmers, FPOs, value chain companies, insurers and lenders on a farmer productivity and financial inclusion platform called Doordrishti

Chair: Shri Siraj Hussain, Visiting Senior Fellow, ICRIER

DECEMBER 2021

- 29 Nov to 5 Dec**     **Parsi Print Heritage**  
A Zoom video recording of a lecture delivered by Murali Ranganathan, unaffiliated researcher who explores nineteenth century South Asia with a special focus on Mumbai and western India.  
Introduced by Dr. Shernaz Cama  
(Collaboration: Jiyo Parsi and Parzor Foundation)
- 3**                    **Talking Asian Cinema**  
Siddharth Srinivasan, award-winning independent filmmaker in conversation with Aruna Vasudev, film scholar, editor, film festival curator, artist, who first introduced Asian Cinema to Indian audiences
- 4**                    **DIALOGUES IN HEALTH AND WELLNESS**  
**Heart Attacks: Do's and Don'ts**  
Speaker: Dr. Nitish Naik, Professor of Cardiology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi  
Chair: Dr. Ashwani Kumar  
*Third lecture in a new monthly series of medical presentations on early signs, prevention and management of diseases/conditions in common medical perspectives by eminent medical consultants. Conceptualised by Dr. Ashwani Kumar*
- 7**                    **The Invisible Empire: The Natural History of Viruses**  
Illustrated lecture by Pranay Lal, biochemist and artist who works in public health and environment; and author of the book
- 11**                   **Meet the Artist**  
Amit Ambalal, artist and author presented an illustrated lecture on Krishna as Shrinathji, Paintings from Nathdwara  
(Collaboration: J.D. Centre of Art)
- 13**                   **INDIAN ARCHAEOLOGY**  
**The Conservation of Islamic Monuments in Agra**  
Illustrated lecture by Dr. Vasant Kumar Swarnkar, Superintending Archaeologist, Agra Circle, Archaeological Survey of India  
Chair: Shri B.M. Pande
- 14**                   **DIALOGUES IN HEALTH AND WELLNESS**  
**From 10:00 to 14:00 in the Multipurpose Hall**  
**Heart Disease Awareness and screening**

**From 13:00 to 15:00 in Seminar Room I**

**Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Technique**

A demonstration of Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) technique to members and staff of the Centre.

**At 16:00 to 17:00 in the Multipurpose Hall**

**Recognising and Preventing Heart Attacks: Do's and Don'ts**

Speaker: Dr. Nitish Naik, MD, DM, FACC, FCSI, Professor, Dept. of Cardiology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi; Executive Editor, Indian Heart Journal; and Editorial Board Member, Journal of Asian Pacific Society of Cardiology

Chair: Dr. Ashwani Kumar

*Third lecture in a new monthly series of medical presentations on early signs, prevention and management of diseases/conditions in common medical perspectives by eminent medical consultants. Conceptualised by Dr. Ashwani Kumar*

**15 Building Dakshin Gangotri at Antarctica: A Miracle**

Release of the book by Dr. Harsh Gupta followed by a talk

The book was released by Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC

Followed by:

Illustrated lecture by Dr. Harsh Gupta, Member, Atomic Energy Regulatory Board; President, Geological Society of India; Editor-in-Chief, Encyclopedia of Solid Earth Geophysics

Chair: Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC

**15 Sogetsu for Everyone**

Lecture-demonstration by Datin Kid Ching Ong from Johar Bahu, Malaysia. A renowned ceramic and Ikebana artist in Singapore and Malaysia, she holds a RIJI degree, the highest diploma degree in the Sogetsu School of Ikebana. Datin Ong is best known for her creative approach to marrying both her ceramic art and Ikebana.

Introduction: Smt Veena Dass, Director, Sogetsu School, New Delhi

(Collaboration: Sogetsu School, New Delhi)

**17 The Legacy of Divide–Tracing the presence of Partition memories in contemporary Indian films**

Illustrated lecture by Dr. Meera Shirodkar, Assistant Professor, Amity School of Film and Drama, NOIDA

**22 The Bible through the Eyes of European and Mughal Painters–A Comparison**

Illustrated lecture by Ms Aparna Joshi, a student of History at University of Delhi and author of *Indian Mughal Miniatures on the Global Art Scene 1526-1770* (Pub. Intach: 2021)

Chair: Shri Nilabh Sinha, Principal Director, Art and Material Heritage, INTACH

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**History and Heritage: The Afterlife of Monuments**

**The Discovery and Dispersal of Relics: The Modern History of Buddhism**

Illustrated lecture by Prof. Himanshu Prabha Ray, author and historian who is currently affiliated to the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies, Oxford

Chair: Prof. Madhavan K. Palat

**JANUARY 2022**

8

**TALKING ARCHITECTURE V**

**Mud Architecture Today**

A talk by Rohan Nahar, Architect and Faculty at Padmabhushan Vasantdada Patil College of Architecture, Pune. The presentation explained the relevance, durability and economics of mud architecture—and its challenges and potential in the context of contemporary architectural practice.

The talk was followed by a dialogue with Dr. Prabir K. Das, Architect, Author and Consultant on Sustainable Architecture, and Anisha Shekhar Mukherji, Conservation Architect, Author and Visiting Faculty at School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi.

The fifth in the bi-monthly series structured around dialogues that endeavour to present the role of architecture in contributing positively to society and to culture. Conceptualised by Anisha Shekhar Mukherji, the series, through interactions with practitioners and scholars, intends to engage with a wide variety of people—professionals and lay-persons alike

8

**MEET THE ARTIST**

Anjani Kumar Singh, a retired IAS officer and the 252nd guest speaker of this MTA presented a talk on Making of Bihar Museum.

(Collaboration: J.D. Centre of Art)

17

**Flower Blessings**

Ikebana lecture and demonstration by Ms Sharon Chou, Riji from Hongkong, Sogetsu School of Ikebana

Introduction: Smt. Veena Dass, Director, Sogetsu School, New Delhi

(Collaboration: Sogetsu School, New Delhi)

18

**Art Matters**

Rudraveena Maestro Ustad Bahauddin Dagar in conversation with Manjari Sinha, eminent music and dance critic

Introduction: Ashok Vajpeyi

(Collaboration: The Raza Foundation)

To access the programme please log onto

facebookLIVE@razafoundation

YouTube/The Raza Foundation



21

**HISTORY AND HERITAGE: THE AFTERLIFE OF MONUMENTS**

**Temple Complexes of the Western Deccan: Beyond the Tangible-Intangible Divide**

Illustrated lecture by Prof. Parul Pandya Dhar, Professor of Art History, Dept. of History, University of Delhi

Chair: Prof. (Sr) Anila Verghese, historian who has specialised in religious and art history of the Vijayanagara empire and city and former Principal, The Sophia College for Women, Mumbai

24-30

**Ajanta Digitally Restored**

Illustrated lecture by Benoy K. Behl, filmmaker, art historian and photographer

Introduction: Sujata Chatterji

# APPENDIX III *Discussions*

## FEBRUARY 2021

**1-7            Webinar on 3rd February 2021 from 6 pm to 7:30 pm**

**Privatising India's Public Sector–Impact and Implications**

Panelists: Prof. Sushil Khanna, former Professor of Economics and Strategic Management, IIM, Kolkata; Shri Shiv Gopal Mishra, General Secretary, All India Railwaymen Federation; and Shri Ajay Shankar IAS (Retd.), former Secretary, Govt. of India

Moderator: Prof. Dinesh Kumar Abrol, TRCSS, Jawaharlal Nehru University

Chair: Shri M.G. Devasahayam, IAS (Retd.), Chairman, People-First

**8-14            Webinar on 8th February 2021 at 4 pm**

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

***Food Matters: The Role your Diet plays in the Fight against Cancer***

By Shubham Pant (New Delhi: HarperCollins, 2020)

Discussants: Prof. Pushpesh Pant, historian and academician, chronicler of Indian cuisine; Dr. Ramesh Sarin, Senior Consultant, Surgical Oncology, Indraprastha Apollo Hospital, New Delhi; Dr. Neeti Leekha Chhabra, Founder of 'Yes to Life' and Dr. Shubham Pant, Faculty, University of Texas; Oncologist, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas; and author of the book

Moderator: Ms Jasleen Vohra

**On 12th February 2021 at 4 pm**

**The United Nations at 75: A Balance Sheet**

Panelists: H.E. Mr. Hamza Yahia Cherif, Ambassador of Algeria in India; Amb. C.R. Gharekhan, formerly India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, and elected President of the United Nations Economic and Social Council in 1990; and Prof. Jonathan Lal, Dept. of Molecular and Cellular Engineering, Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture, Technology and Sciences, Allahabad

Chair: Amb. K.P. Fabian

**15-21            Webinar on 15th February 2021 at 4 pm**

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

***Portraits of Power: Half a Century Being at Ringside***

By N.K. Singh (New Delhi: Rupa Publications India, 2020)

Discussants: Dr. Rakesh Mohan, Senior Fellow, Jackson Institute for Global Affairs, Yale University and Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Social and Economic Progress; Ms. Prachi Mishra, Advisor, Research Department, International Monetary Fund; Ms. Jessica Seddon, Visiting Research Scholar, M.S. Chadha Center for Global India, Princeton University; and Shri N.K. Singh, Economist and author of the book

Moderator: Prof. Indira Rajaraman, former Member, 13th Finance Commission

**Webinar on 18th February 2021 from 4 pm to 5:30 pm**

**Development of Covid 19 Vaccine–India a Global Hub**

Welcome: Dr. Alka Sharma, Adviser, Dept. of Biotechnology

Presidential Remarks: Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC

*Overview of vaccine development:* Dr. Renu Swarup, Secretary, Dept. of Biotechnology & Chairperson, BIRAC

*COVID-19 Vaccine–For India and the World:* Dr. Vinod K. Paul, Member Health, Niti Aayog

*The Science of COVID-19 Vaccine Development:* Dr. Shahid Jameel, Director, Trivedi School of Biosciences

*Vaccine Deliver–Action Plan:* Prof. K. Srinath Reddy, President, Public Health Foundation of India

Followed by a panel discussion with Indian industry on **India becoming a COVID-19 Vaccine Hub**. Representatives of India Health Industry: Dr. Sanjay Singh, Dr. Suresh Jadhav, Pankaj Patel. Moderated by Dr. Shirshendu Mukherjee, Mission Director, Grand Challenge India, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, BIRAC

**Webinar on 19th February 2021 from 4 pm to 5:30 pm**

**Development Financial Institution (DFI)**

Keynote Address: Dr. Rakesh Mohan, former Deputy Governor, RBI and Member, RIS Governing Council

Welcome Remarks: Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS

Panelists: Shri G.A. Tadas, formerly Executive Director, IDBI; Prof. Stephany Griffith-Jones, Financial Markets Director, Initiative for Policy Dialogue, Columbia University; and Prof. Milindo Chakrabarti, Visiting Fellow, RIS

Moderator: Smt Shyamala Gopinath, former Deputy Governor RBI; President and Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Social and Economic Progress

**22-28      Webinar on 23rd February 2021 at 4 pm**

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

***Method in the Madness: Insights from the Career of an Insider-Outsider-Insider***

By Parmeswaran Iyer (New Delhi: HarperCollins, 2021)

Discussants: Shri N.C. Saxena, former Secretary, Govt. of India; Dr. Yasmin Haque, Country Representative, UNICEF; Shri Hari Menon, Country Director, Gates Foundation; Shri Raj Chengappa, Editorial Director, *India Today*; and Shri Parameswaran Iyer, author of the book and former Secretary, Govt. of India

Chair: Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC

**26            Webinar on 26th February 2021 at 4 pm**

**NEIGHBOURHOOD FIRST**

Coordinator: Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Ashok K. Mehta

**The Coup in Myanmar: Implications for India**

Panelists: Amb. Rajeev Bhatia, former Indian Ambassador to Myanmar; Amb. Gautam Mukhopadhyaya, former Indian Ambassador to Myanmar; and Dr. Udai Bhanu Singh, Senior Research Associate, MP-Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses

Chair: Maj. Gen. (retd.) Ashok K. Mehta

**MARCH 2021**

**1-7            Antarctica–The Last Frontier**

A photographic journey to Antarctica with Dr. Ajit K. Huilgol, ARPS

*The online exhibition was on view 1st to 14th March 2021*

**1              BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

***Words Sounds Images: A History of Media and Entertainment in India***

By Amit Khanna (New Delhi: HarperCollins India, 2019)

Discussants: Dr. Annurag Batra, Chairman and Editor-in-Chief, BW Businessworld and Founder, Exchange4Media Group; Ms Kaveree Bamzai, author and journalist; and Shri Amit Khanna, filmmaker, writer, poet, media veteran and author of the book

Moderator: Shri Rajiv Mehrotra, author and filmmaker

**4              BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

***Khaki in Dust Storm: Communal Colours and Political Assassinations (1980-1991)***

Police Diaries Book I by Amod K. Kanth (New Delhi: Bloomsbury India, 2020)

Discussants: Shri Shyam Saran, Life Trustee, IIC and former Foreign Secretary; Shri Arun

Shourie, well-known journalist, author and former Union Minister; and Shri Amod K. Kanth, IPS (retd.), former DGP and author of the book

Moderator: Ms Bhavna Vij Aurora, Political Editor, *Outlook Magazine*

Chair: Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC

**5 Discussion on Three Farm Laws and Ground Reality–Land to Market**

Speakers: Prof. Vikas Rawal, Professor, Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Shri Siraj Hussain, Visiting Senior Fellow, ICRIER and former Secretary, Agriculture, Govt. of India; and Dr. Mekhala Krishnamurthy, Associate Professor of Sociology and Social Anthropology, Ashoka University

Moderator: Shri Suhas Borker, Convener, Working Group on Alternative Strategies and Editor, Citizens First TV (CFTV)

The webinar marks the 29th anniversary of the Working Group on Alternative Strategies (Collaboration: Working Group on Alternative Strategies)

**8-14 10th March 2021 from 4 pm to 6 pm**

**India's National Security Challenges and the Way Ahead**

Presentation by Amb. Sujan R. Chinoy, Director General, Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses

Discussants: Admiral Arun Prakash (retd.), PVSM, AVSM, VrC, VSM, ADC, former Chief of the Naval Staff and Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee; Lt. Gen. Deependra S. Hooda (retd.), PVSM, AVSM, VSM, BAR, ADC, former General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Northern Command, who is presently Senior Fellow, Delhi Policy Group; Dr. Ajai Sahni, Executive Director, Institute of Conflict Management, New Delhi; Air Vice Marshal (Dr.) Arjun Subramaniam (retd.), AVSM, accomplished military historian, author of *India's Wars* and *Full Spectrum* and is the President's Chair of Excellence in National Security Affairs, National Defence College, New Delhi; and Lt. Gen. Philip Campose (retd.), PVSM, AVSM and Bar, former Vice Chief of Army Staff and Administrative Member, Armed Forces Tribunal (Principal Bench), New Delhi

Chair: Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC

**12 Art and History: Texts, Contexts and Visual Representations in Ancient and Early Medieval India**

Talk by Prof. R. Mahalakshmi, Professor, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University and Editor of the book of the same title

Discussants: Prof. Shyam Narayan Lal, Professor and Director, Centre for History and Culture for Jammu and Ladakh, University of Jammu; and Prof. Prabhat K. Basant, Professor, Dept. of History and Culture, Faculty of Humanities and Languages, Jamia Millia Islamia

Moderator: (Dr.) Ms Swapna Liddle, historian and Convener, Delhi Chapter of INTACH



15-21 15th March 2021 at 4 pm

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

*Betrayed by Hope: A Play on the Life of Michael Madhusudan Dutt*

By Namita Gokhale and Malashri Lal (HarperCollins, New Delhi: 2020)

Discussants: Prof. Harish Trivedi, writer, translator and formerly Professor of English, University of Delhi; Dr. Aruna Chakravarti, novelist and translator, formerly Principal, Janki Devi College; Shri Oroon Das, multidisciplinary designer, theatre artist and performer, Creative Director, Oddworks; and Ms Namita Gokhale, co-author of the book, writer, publisher and Festival Director

Moderator: Prof. Malashri Lal, co-author of the book, writer and academic

17 **Shaping Development Finance Institutions: New Opportunities and Policy Options**

Welcome Remarks: Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS

Chair: Shri Jayant Sinha, MP and formerly Minister of State for Finance and Minister of State for Civil Aviation

Panelists: Shri K.V. Kamath, former President, New Development Bank; Dr. Vishwapati Trivedi, former Secretary, Govt. of India; Dr. Partha Mukhopadhyay, Senior Fellow, Centre for Policy Research; and Shri Subhomoy Bhattacharjee, Adjunct Senior Fellow, RIS

(Collaboration: RIS)

22-28 27th March 2021 at 16:30 pm

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

*Thinking of Krishna*

Discussion around the book *Krishna in Indian Thought, Literature and Music*

By Mandira Ghosh (Gurugram: Shubhi Publishers 2020)

Speakers: Prof. Radha Chakravarty, poet, critic and translator; Ms. Neera Misra, Chairperson, Draupadi Dream Trust; Ms Mandira Ghosh, poet and author of the book

Chair: Dr. Amarendra Khatua, Former Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs and Former D.G. ICCR

Venue: Conference Room 1

22 **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

*Food & Faith: A Pilgrim's Journey through India*

By Ms. Shoba Narayan (New Delhi: Harper Collins India 2020)

Discussants: Ms Rehana Munir, Writer; Ms Nidhi Bansal, CEO of 'India City Walks'; Ms Shoba Narayan, Journalist, Content Creator and Author of the book

Moderator: Ms. Jasleen Vohra, TV Presenter, Commentator

## 26 NEIGHBOURHOOD FIRST

Coordinator: Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Ashok K. Mehta

### **Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Bangladesh's Independence Day**

Panelists: Amb. Shamsher M Chaudhury, Former Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh; Dr. Ashiku Rahman, Policy Research Institute of Bangladesh; Amb. Veena Sikri, former High Commissioner to Bangladesh; Dr. Sreeradha Datta, Vivekanand International Foundation

Chair: Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Ashok K. Mehta

26th March 2021 marks the golden jubilee of Bangladesh's independence day celebrations,

## APRIL 2021

**29 Mar to 1st April 2021 at 6:30 pm**

**4 Apr *Rebel Angel: Collected Prose of Hoshang Merchant***

*By Hoshang Merchant (Odisha: Dhauli Books publishers)*

Discussion around the book '*Rebel Angel: Collected Prose of Hoshang Merchant*', which is a collection of prose originally written in English by Hoshang Merchant and edited by Akshaya K. Rath

Welcome Remarks: Keki N. Daruwalla

Discussants: Hoshang Merchant, Usha Mudiganti and Keki N. Daruwalla

Closing Remarks: Keki N. Daruwalla

Venue: Conference Room 1, above IIC Library

**1&3 Webinar on 1st April 2021 from 4pm to 5pm**

### COVID-19 VACCINATION

#### **Facilitation Camp for Awareness and Registration**

Introduction: Shri Suhas Borker

Experts: Prof. Naresh Gupta, MD Former Director-Professor, Maulana Azad Medical College;

Dr. Mini Aggarwal, DNB, MPH Public Health Specialist

Awareness and Registration: 3.00 pm to 5.00 pm

Venue: Multipurpose Hall, Kamaladevi Complex, IIC

**6 Culture as Power: Buddhist Heritage and the Indo-Japanese Dialogue**

Discussion based on the new book edited by Madhu Bhalla (Routledge Taylor & Francis, New Delhi: 2021)

Introduction: Prof. Madhu Bhalla, formerly Professor of Chinese Studies, Dept. of East Asian Studies, University of Delhi and presently, Editor, *India Quarterly* at Indian Council of World Affairs

Discussants: Dr. Aparna Vaidik, Associate Professor of History, Ashoka University; and Dr. Madhavan K. Palat, well-known historian, scholar of modern world and political commentator

Chair: Shri Shyam Saran, Life Trustee, IIC

## 8 **First Edition of Green Conversation**

Prof. C.R. Babu in conversation with Suhas Borker

The conversation covered the entire gamut of green issues specifically related to Delhi NCR: from biodiversity parks, protection of the ridge, the proposed University of Environmental Development, to the *vilayati kikaar* menace, encouraging indigenous variety of trees, Delhi tree census, recharging of groundwater, proposed tree ambulance network, developing butterfly conservatories, integration of hands on green/environmental activity in the school curriculum.

Prof. C.R. Babu is Professor Emeritus, University of Delhi and Distinguished Professor of Environment and Ecology, School of Human Ecology, Ambedkar University, Delhi. He was the former Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University of Delhi

The conversation marks the 29th anniversary of the Green Circle of Delhi and the 85th anniversary of Lodhi Garden

(Collaboration: Green Circle of Delhi)

## 9 **IIC/THE MEDIA FOUNDATION DIALOGUES**

### **Public Health: Gaps in the Narrative**

Introduction: Harish Khare, Chairperson, The Media Foundation

Panelists: Abantika Ghosh, *The Print*; Banjot Kaur, *Down to Earth*; Amar Jessani, Researcher, Bioethics and Public Health, Jan Swasthya Abhiyan; and Keshav Desiraju, former Health Secretary, Govt. of India

Moderator: Geeta Seshu, Free Speech Collective

An on-going series of conversations featuring prominent voices and highlighting different perspectives, the Dialogues discuss issues challenging the Fourth Estate

(Collaboration: The Media Foundation)

## 12 **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

### ***Geopolitics in the Era of Globalisation: Mapping an Alternative Global Future***

By Yogendra Kumar (Routledge India/Taylor & Francis: New Delhi, 2020)

Discussants: Shri Mohan Kumar, Chairman, Research & Information System for Developing Countries (RIS); Prof. Sanjay Chaturvedi, Professor and Chairperson, Dept. of International Relations and Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, South Asian University, New Delhi; and Amb. Yogendra Kumar, former diplomat and author of the book

Chair: Amb. C.R. Gharekhan, Chairman, Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan

16

### **Something in the Air**

Curated by Shikha Jhingan and Paromita Vohra

#### **Conversations with Indian Women on Radio and Television**

A conversation with Sukhjinder Kaur, Radio Broadcaster, All India Radio and Rita Mukherji, Radio Producer, All India Radio, Yuva Vani

A new series of dialogues organised in collaboration with The International Association of Women in Radio and Television (IAWRT), India focusing on the contribution of women to the media. This episode features two women from All India Radio who spoke about their professional and personal journeys as producers, journalists and pioneers in creating new and livelier programming on radio, expanding its role in music and messaging.

Live streaming on facebookLIVE@IawrtIndia

(Collaboration: IAWRT; and Goethe Institut/Max Mueller Bhavan, New Delhi)

16

### **Finding the Raga**

A conversation based on the new book by Amit Chaudhuri (Hamish Hamilton/Penguin Random House India, New Delhi: 2021)

Prof. Ashis Nandy in conversation with Amit Chaudhuri

Moderator: Dr. Ananya Vajpeyi, academic and writer, Fellow, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies

(Collaboration: Penguin Random House India)

19

### **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

#### ***The Modern School (1920-2020): A Century of Schooling in India***

By Rakesh Batabyal (Westland, New Delhi: 2020)

Discussants: Prof. Avijit Pathak, Professor, Centre for Social Systems, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Shri Ashwajit Singh, former President, Modern School Old Students Association (MSOSA), Managing Director, IPE Global Ltd.; and Prof. Rakesh Batabyal, Associate Professor, Centre for Media Studies, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University and author of the book

Moderator: Prof. Shanta Sinha, formerly Professor of Political Science, University of Hyderabad and former Chairperson, National Commission for the Protection of Child Rights

Chair: Ms. Karthika V.K., Publisher, Westland Publications

An iconic centre of learning in the national capital, Modern School is representative of the pioneering efforts in the early twentieth century to create a contemporary education structure in India

**22 BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

***Jinnah: His Success, Failures and Role in History***

By Ishtiaq Ahmed (Penguin Viking, New Delhi: 2020)

Discussants: Dr. Siddiq Wahid, Senior Fellow, Centre for Policy Research and former Vice Chancellor, Islamic University, Kashmir; Prof. Mridula Mukherjee, well-known historian, formerly Professor of History, Jawaharlal Nehru University and former Director, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library; and Prof. Ishtiaq Ahmed, Professor Emeritus, Stockholm University, Sweden and author of the book

Chair: Amb. K.P. Fabian, Professor, Indian Society of International law and Distinguished Fellow, Symbiosis University

**23 Banks, Finance and Changing Form of Technology: New Options with FINTECH**

Welcome Remarks: Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS

Keynote Address: Mr. T. Rabi Sankar, Executive Director, RBI

Panelists: Prof. Thankom Arun, Director, Centre for Accountability and Global Development (CAGD), University of Essex, UK; Professor B.V. Phani, Head of Department and Professor of Finance, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Dept. of Industrial and Management Engineering, IIT Kanpur; Shri Arif Khan, Chief Digital Officer, NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL), Mumbai\*

Chair: Prof. K. J. Joseph, Director, Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation, Thiruvananthapuram

Vote of Thanks: Dr. Priyadarshi Dash, Associate Professor, RIS

(Collaboration: Research and Information System for Developing Countries, RIS )

**26 Apr to 2 May BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

**26 *Womb of Time***

By Laljee Verma (Cyberwit.net, New Delhi: 2019)

Discussants: Prof. Radha Chakravarty, poet, critic, translator; Dr. Rumki Basu, Professor of Political Science, Jamia Millia Islamia, poet and author; and Air Marshal (Dr.) Laljee Verma, AVSM (Retd.), poet and author of the book

Chair: Dr. Amarendra Khatua, former Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs and former Director General, Indian Council for Cultural Relations

Moderator: Ms. Mandira Ghosh, poet and author

(Collaboration: The Poetry Society, India)



**2 May Discussion on Who is Afraid of Caste?**

Speakers: Dr. Sharad Baviskar, Assistant Professor, Centre for French and Francophone Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Shri Dilip Mandal, former Managing Editor, *India Today* Hindi magazine; Prof. Y.S. Alone, Professor, School of Arts & Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Dr. Meena Kandasami, poet, writer and activist; and Prof. Uma Chakravarti, distinguished Feminist Historian who taught at Miranda House, University of Delhi

Moderator: Suhas Borker

(Collaboration: Maharashtra Sanskritik ani Rannaniti Adhayana Samiti; and Working Group on Alternative Strategies)

**MAY 2021**

**3-9 On 5th May 2021**

**In Search of Peace for Afghanistan**

*Historical Letters of President Najibullah and Dr. M. Hassan Kakar, A Collection of Essays*

A conversation with contributors of the book—Dr. Barnett Rubin, Senior Fellow, Center on International Cooperation, New York University and a leading expert on Afghanistan and South Asia; Mr. Jawan Shir Rasikh, Editor of the book and doctoral student in South Asia Studies, University of Pennsylvania; Dr. Radha Kumar, writer and policy analyst, and former Director General, Delhi Policy Group; Mr. Afrasiab Khattak, former Senator and former Head of the Independent Human Rights Commission of Pakistan and Mr. Jawed Ludin, former Deputy Foreign Minister of Pakistan, and member Heart of Asia Society.

Moderator: Mr. Lakhdar Brahimi, former Algerian Foreign Minister and Algerian United Nations Diplomat who served as United Nations Special Envoy to Afghanistan from July 1997-October 1999

Discussion based on a new volume of essays edited by Jawan Shir Rasikh (Kakar History Foundation and Heart of Asia Society, 2021).

**7 On 7th May 2021**

**Reimagining Indian Urbanism and Design**

Lead presentation by Shri A.K. Jain, former Commissioner (Planning), Delhi Development Authority. He was a member of the Committee of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs on the DDA (2015), and UN Habitat (2007-12). A recipient of the 2nd Urban Professional Award 2014, World Urban Forum, Medellin, Colombia and 2016 IBC Lifetime Achievement Award.

Discussants: Shri A.G.K. Menon, architect, urban planner and conservation consultant; Prof. K.T. Ravindran, urban designer and former Chairman, Delhi Urban Arts Commission; and others

Chair: Prof. Dr. P. S. N. Rao, Director, School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi

10-16      On 10th May 2021

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

***Vegetarian Cuisine from the Himalayan Foothills: Flavours and beyond***

By Veena Sharma (Niyogi Books, New Delhi: 2020)

Discussants: Prof. Pushpesh Pant, academic, food critic and historian; Chef Gautam Mehrishi, Executive Chef, Renaissance Mumbai and Lakeside Chalet, Mumbai; and Prof. Veena Sharma, academic and author of the book

Moderator: Ms Jasleen Vohra

11            **TALKING ARCHITECTURE**

**The Discovery of Architecture—A Contemporary Treatise on Ancient Values and Indigenous Reality**

A conversation with Prof. Narendra Dengle, Architect, Educator and Writer; Former Design Chair, KRVI Mumbai, and Academic Chair, Goa College of Architecture and PVPCOA, Pune; and Prof. Savyasaachi, Anthropologist, Professor and Head, Dept. of Sociology, Jamia Millia Islamia

Moderator: Anisha Shekhar Mukherji, Conservation Architect, Author and Visiting Faculty at S.P.A. Delhi

First in a bi-monthly series, structured around dialogues that endeavour to present and discuss the role of architecture in contributing positively to society and to culture. The series focused on examples relevant to our context, and in doing so, brought to the fore issues that were universal in the creation of meaningful architecture. Conceptualised by Anisha Shekhar Mukherji, the series, through interactions with practitioners and scholars, intended to engage with a wide variety of people—professionals and lay-persons alike.

*This webinar was dedicated to the memory of Professor M.N. Ashish Ganju, Founding Director of TVB School of Habitat Studies; co-author 'The Discovery of Architecture—A Contemporary Treatise on Ancient Values and Indigenous Reality'*

17-23      On 24th May 2021

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

***Democracy and Public Policy in the Post-COVID-19 World: Choices and Outcomes***

Edited by Rumki Basu (Routledge Taylor & Francis, New Delhi: 2020)

Discussants: Prof. Sushma Yadav, Vice Chancellor of B. P. S. M. University Haryana; Prof. Ramabrahmam Ivaturi, Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Odisha, Koraput; and Prof. Rumki Basu, Professor of Public Administration and Director, Centre for Jawaharlal Nehru Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia and Editor of the Book

Chair: Shri. V. Srinivas, Additional Secretary to Government of India, Dept. of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances and Director General, National Centre for Good Governance

19

**IIC/WISCOMP DIALOGUES****Gender and Disability**

Speakers: Prof. Anita Ghai, Professor and Dean, School of Human Studies, Ambedkar University; Mahesh Pannicker, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Political Science, Lady Shri Ram College, University of Delhi; Seema Baquer, LLB, India & BCL, Oxford; Karuna Rajeev, Assistant Professor, Dept. of English, Lady Shri Ram College, University of Delhi; and Meenakshi Gopinath, Director, Women in Security, Conflict Management and Peace (WISCOMP)

Facilitator: Seema Kakran, Deputy Director, WISCOMP

The gap between *Niti* and *Nyaya* is large for several marginalised groups in India. For one group of individuals this gap is particularly daunting – persons with disability. The invisibilisation of persons with disabilities in the public discourse or alternatively merely tokenistic representation is routine. This, despite national laws and international covenants that mandate full and equal participation of persons with disabilities in socio-economic and political processes.

The IIC/WISCOMP dialogue, *Gender and Disability* sought to unravel the multiple layers of discrimination and prejudice that conspired to perpetrate individual and structural violence against persons with disabilities in the public and the private spheres.

Recognising that a sense of ‘agency’ is pivotal to transformation, this dialogue sought to provide an opportunity to learn from the struggles and triumphs of activists, researchers and institutional leaders who worked to create conditions for differently abled people to lead a life of dignity and choice. The dialogue, it is hoped, will raise questions of individual, societal and state responsibility in securing the rights of people with disability, especially women.

(Collaboration: WISCOMP)

21

**Role of Banking and Financial Sector: Overcoming Pandemic Challenges**

Welcome Address: Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, Research & Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)

Panelists: Shri Manish Sabharwal, Chairman, Board of Directors, TeamLease Services Ltd; Ms. Dakshita Das, Additional Member, Railway Board and former, Managing Director, National Housing Bank; Shri Sangram Singh, EVP & Head–Commercial Banking Coverage Group, Axis Bank; and Shri Charan Singh, CEO and Director, EGROW Foundation

Chair: Ms. Usha Thorat, Chairperson, Foundation for Ecological Security and formerly Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India

(Collaboration: RIS)

24-30      On 24th May 2021

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

***Matchmaking in Middle Class India: Beyond Arranged and Love Marriage***

By Parul Bhandari (Springer, New Delhi: 2020)

Discussants: Prof. Janaki Abraham, Associate Professor of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi; Prof. Katherine Twamley, Associate Professor of Sociology, University College London; Ms. Raphael Susewind, Lecturer in Social Anthropology and Development, King's College London; and Dr. Parul Bhandari, Associate Professor, Sociology, Jindal Global Business School, O.P. Jindal Global University and Visiting Faculty, Ashoka University

Chair: Prof. Patricia Uberoi, eminent sociologist, Chairperson and Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies

29      **IIC/OPEN HEALTH SYSTEMS COLLOQUIUM SERIES**

**6th Lecture and Discussion on**

**In Doug's Words: Remembering Doug Engelbart**

Doug Engelbart (1925–2013), engineer and inventor was an early computer and Internet pioneer best known for his work on founding the field of human-computer interaction, which resulted in the creation of the computer mouse and the development of hypertext, network computers, the precursors to graphical user interfaces.

Lead Speaker: Dr. Jim Spohrer, computer scientist, Director, Cognitive OpenTech for IBM Research–Almaden and directs the Center for Open-Source Data and AI Technologies (CODAIT)

Discussants: Christina Engelbart, daughter of Doug Engelbart, and co-founder and Executive Director of Doug Engelbart Institute; Daniel Araya, Senior Partner, the World Legal Summit and Senior Fellow, Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI); and Mei Lin Fung, Co-founder of People-Centered Internet (PCI) and Vice-Chair, Internet Inclusion, Institute for Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE).

Chair: Dr. Nandini Kannan, Executive Director, Indo-U.S. Science and Technology Forum (IUSSTF)

**JUNE 2021**

31 May to      On 31st May 2021  
6 Jun

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

***Princetian: How Nehru, Patel and Mountbatten Made India***

By Sandeep Bamzai (Rupa Publications India, New Delhi: 2020)

Discussants: Prof. Rajendra G. Harshe, Former Vice Chancellor, Central University of

Allahabad and Visiting Professor, South Asian University, New Delhi; Shri Ashok Bhan, Sr. Advocate, Supreme Court of India; and Shri Sandeep Bamzai, CEO and Editor-in-Chief, IANS and author of the Book

**4 Ecosystem Restoration: Ocean and COVID-19**

Lead presentation: Dr. Malti Goel, Chief Executive, Climate Change Research Institute and Former Scientist 'G' & Emeritus Scientist, Ministry of Science & Technology

Keynote Speaker: Dr. N. Ramaiah, Former Chief Scientist, Professor at AcSIR and former Deputy Director, CSIR-NIO, Goa

Co-Chair: Dr. M. Sudhakar, former Director, Centre for Marine Living Resources & Ecology, Kochi and Adviser, Ministry of Earth Sciences

Chair: Dr. Hari Narain Srivastava, former Additional Director General, India Meteorological Department, New Delhi

World Environment Day, which falls on 5th June, aims to create awareness about Ecosystem Restoration, the theme for the year. This year, the World Environment Day campaign marks society's unified and digital response to the marine environment crisis. The discussion is an awareness programme on how we can safeguard it post COVID-19. There is a need to prioritise science and technology to find solutions to handle the increasing COVID-19 waste and take restorative actions to protect marine bio-resources.

(Collaboration: Climate Change Research Institute)

**5 BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

*The Mystic and the Lyric: Four Women Poets from Kashmir*

by Neerja Mattoo (Zubaan, New Delhi: 2019)

Discussants: Prof. Shormishta Panja, Professor of English, University of Delhi; Prof. Udaya Kumar, Professor, Centre for English Studies School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies Jawaharlal Nehru University; Prof. Shafi Shauq, Poet, Fiction Writer, Linguist and Critic; and Prof. Neerja Mattoo, academic, writer, translator, and author of the book

Chair: Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC

**7-13 On 7th June 2021**

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

*Rogues Among the Ruins*

by Achala Moulik (Niyogi Books, New Delhi; 2020)

Discussants: Dr. Uday Balakrishna, formerly with the Indian Postal Service, and currently Visiting Faculty, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore; Shri Manish Purohit, Co-founder, *Authors UpFront* and author; Shri N.S. Vinodh, Investment banker and author; and Ms. Achala Moulik, IAS (Retd.), author of the book

Chair: Shri K.N. Shrivatava, Director, IIC



**8 8TH EDITION OF THE DIALOGUE TO DEVELOP A VISION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT OF DELHI-2025**

**Health Eco-System for Delhi**

Speakers: Ms. K. Sujatha Rao, Former Union Health Secretary; Prof. K. Srinath Reddy, President, Public Health Foundation of India; Prof. Naresh Gupta, Former Director Professor, Maulana Azad Medical College; Dr. Ajay Aggarwal, COO, Omega Hospitals; and Dr. Indranil Mukhopadhyay, Health Economist, Associate Professor, O.P. Jindal Global University

Moderator: Shri Suhas Borker, Founder Member, Green Circle of Delhi

*This series is dedicated to the memory of Shri Mahesh. N. Buch, civil servant and environmentalist, who passed away on 6th June in 2015 and who had given the key-note address at the inaugural edition of the Dialogue in 2013.*

(Collaboration: Green Circle of Delhi)

**9 Israel-Palestine Dispute**

Panelists: Dr. John Cherian, Consulting Editor, *Frontline*; Prof. P.R. Kumaraswamy, Professor of Contemporary Middle East, Centre for West Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University and Hony. Director, Middle East Institute; and Prof. Bansidhar Pradhan, Professor, Centre for West Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University

Chair: Amb. K.P. Fabian

**11 IIC/WNCB DIALOGUES ON CHILD LABOUR**

**What does India think and do about Child Labour?**

A conversation with Shantha Sinha, leading child rights activist, Founder-Secretary, M.V. Foundation and former Chairperson, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights from 2007-2013; Sudarshan Suchi, Chief Executive Officer, Save the Children, India; and Vicky Roy, formerly a Delhi street child, now an acclaimed photographer

In conversation with Monica Banerjee, Country lead, WNCB Alliance in India

Organised in collaboration with Work: No Child's Business (WNCB) to mark International Year for Elimination of Child Labour (IYECL-2021).

**14-20 On 14th June 2021**

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

*Reflections on Mughal Art and Culture: The Indian Woman in Persianate Literary Cultures*

Edited by Roda Ahluwalia (Niyogi Books, New Delhi: 2021)

Discussants: Dr. Sunil Sharma, Professor of Persianate and Comparative Literature, Boston

University; and Ms. Roda Ahluwalia, independent scholar, South Asian Art and Editor of the Book

Moderator: Ms Mrinalini Sil, Ph. D. Research Scholar, Visual Arts, Jawaharlal Nehru University, and an Inlaks Scholar

**16 NEIGHBOURHOOD FIRST SERIES**

**Afghanistan Post US Withdrawal**

Panelists: Dr. Arian Sharifi, Senior Foreign Policy Advisor to the Afghan Foreign Minister and former Director, National Threat Assessment of NSC Kabul; Mr. Rahimullah Yusufzai, Resident Editor, The News International, Peshawar, Pakistan; and Shri Vishal Chandra, Research Fellow, Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi  
Chair: Maj. Gen. Ashok K. Mehta (Retd.)

**19 BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

***Dancing Towards The \$5 Trillion Economy on a Holistic Beat***

By Aruna Sharma (Indra Publishing House, Bhopal: 2020)

Discussants: Shri Dhanendra Kumar, IAS (Retd.) and Former Executive Director, The World Bank, Washington; Ms Priti Sudan, Former Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India and Member WHO's Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response; Shri Amber Timblo, Business Person, Goa Miner; Shri T. K. Arun, Former Editor, *The Economic Times*; and Dr. Aruna Sharma, IAS (Retd.), author of the book  
Chair: Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS

**21-27 On 21st June 2021**

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

***The Execution of Bhagat Singh: Legal Heresies of the Raj***

by Satvinder Singh Juss (Amberley Publishing, UK: 2020)

Discussants: Shri Rajesh Ramachandran, Editor, Tribune; Prof. Ranbir Singh, Former Vice-Chancellor, National Law University, Delhi; Prof. S. Irfan Habib, historian and former Maulana Abul Kalam Chair, NUEPA; and Prof. Satvinder Singh Juss, Professor of Law, King's College London, Barrister-at-Law, Deputy Judge of the Upper Tribunal (IAC), London and Birmingham, UK. and author of the book

Moderator: Dr. Indivar Kamtekar, Associate Professor, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University

**25 RIVER DIALOGUES**

**Of Travel and the River**

Speakers: Ms. Pallavi Aiyar, award winning foreign correspondent, author of non-fiction

books on China and Europe and, Associate Editor, *The Globalist*; Shri Samrat X. Choudhury, journalist and author of the recently published book *The Braided River: A Journey Along the Brahmaputra* (HarperCollins, 2021); and Mr. Victor Mallet, Chief, The Financial Times, Paris and author of *River of Life, River of Death: The Ganges and India's Future* (Oxford University Press, 2017)

Chair: Prof. Kishalay Bhattacharjee, Professor and Executive Dean, Director, Jindal School of Journalism and Communication, O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat

A series of talks and dialogues that hope to challenge the imagination of the 'mainstream'. The river conversations is critical to re-evaluate histories, reconnecting civilisations, cultures and peoples, ideas and regions and opening streams of thought for a future with exciting possibilities

(Collaboration: New Imaginations, Jindal School of Journalism and Communication, O.P. Jindal Global University)

## 25 **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

*Yearbook of Indian Poetry in English 2020-2021*

Edited by Sukrita Paul Kumar and Vinita Agrawal (Hawakal Publishers, Kolkata: 2021)

Speakers: Jerry Pinto, Indian English poet, novelist, short story writer, translator and journalist; and Sanjukta Dasgupta, critic, translator and poet, former Professor and Former Head, Dept. of English and currently Dean, Faculty of Arts, University of Calcutta

Overview: Kiriti Sengupta, poet, editor, translator, and publisher from Calcutta and recipient of the Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize (2018)

Moderators: Dr. Sukrita Paul Kumar, poet, critic and academic, Aruna Asaf Ali Chair, University of Delhi and Editor of the book; Ms Vinita Agrawal, Editor, curator, Independent Researcher and Editor of the book

28 Jun to

4 Jul

On 28th June 2021 at 4 pm

## **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

**Kalidasa: Vikramorvashiyam—Quest for Urvashi**

Translated by A.N.D. Haksar (Penguin Classics, New Delhi: 2021)

Discussants: Dr. Sudhamahi Regunathan, former Vice Chancellor, Jain Vishva Bharati University, Ladnun, Rajasthan; Amb. Amarendra Khatua, former Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs and former Director General, Indian Council for Cultural Relations; Amb. Bhaswati Mukherjee, former Indian Ambassador to The Netherlands; Amb. A.N.D. Haksar, former diplomat and translator of the book

Moderator: Shri Sunit Tandon, Director, India Habitat Centre

**2 Jul President Biden's Foreign Policy Towards the Middle East**

Panelists: Prof. Achin Vanaik, formerly Professor of International Relations and Global Politics, University of Delhi; Dr. Stanly Johny, International Affairs Editor, *The Hindu*; and Prof. Imankalyan Lahiri, Dept. of International Relations, Jadavpur University

Chair: Amb. K.P. Fabian

**JULY 2021**

**5-11 On 5th July 2021 at 4 pm**

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

***Amader Shantiniketan***

By Shivani, translated by Ira Pande (Vintage Books, New Delhi: 2021)

Discussants: Prof. Radha Chakravarty, poet, critic and translator; Prof. Sanjukta Dasgupta, academic, poet and Convenor, Intercultural Poetry and Performance Library, ICCR, Kolkata; and Smt Ira Pande, freelance writer and translator of the book

Chair: Prof. Pushpesh Pant, academic, food critic and historian

**6 RIVER DIALOGUES**

**Two Banks of a River—The Indus in Ladakh**

Illustrated lecture by Isaac Tsetan Gergan, artist, photographer and Director, Art for Change Foundation, based in Leh and Delhi

Following the lecture, Isaac was in conversation with Kishalay Bhattacharjee, Professor and Executive Dean, Director, Jindal School of Journalism and Communication, O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat

A series of talks and dialogues that hope to challenge the imagination of the 'mainstream'. The river conversations is critical to re-evaluate histories, reconnecting civilisations, cultures and peoples, ideas and regions and opening streams of thought for a future with exciting possibilities

(Collaboration: Living Waters Museum; and New Imaginations, Jindal School of Journalism and Communication, O.P. Jindal Global University)

**8 Aaj Kavita**

Poetry readings by Pawan Karan (Gwalior); Sushila Puri (Lucknow); Joshna Banerjee Aadvani (Agra); and Rajeev Kumar (Delhi)

Moderator: Ashok Vajpeyi

The four poets read their original poems

(Collaboration: The Raza Foundation)

Links: [facebookLive@razafoundation](#)

[YouTube@The Raza Foundation](#)

12-18      On 12th July 2021

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

***Sikkim: A History of Intrigue and Alliance***

By Preet Mohan Singh Malik (HarperCollins India, New Delhi: 2021)

Discussants: Amb. Nalin Surie, Distinguished Fellow for Diplomacy, Delhi Policy Group, former Indian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, Ambassador to China and Poland, and former Director General, Indian Council of World Affairs; Lt. Gen (Retd.) K.J. Singh, PVSM, AVSM & Bar, former General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Command and Sikkim Core Commander; and Amb. Preet Mohan Singh Malik, author of the book and former Ambassador to Myanmar, Malaysia, Bahrain, Cuba and Tanzania

Chair: Amb. K.P. Fabian, Distinguished Fellow, Symbiosis University

12      **ART MATTERS**

**Visual Arts in Corona Times**

A discussion with Mithu Sen, Ranjit Hoskote and Sadanand Menon

Moderator: Ashok Vajpeyi

Links:facebookLive@razafoundation

YouTube@The Raza Foundation

15      **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

***Nehru, Tibet and China***

By A.S. Bhasin (Penguin, New Delhi: 2021)

Discussants: Amb. Chandrashekhar Dasgupta, writer and former Indian Ambassador to the European Union, Belgium, Luxembourg and China; Dr. Zorawar Daulet Singh, author and foreign affairs analyst, Adjunct Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies and Visiting Fellow, Forum for Strategic Initiative; and Shri A.S. Bhasin, former Director, Ministry of External Affairs and author of the book

Chair: Amb. Vijay Gokhale, former Foreign Secretary

16      **INDIA'S NATIONAL SECURITY CHALLENGES**

**Higher Defence Management Reforms—Some Challenges**

Chair: Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC

Panelists: Lt. Gen. Deependra S. Hooda (reted.), PVSM, AVSM, VSM and BAR, ADC, former General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Northern Command, Presently Senior Fellow, Delhi Policy Group; Admiral Arun Prakash (reted.), PVSM, AVSM, VrC, VSM, ADC, former Chief of the Naval Staff and Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee; and Air Chief Marshal Fali H. Major (reted.), PVSM, AVSM, SC, VM, ADC, former Chief of the Air Staff, Indian Air Force



Moderator: Lt. Gen. Satish Dua (retd.), PVSM, UYSM, SM, VSM, former General Officer of the Indian Army and former Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to the Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee

**17 Architecture—The Decline of Educational and Professional Standards**

Lead presentation by Shri Ranjit Sabikhi, well-known architect

Introduction: Ms Meena Mani

Followed by a dialogue between Shri Ranjit Sabikhi; Prof. Aneerudha Paul, Professor, and Director, Kamala Raheja Vidyanidhi Institute of Architecture (KRVIA), Mumbai; and Ms Tanuja Kanvinde, partner at Kanvinde, Rai and Chowdhury

Chair: Shri Ashok B. Lall, practising architect based in Delhi

**20 BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

*Simple Life: An Inquiry into the Joys of Simplicity in a Complex World*

By K. Jayakumar (Shubhi Publications, New Delhi: 2021)

Discussants: Smt Shovana Narayan, well-known Kathak exponent and author; Dr. C.V. Ramanan, Director, Institute of Marketing and Management, Professor and *Sadhak*; and Shri K. Jayakumar, former Chief Secretary, Govt. of Kerala; Founder Vice Chancellor, Malayalam University; poet, translator and author of the book

Moderator: Ms Mandira Ghosh, poet and author

Chair: Dr. Sudha Gopalakrishnan, Executive Director, IIC-International Research Division

**23 IIC/WISCOMP DIALOGUES**

*Pedagogy in the Times of the Pandemic*

Opening Remarks and Moderator: Prof. Krishna Menon, Professor, Gender Studies and former Dean of the School of Human Studies at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi.

Welcome: Ms Seema Kakran, Deputy Director, WISCOMP

Speakers: Prof. Rukmini Sen, School of Liberal Studies, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi; Dr. Bijayalaxmi Nanda, Acting Principal, Miranda House, Delhi; Prof. Dushyant Kumar, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Political Science, Miranda House, University of Delhi. (Collaboration: WISCOMP)

**25 Financial Inclusion in Tribal India**

Speakers: Prof. S. Narayan, Emeritus Professor and Member, Commission on Nomadic Tribe, Govt. of India; Ms Jayshree Vyas, Managing Director of SEWA Bank; Dr. Shobha Kujur, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Education, Chatra College, Chatra Jharkhand; and Dr. Shiwani, academic and journalist with *The Hindustan Times*

Chair: Prof. S. Narayan

(Collaboration: Society for Empowerment)

26 July to

1 Aug

26th July 2021

## **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

### ***The Light of Asia: The Poem that Defined the Buddha***

By Jairam Ramesh (Penguin, New Delhi: 2021)

Discussants: Geshe Ngawang Samten, Tibetan educationist, Tibetologist and Vice Chancellor, Central University for Tibetan Studies, Sarnath; Prof. Karam Tej Singh Sarao, former Head and Professor of Buddhist Studies, University of Delhi; and Shri Jairam Ramesh, economist and author of the book

Chair: Dr. Karan Singh

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## **TALKING ARCHITECTURE**

### **The Legacy of Modernism**

A talk by Snehanshu Mukherjee, architect, educator and writer, Adjunct Professor, Indian Institute of Art and Design, New Delhi

Followed by a dialogue with Srinivas Murthy, architect and Founder, Architecture and Design Foundation (India)

Moderator: Anisha Shekhar Mukherji, Conservation Architect, author and Visiting Faculty, School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi

The second in the bi-monthly series structured around dialogues that endeavour to present the role of architecture in contributing positively to society and to culture. Conceptualised by Anisha Shekhar Mukherji, the series, through interactions with practitioners and scholars, intends to engage with a wide variety of people—professionals and lay persons alike

28

## **MAPPING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE**

### **Opportunities and Challenges of Exporting Processed Food from India**

Speaker: Shri Hemant Malik, Divisional Chief Executive of Foods Business, ITC

Chair: Shri Siraj Hussain, Visiting Senior Fellow, ICRIER

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## **NEIGHBOURHOOD FIRST**

### **The Future of Afghanistan—Post US Withdrawal**

Panelists: Mr. Faheem Dashty, Chairman, Afghan Journalists Union; Ms Farkhunda Zehra Naderi, former Member of Parliament and Advisor to President Ashraf Ghani; and Mr. Mushahid Hussain, Chairman Senate Defence Committee, Pakistan

Chair: Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Ashok K. Mehta

31 **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

*Jugalbandhi: A Tryst with Prose and Poetry*

Panelists: Ms Achla Bansal, author of *Vanilla Ice cream and Chocolate Sauce: A Collection of Short Stories* (Spring Books, 2020); Shri Rajender Krishan, poet, *Wanderer: Poetry* (Setu Publications, 2021); Ms Hira Kartar Dalwani, playwright and poet, *Suffer Little Children* (a play about domestic child labour and *Eternally Present: An Anthology of Poems*; Authorspress, 2021); and Shri P.K. Dash, author of *Invisible Poets and Other Stories* (Notion Press, 2020)

Chair: Ms. Rajni Sekhri Sibal, poet and author

**AUGUST 2021**

2-8 **2nd August 2021 at 4 pm**

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

*Dusk to Dawn: Poetic Voices on the Current Times South Asia and Beyond*

Edited by Chandra Mohan, Rita Malhotra and Anamika (Heritage Publishers, New Delhi: 2021)

Discussants: Shri Ashok Vajpeyi, eminent poet and critic; Prof. Sanjukta Dasgupta, academic, poet, Convenor, English Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi and President, Intercultural Poetry and Performance Library, ICCR, Kolkata; Dr. Chandra Mohan, Chair, ICLA Standing Research Committee South Asian Literature and Culture and one of the Editors of the book

Moderator: Prof. Malashri Lal, academic, writer and Editor

Chair: Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC

3 **ART MATTERS**

**Poetry in Corona Times**

A discussion with Anamika; Prof. K. Satchidanandan; Priya S. Chabria; and Sudeep Sen

Moderator: Ashok Vajpeyi, Managing Trustee, The Raza Foundation

(Collaboration: The Raza Foundation)

The programme can be accessed on:

facebookLive@razafoundation

YouTube@The Raza Foundation

9 **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

*This Life at Play: Memoirs*

By Girish Karnad; translated by Girish Karnad and Srinath Perur (Fourth Estate: 19th May 2021)

Discussants: Ms Nasreen Munni Kabir, television producer, director and author based in UK; Ms Arundhati Ghosh, Executive Director, India Foundation for the Arts; and Dr. Srinath Perur, writer, author and co-translator of the book

Chair: Shri Suryasarathi Bhattacharya

9

### **AAJ KAVITA**

#### **An Evening of Poetry**

With poets–Malay (Jabalpur); Teji Grover (Hoshangabad); Natasha (Patna); and Krishna Mohan Jha (Silchar) who read their own work

Moderator: Ashok Vajpeyi

(Collaboration: The Raza Foundation)

The programme can be accessed on:

facebookLive@razafoundation

YouTube@The Raza Foundation

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### **OF BRIDGES & BREAKS–THE CONSTITUTION AT A CROSSROADS**

#### **Electoral Democracy in India–From Spectacle to Substance**

Speakers: Shri R. Venkataramani, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India and former Member, Law Commission of India; and Dr. Neelanjana Sircar, Assistant Professor, Ashoka University and Senior Visiting Fellow, Centre for Policy Research

Moderator: Ms. Ritwika Sharma, Lead Charkha and Senior Resident Fellow, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy

A new year-long series of monthly conversations jointly curated and presented with Charkha, the Constitutional Law Research Centre, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy. The conversations have been envisaged to spark thoughtful, nuanced discussions on some of the most significant constitutional challenges of our times. The conversations focused on three broad themes–understanding Indian *democracy*, unpacking Indian *federalism*, and unearthing *civil liberties*

16

### **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

#### ***Asariri: A Life Full of Life***

By Rajni Sekhri Sibal (Bloomsbury Prime, New Delhi: 2020)

Discussants: Shri K. Jayakumar, former Chief Secretary, Govt. of Kerala; Dr. Sukrita Paul Kumar, poet, critic and academic, Aruna Asaf Ali Chair, University of Delhi; Dr. Asha Sarangi, Professor, Centre for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University; and Ms Rajni Sekhri Sibal, writer, Civil Servant and author of the book

Chair: Dr. Yogendra Narain, former Secretary-General, Rajya Sabha and former Defence Secretary, Govt. of India

18

**The Reverse Migration to India from GCC and Elsewhere**

Panelists: Shri Amit Kolassery, General Manager, NORKA ROOTS, Govt. of Kerala;

Ms Nazeema Beegum, author and journalist; and Shri Reaven D'Souza, Managing Editor, *The Times*, Kuwait

Chair: Amb. K.P. Fabian, Professor, Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi

**Status of Tribal Women: Retrospective and Perspective**

Panelists: Ms. Nancy Sahay, IAS, CEO Jharkhand State Livelihood Promotion Society and MD, JMHDPCL; Prof. S. Narayan, Emeritus Professor, Member, Commission on Nomadic Tribe, Govt. of India; Shri N.N. Pandey IAS (Retd.), former Chief Secretary and Principal Secretary (Home), Govt. of Jharkhand; Dr. Shiwani, academic and journalist with *The Hindustan Times*; Ms. Vandana Tete, journalist and social worker who has worked for Adivasi and Dalit women's education, and is a former Senior Fellow, Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India; Dr. A.K. Pandey, Chairman, SLSMC, Urban Development & Housing Department, Govt. of Jharkhand

Coordinator: Ms. Swayam Siddha Dash

(Collaboration: Society for Empowerment, Patna)

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**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP*****Bengal and its Partition: An Untold Story***

By Bhaswati Mukherjee (Rupa Publications, New Delhi: 2021)

Panelists: Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas and Housing and Urban Affairs, Govt. of India; Amb. Rajiv Dogra, writer and former Indian Ambassador to Italy; Shri K.N. Shrivastava, IAS (Retd.), Director, IIC; and Ms. Bhaswati Mukerjee, author of the book, former Indian Ambassador to The Netherlands

Chair: Shri K. Natwar Singh, former Union Cabinet Minister, and writer

Venue: C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium at 16.30

23-29

**Ahimsa Conversations: The Seville Statement on Violence**

The Seville Statement on Violence was drafted in 1986, by a group of natural and social scientists from several countries. Later adopted by UNESCO, the Seville Statement marshalled scientific evidence to show that violent behaviour is not generally programmed into human nature.

Prof. Ashis Nandy from India and Prof. David Adams from USA, were two of the leading academics who drafted the Seville Statement. In this episode of Ahimsa Conversations recorded on 13th August 2021, both scholars looked back on the significance of the Seville Statement and reflected on possibilities of nonviolence in our times

Moderator: Rajni Bakshi, freelance journalist and author



**23 BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

***Voices from the Lost Horizon: Stories and Songs of the Great Andamanese***

By Anvita Abbi (Niyogi Books, New Delhi: 2021)

Discussants: Prof. Ganesh Devy, literary critic and Professor, Unesco Linguapax laureate who headed the *People's Linguistic Survey of India* 2010; Ms Mini Krishnan, Editor and translator; and Prof. Anvita Abbi, linguist and scholar of minority languages and author of the book

Chair: Dr. Arshia Sattar, scholar, academic, writer and translator

**26 BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

***Two Plays: A City in Sorrow and Curse***

By Moti Lal Kemmu, translated by Pankaj Bhan (Authorspress India: 2021)

Discussants: Shri Ashok Jailkhani, former Additional Director General of Doordarshan, freelance producer and actor; Shri Ravi Kemmu, director, actor and producer; and Dr. Pankaj Bhan, Founder-Secretary, Kasheer Foundation and translator of the two plays

Chair: Prof. Neerja Mattoo, academic, writer, poet and critic

Moti Lal Kemmu's two plays 'A city in sorrow' (*Nagar udaas*) and 'Curse' (*Shaap*) included in this volume are based on Kalhana's *Rajatarangini*, a pioneering work of historiography written in 12th century Kashmir

**27 NEIGHBOURHOOD FIRST**

Coordinator: Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Ashok K. Mehta

***Collapse of Kabul***

Panelists: Amb. Mahmoud Saikal, former Afghan Ambassador to the UN; Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed, Chairman, Pakistan Senate Defence Committee; and Shri Shakti Sinha, former Advisor UN Assistance Mission Kabul

Chair: Maj. Gen. Ashok K. Mehta, Convenor Regional Group Afghanistan

**SEPTEMBER 2021**

**31 Aug BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

***A Forgotten Ambassador in Cairo: The Life and Times of Syud Hossain***

By N.S. Vinodh (Simon & Schuster India, New Delhi: 2020)

Discussants: Dr. Uday Balakrishnan, formerly of the Indian Postal Service; Ms Himanjali Sankar, Editorial Director, Simon & Schuster Publishers; and Shri N.S. Vinodh, former Vice President of Fidelity Investments and author of book

Chair: Ms Narayani Mahil, former Head of Communications at BP and ONGC

**3      *Orienting: An Indian in Japan***

By Pallavi Aiyar (Harper Collins Publishers India, New Delhi: 2021)

A Conversation

With Mr. James Kondo, Chairman, International House of Japan, Tokyo; Shri Sarnath Banerjee, graphic novelist; and Ms. Pallavi Aiyar, award winning foreign correspondent, author of non-fiction books on China and Europe and, Associate Editor, *The Globalist*

Moderator: Ms. Urvashi Butalia, author and publisher

**3      ART MATTERS**

**Dance in Corona Times**

A discussion with Sharmila Biswas; Leela Venkataraman; Shama Bhate; and Parwati Datta

Moderator: Ashok Vajpeyi

(Collaboration: The Raza Foundation)

The programme can be accessed on:

facebookLive@razafoundation

YouTube@The Raza Foundation

**6-12      History of Delhi Parsis**

Shernaz Italia, well-known producer; and Zenobia Panthaki, Consultant with The World Bank in conversation with Shernaz Cama

*Video recording of the Friday Forum conversation held on 27th August 2021*

(Collaboration: Parzor Foundation and Jiyo Parsi)

**6      BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

**Saving the World from Hitler: India's Battles in World War II**

By R. Prasannan (Manorama Books, 2021)

Discussants: Gen. Ved Prakash Malik (Retd.), PVSM, AVSM, former Chief of the Indian Army; Dr. Robert Lyman, Fellow, Royal Historical Society and an authority on World War II; Sq. Ldr. Rana Chinna (Retd.), writer and Military Historian, Secretary and Editor, USI Centre for Military History and Conflict Research; and Shri R. Prasannan, Senior Coordinating Editor, *The Week* and author of the book

Chair: Shri Suhas Borker, Editor, *Citizens First TV* (CFTV)

**11      Cuisine of Maharashtra**

Kaumudi Marathé in conversation with Hema Devare and Suhas Borker, Curators of the *Royal Cuisine from the Kitchen of the Peshwas @IIC (2021)*

Kaumudi Marathé, Chef-at-Large is a journalist by training, a chef by choice, and a writer.

Based in California, in 2007, she started Un-Curry, the first organic Indian cooking school and catering company. She also works as a senior editor for the books team of America's Test Kitchen

(Collaboration: Maharashtra Sanskritik ani Rannaniti Adhyayan Samiti)

### 13-19 **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

#### ***Forgotten Kashmir: The Other Side of the Line of Control***

By Dinkar Srivastava (HarperCollins India, New Delhi: 2021)

Discussants: Prof. Ishtiaq Ahmed, Swedish political scientist and author of Pakistani descent, Professor Emeritus of Political Science, Stockholm University; Amb. Satish Chandra, former Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva and former Indian High Commissioner to Pakistan; Amb. Dinkar P. Srivastava, former Indian Ambassador to Iran and author of the book

Chair: Amb. Satinder K. Lambah, former Special Envoy to Afghanistan and Pakistan, former Indian High Commissioner to Pakistan and Ambassador to Russia

### 17 **OF BRIDGES & BREAKS—THE CONSTITUTION AT A CROSSROADS**

#### **Article 282, Fiscal Federalism and Centrally Sponsored Schemes: Scratching the Surface**

Presentation of Vidhi's Report on Article 282 and Fiscal Federalism by Ritwika Sharma, Lead, Charkha and Senior Resident Fellow, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy

Followed by a discussion with

Panelists: Shri N.K. Singh, Chairman, 15th Finance Commission of India and President, Institute of Economic Growth; and Ms Yamini Aiyar, President and Chief Executive, Centre for Policy Research

Chair: Dr. Arghya Sengupta, Founder and Research Director, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy  
A new year-long series of monthly conversations jointly curated and presented with Charkha, the Constitutional Law Research Centre, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy. The conversations have been envisaged to spark thoughtful, nuanced discussions on some of the most significant constitutional challenges of our times. The conversations focused on three broad themes—understanding Indian *democracy*, unpacking Indian *federalism*, and unearthing *civil liberties*

### 18 **Japanese Bamboo Baskets and Ikebana**

Ikebana demonstration by Ms. Koka Fukushima, senior Master Instructor, Sogetsu School

Introduction: Smt. Veena Dass, Director, Sogetsu School, New Delhi

During the demonstration, Ms. Fukushima explained the various kinds of Japanese baskets and the different types of weaves used.

(Collaboration: Sogetsu School, New Delhi)

**18 Discussion on State of Indian Media**

Speakers: Ravish Kumar, Senior Executive Editor, NDTV India; Anand Sahai, Consulting Editor, *The Asian Age*; and Vandita Mishra, National Opinion Editor, *The Indian Express*

Moderator: Suhas Borker, Convener, Jan Prasar and Editor, Citizens First TV (CFTV)

This discussion marks the 31st Anniversary of the Presidential Assent to the Prasar Bharti Act. 1990 and is the 28th discussion in the annual series

(Collaboration: Jan Prasar)

**20 BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

*Indus Basin Uninterrupted: A History of Territory and Politics from Alexander to Nehru*

By Uttam Kumar Sinha (Vintage Book: 2021)

Discussants: Prof. K. Warikoo, former Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, author, commentator and Senior Fellow, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library; Shri Ajit Jha, journalist and Editor (Research), *Outlook Magazine*; and Dr. Uttam Kumar Sinha, Fellow, Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, Managing Editor of *Strategic Analysis* and author of the book

Moderator: Shri Shakti Sinha, Director, Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute for Policy Research and International Studies and former Director, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library

**22 Gandhi's Philosophy: Its Relevance to the Contemporary World**

A conversation with Prof. K.P. Shankaran, former Associate Professor of Philosophy, St. Stephens College, University of Delhi who writes regularly on Gandhi in *The Indian Express*, *The Wire* and *The Beacon*

Chair: Amb. K.P. Fabian, Professor, Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi

**24 BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

*India—A Federal Union of States: Fault Lines, Challenge and Opportunities*

By Madhav Godbole (Konarak Publishers: 2021)

Chief Guest: Shri M. Hamid Ansari, former Vice President of India

Chair: Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC

Discussants: Justice Shri A.P. Shah, former Chief Justice of Delhi High Court; Prof. Mustafa Faizan, Vice-Chancellor, The National Academy of Legal Studies and Research; Shri Gurcharan Das, author and public intellectual; Shri K.N. Shrivastava, Director, IIC; and Shri K.P.R. Nair, publisher

**27 NEIGHBOURHOOD FIRST**

Coordinator: Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Ashok K. Mehta

**The New Challenges to India from Pak-Af under the Taliban**

Panelists: Dr. Radha Kumar, writer, former Director General, Delhi Policy Group; Ms Jyoti Malhotra, Senior Consulting Editor, *The Print*; and Dr. Shanthie Mariet D'Souza, Professor, Kautilya School of Public Policy, Hyderabad

Chair: Maj. Gen. Ashok K. Mehta, Convenor, Regional Group on Afghanistan

## 28 **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

*The Long Game: How the Chinese Negotiate with India*

By Vijay Gokhale (Penguin India, New Delhi: 2021)

Discussants: Shri Jayadeva Ranade, former Additional Secretary in the Cabinet Secretariat, Government of India, former Member, National Security Advisory Board and President, Centre for China Analysis and Strategy; Amb. Neelam D. Sabharwal, former Indian Ambassador to The Netherlands; Dr. Hemant Adlakha, Associate Professor, Centre for Chinese and South East Asian Studies, School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University; and Shri Vijay Gokhale, former Indian Foreign Secretary and former Indian Ambassador to China and author of the book

Chair: Amb. Vijay K. Nambiar, former Indian Ambassador to Afghanistan, Malaysia, China, High Commissioner to Pakistan, Permanent Representative to the UN and Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies

## 2 Oct **Mahatma Gandhi and Development**

Panelists: Ms. Nancy Sahay, IAS, CEO Jharkhand State Livelihood Promotion Society and Managing Director, JMHIDPCL; Dr. Sarita Oinam, expert on Gandhian Philosophy and Professor, Kasturba Ashram, Manipur; and Dr. Ashutosh Sharan, physician based in Champaran and a Peace farmer

Chairperson: Dr. Sachindra Narayan, Gandhian and anthropologist, Member, Commission on Nomadic Tribe, Govt. of India

## 1 Oct **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

*Mantras for Positive Ageing*

Edited by Dr. V. Mohini Giri and Meera Khanna (Pippa Rann Books and Media: October 2021)

Discussants: Shri Fali S. Nariman, senior advocate and jurist; Dr. V. Mohini Giri, Founder Chairperson, Guild for Service and co-editor of the book; Smt. Veena Sikri, Professor, Jamia Millia Islamia and formerly Ambassador and Director-General, Indian Council for Cultural Research; Smt. Devaki Jain, economist and scholar; Ms Meera Khanna, Trustee and Executive Vice-President, Guild for Service and co-editor of the book; and Prof. Prabhu Gupta, publisher

Chair: Dr. Karan Singh

*The programme was conducted in a hybrid mode—physically in the Multipurpose Hall and as an online webinar*



OCTOBER 2021

**4 BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP*****Hinge: (Re) Discovering Emotional and Mental Wellness***

By Vandana Kohli (Rupa Publications India, New Delhi: 2021)

Discussants: Dr. Amit Sen, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, Co-founder and Director, Children First; and Ms. Vandana Kohli, filmmaker and author of the book

Moderator: Shri Rajiv Mehrotra

**5 Intellectual Space**

A conversation with Ashis Nandy, Ashok Vajpeyi and Suhas Borker

**11 BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP*****The Great Hindu Civilisation: Achievement, Neglect, Bias and the Way Forward***

By Pavan K. Varma (Westland Non-fiction, New Delhi: 2021)

Discussants: Dr. Seshadri Chari, journalist, author, Strategic and Foreign policy analyst; Shri K.N. Shrivastava, Director, IIC; and Amb. Pavan K. Varma, former Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) and author of the book

Chair: Dr. Karan Singh

**27 BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP*****Mahanadi: The Tale of a River***

By Anita Agnihotri, translated from the original Bengali by Nivedita Sen (Niyogi Books Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi: 2021)

Discussants: Dr. Debjani Sengupta, Associate Professor of English, Indraprastha College, University of Delhi, translator and author; Prof. Sumanyu Sathpathy, Professor and Head, Dept. of English, University of Delhi; Ms Anita Agnihotri, former civil servant and author of the book; and Dr. Nivedita Sen, Associate Professor, Dept. of English, Hansraj College, University of Delhi

**30 Mahatma Gandhi and Sustainable Development in Tribal India**

Chair: Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC

Speakers: Shri K.N. Shrivastava, Director, IIC; Ms. Nancy Sahay, IAS, Additional Secretary, Rural Development, Government of Jharkhand; Prof. Krishna Raj, Professor, Institute of Social and Economic Studies, Bangalore, specialist in Sustainable Development Environmental Economics, Ecological and Resource Economics; and Dr. Shiwani, journalist and Secretary, Society for Empowerment

Moderator: Dr. Sachindra Narayan, well-known anthropologist and Gandhian  
(Collaboration: Society for Empowerment, Patna)

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## IIC/THE MEDIA FOUNDATION DIALOGUES

### The Readers' Editor: Regaining the Trust

Introduction: Harish Khare, Chair, The Media Foundation

Panelists: A.S. Panneerselvan, Fellow, Roja Muthiah Research Library, Chennai and former Readers' Editor, *The Hindu*; Siddharth Varadarajan, Founder-Editor, *The Wire*, New Delhi; C. Rammanohar Reddy, Editor, *The India Forum*, Hyderabad and former Readers' Editor, *scroll.in*; and Shailaja Bajpai, Readers' Editor, *The Print*, New Delhi

Moderator: Vibodh Parathasarathi, Associate Professor, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

*IIC/The Media Foundation Dialogues is a series of conversations featuring prominent voices and highlighting different perspectives, the Dialogues discuss issues challenging the Fourth Estate*

(Collaboration: The Media Foundation)

## NOVEMBER 2021

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## IIC-WISCOMP DIALOGUES

### Peacewomen of Northeast India

Speakers: Roshmi Goswami, feminist human rights activist and independent researcher known for her pioneering work on women in conflict situations; Patricia Mukhim, Editor, *The Shillong Times*; women's rights activist, she was conferred the Padma Shree in 2000 and also received the Chameli Devi Jain Award for outstanding women media person; Pradip Phanjoubam, Editor, *Imphal Free Press* and author of *The Northeast Question: Conflicts and Frontiers*

Moderator: Rakhee Kalita Moral, Associate Professor, Cotton University, Guwahati, Assam and a recipient of the Nehru Fellowship, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library

(Collaboration: WISCOMP)

8

## BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

### *The Dream of Revolution: A Biography of Jayaprakash Narayan*

By Bimal Prasad and Sujata Prasad (Vintage Books, New Delhi: August 2021)

Discussants: Prof. Rajmohan Gandhi, historian, biographer and Research Professor, Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, USA; Shri Ajit Jha, Research Editor, *The Outlook* magazine; Shri Om Thanvi, Hindi writer, editor, critic and Founding Vice-Chancellor, Haridev Joshi University of Journalism and Mass Communication, Jaipur; Shri Raghu Rai, well-known photographer; Ms Narayani Basu, historian and foreign policy analyst; and Ms Sujata Prasad, co-author of the book

Moderator: Shri Suhas Borker, Editor, *Citizens First TV* (CFTV)

## 10 **Women's Empowerment in India: A Major Battle Won**

Over 178,000 girls have applied for admission to the National Defense Academy (Khadakwasla). The entrance test was held on 14th November 2021.

This follows a recent Supreme Court judgement that lifted the decade old ban on women getting permanent commission in the armed forces, a ban that was imposed by a patriarchal mindset.

Five women officers took the matter to the Supreme Court. All of them and Advocate Pooja Dhar who led the legal team in the ten-year battle spoke at the webinar. The dialogue also addressed the issue of the unfinished task of women's empowerment.

**In Conversation** with Commander Prasanna Edayilliam, formerly Air Traffic Controller, the Indian Navy; Commander Sumita Balooni, formerly with the Indian Navy who has trained thousands of Officer Cadets in the Defence Forces and presently Neuro Leadership Coach; Dr. (Commander) Puja Chhabra Sharma, academician with over 30 years of experience including 14 years as a pioneering woman commissioned officer in the Logistics Branch of the Indian Navy; Commander Saroj Dhaka, served in the Indian Navy for 14 years and was the first woman officer to serve in the Navy Special Forces; she founded ESMC in 2010, the first Indian company to venture into maritime security; Commander R. Prasanna, joined the Indian Navy in 1992 and was serving as Commander (Logistics) when she left in 2006; Advocate Pooja Dhar; and Ms Susan Jane Ferguson, India Country Representative, UN Women

Moderators: Advocate Deepa Joseph, President, Disaster Management Collective, New Delhi; and Amb. K.P. Fabian, Distinguished Fellow, Symbiosis University

## 12 **16th Annual Discussion on State of Parliamentary Democracy in India**

Speakers: Shri N. Ram, former Editor-in-Chief, *The Hindu*; Prof. S. Trilochan Sastry, formerly Dean (Academic), India Institute of Management, Bangalore and Chairman, Association for Democratic Reforms and former Professor and Dean, IIM-Ahmedabad; and Shri Prithviraj D. Chavan, former Chief Minister of Maharashtra and former Union Minister

Moderator: Suhas Borker

(Collaboration: Working Group on Alternative Strategies)

## 15 **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

*Tagore and Gandhi: Walking Alone, Walking Together*

By Rudrangshu Mukherjee (Aleph Book Company, New Delhi: September 2021)

Discussants: Shri Tushar Gandhi, President, Lok Seva Trust and Director, Gandhi Research Foundation; Dr. Ravindra Kumar, former Vice-Chancellor, CCS University, Meerut and Ombudsman, Swami Vivekananda Subharati University, Meerut; and Prof. Rudrangshu Mukherjee, historian and author of the book

Chair: Prof. Sanjukta Dasgupta, academic, poet and Convenor, English Advisory Board, Sahitya Akademi and President, Intercultural Poetry and Performance Library, ICCR, Kolkata

16

**60-Years of Indian Mountaineering Foundation**

Chair: Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC

Speakers: Brig. Ashok Abbey (retd.), AVSM, President, Indian Mountaineering Foundation; Smt. Rita Gombu Marwah, veteran mountaineer and Member of the 1984 Indian Expedition to Mount Everest, Vice President, Indian Mountaineering Foundation; and Ms Perna Dangi, professional climber, athlete and guide, accomplished rock climber and one of India's top women ice climbers

Moderator: Shri Mandip Singh Soin

(Collaboration: Indian Mountaineering Foundation)

17

**IIC/WNCB DIALOGUES ON CHILD LABOUR**

**Role of Private Players in Eradicating Child Labour in the Supply Chains**

Speakers: Shri Daya Ram, Secretary and Executive Director, ASPIRE—an organisation working in the area of school education, and formerly Education Head, Agha Khan Foundation in India; and Ms Sandra Claassen, Director, Arisa (Advocating Rights in South Asia), Dutch human rights organisation working on the defence and protection of human rights in global supply chains, especially in the sectors of garments and textiles, natural stone, leather, cottonseed and vegetable seeds.

Moderator: Shri Shankar Venkateswaran, Advisor and interim Director, CDP India, Chairperson, Oxfam India and CSR Trust for SDGs in India

Second discussion in a series of three dialogues addressing **the root causes of child labour** organised in collaboration with Work: No Child's Business (WNCB) to mark International Year for Elimination of Child Labour (IYECL – 2021).

17

**Timeless Mystical Poetry**

The programme focused on the poetry of Akka Mahadevi (virashaivism); Mirabai (devotion to Krishna); Kabir; Yunus Emre; Rumi; and William Blake (*Songs of Innocence and Experience*)

Talk followed by readings in English, Hindi and Urdu by Sanjula Sharma (Akka Mahadevi and Rumi); Rachna Joshi (Mirabai and William Blake); and Sameer Kakkar (readings from Kabir and Yunus Emre)

Chair: Dr. Amrita Bhalla, Associate Professor of English, Jesus and Mary College, University of Delhi

(Collaboration: The Poetry Society, India)

22

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

*Asoca: A Sutra*

By Irwin Allan Sealy (Penguin Viking, 2021)

Discussants: Dr. R. Mahalakshmi, Professor, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Dr. Shonaleeka Kaul, Associate Professor, Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Shri Arvindar Singh, journalist and author; and Shri Irwin Allan Sealy, author of the book

23 **OF BRIDGES & BREAKS—THE CONSTITUTION AT A CROSSROADS**

**Discussion on the Citizenship (Amendment) Act 2019 and Discrimination Law**

Speakers: Prof. Mohsin Alam Bhat, Associate Professor, Executive Director, Centre for Public Interest Law, Jindal Global Law School, O.P. Jindal Global University; and Ms Thulasi K. Raj, Advocate, Supreme Court of India and Kerala High Court and Visiting Fellow, Melbourne Law School, Australia

Moderator: Shri Lalit Panda, Senior Research Fellow (Charkha), Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy

A new year-long series of monthly conversations jointly curated and presented with Charkha, the Constitutional Law Research Centre, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy. The conversations have been envisaged to spark thoughtful, nuanced discussions on some of the most significant constitutional challenges of our times. The conversations will focus on three broad themes—understanding Indian *democracy*, unpacking Indian *federalism*, and unearthing *civil liberties*

22 **POST-TALIBAN DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN**

**Roundtable discussion on Current Developments in Afghanistan: Relevance for India**

Led by Shri Shyam Saran, Life Trustee, IIC and former Foreign Secretary; Ms Suhasini Haider, Diplomatic Editor, *The Hindu*; and Amb. Amar Sinha, former Ambassador to Afghanistan

Chair: Cmdre. C. Uday Bhaskar, Director, Society for Policy Studies

First roundtable in a series of four discussions organised in collaboration with South Asia Monitor. Conceptualised by Cmdre. C. Uday Bhaskar, the series **Post-Taliban Developments in Afghanistan** will focus on major issues, developments and with an aim to look ahead.

(Collaboration: South Asia Monitor)

27 ***Corona Crisis: Gems from Debris, A Spectrum of Fresh Reflections***

Edited by Vikram Chopra (Heritage Publishers, 2021)

Chief Guest: Shri N.N. Vohra

Guest of Honour: Dr. Karan Singh

Followed by a panel discussion with

Dr. Minoti Chatterjee, former Principal, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi and theatre person; Dr. Rajiva Verma, former Professor of English, University of Delhi; and Dr. Vikram Chopra, former Associate Professor, University of Delhi and editor of the book



**29 BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

***Kathmandu Dilemma: Resetting India Nepal Ties***

By Ranjit Rae (Vintage Books, New Delhi: 2021)

Discussants: Dr. Constantino Xavier, Fellow, Foreign Policy and Security Studies, Centre for Social & Economic Progress, and a Non-resident Fellow, the Brookings Institution; Prof. Sangeeta Thapliyal, Chairperson, Centre for Inner Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University; and Amb. Ranjit Rae, former Ambassador to Nepal and author of the book

Chair: Shri Shyam Saran, Life Trustee, IIC

**30 NEIGHBOURHOOD FIRST**

Coordinator: Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Ashok K. Mehta

**India-Maldives Relations**

Panelists: Dr. Gulbin Sultana, Research Analyst, South Asia Centre, Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses; Dr. N. Sathya Moorthy, Distinguished Fellow and Head, Observer Research Foundation's Chennai Initiative; and Dr. Sripathi Narayanan, independent geopolitical analyst

Chair: Maj. Gen Ashok K. Mehta

**DECEMBER 2021**

**3 BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

***Women of Influence: Ten Extraordinary IAS Careers by Rajni Sekhri Sibal***

By Rajni Sekhri Sibal (penguin; 2021)

Speakers: Shri Ram Chandra Prasad Singh, Minister of Steel, GoI; Shri Bharatendra S. Baswan, Former Secretary, GoI and Former Director, Indian Institute of Public Administration; Ms. Anjuly Chib Duggal, Former Secretary, Ministry of Finance, GoI; and Ms. Rajni Sekhri Sibal, Author of the book

Moderator: Ms. Shreya Punj, Commissioning Editor, Penguin Random House

**8 The Civil War in Ethiopia**

Panelists: Prof. Kuruvilla Mathews, Professor of International Relations, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia; Amb. Gurjit Singh, former Ambassador to Ethiopia; and Dr. John Cherian, Consulting Editor, *The Frontline*; and Ms Aparna Mehrotra, Director, UN System Coordination Division, UN Women at UN Women, New York

Moderator: Amb. K.P. Fabian, Distinguished Professor, Symbiosis University

8

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP*****K.N. Malik, An Autobiography***

By K.N. Malik (Fingerprint! Publishing/Prakash Books Pvt. Ltd. India; 2021)

Discussants: Shri H.K. Dua, senior journalist and former Editor-in-Chief, *The Indian Express* and former Editor, *The Tribune*; Ms Usha Rai, senior journalist, currently working as Media and Communication Consultant, *Mongabay*; and Dr. K.N. Malik, former European Correspondent, *The Times of India* and author of the book

Chair: Shri Suhas Borker

11

**Art, Culture and Literature of Bhojpuri and other Languages****Introduction to Bhojpuri and Its Civilisation**

Speakers: Shri Durga Shankar Mishra, Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Govt. of India; Shri Pankaj Tripathi, actor; Shri K.N. Shrivastava, Director, IIC; and Shri Santosh Mall, Secretary, Tourism. Govt. of Bihar

Moderator: Shri Ganga Kumar

*First discussion in a series of bi-monthly discussions on Art, Culture and Literature of Bhojpuri and other local languages such as Bajjika, Magahi, Angika of Bihar and eastern Uttar Pradesh. Organised in collaboration with Bihar Tourism, Govt. of Bihar and Dhanu Bihar*

14

**BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP*****The Great Tragedy of India's Partition***

By S.S. Sharma (Manohar Publishers & Distributors, New Delhi: 2021)

Discussants: Shri K.T.S. Tulsi, senior advocate in the Supreme Court of India and Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha); Shri A.S. Bhasin, writer and historian; Prof. Amar Farooqui, Professor of History, University of Delhi; and Shri S.S. Sharma, retired civil servant and author of the book

Chair: Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC

17

**NEIGHBOURHOOD FIRST**

Coordinator: Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Ashok K. Mehta

**1971 Liberation War**

Panelists: Brig. (Retd.) Rattan Kaul, military historian who fought in the Battle of Sylhet; Air Marshal (Retd.) V.K. Bhasin, strategic analyst who fought the air war; Maj Gen. (Retd.) Jameel Ahsan, Bangladesh army and decorated freedom fighter; and Amb. Surendra Kumar, former Ambassador and High Commissioner and Founding President, Indo-American Friendship Association, New Delhi

Chair: Maj Gen. Ashok K. Mehta

**23 7th Edition of the discussion on State of the Indian Economy**

Speakers: Prof. Surajit Mazumdar, Professor of Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Prof. Partha Sen, former Professor of Economics, Delhi School of Economics; Prof. R. Kavita Rao, Professor National Institute of Public Finance and Policy; Prof. Vikas Rawal, Professor of Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University; and Dr. Zakaria Siddiqui, Associate Professor, Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation, Thiruvananthapuram

Moderator: Suhas Borker, Convener, Working Group on Alternative Strategies and Editor, Citizens First TV (CFTV)

(Collaboration: Working Group on Alternative Strategies)

**23 BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

*Ganga: Reimagining, Rejuvenating, Reconnecting*

By Rajiv Ranjan Mishra and Pushkal Upadhyay

Discussants: Ms Yamini Aiyar, President and Chief Executive, Centre for Policy Research; Dr. Vibha Dhawan, Director General, TERI; Shri Abhay Mishra, writer; Prof. Birgit Vogel, GIZ, India EU Water Partnership; Shri Rajiv Ranjan Mishra, co-author of the book and Director General National Mission For Clean Ganga (NMCG), Ministry of Jal Shakti; and Shri Pushkal Upadhyay, co-author of the book and former Additional Mission Director, National Mission for Clean Ganga

Chair: Dr. Victor Shinde, Lead–Water and Environment, National Institute of Urban Affairs

**21 BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

*Contested Lands: India, China and the Boundary Dispute*

By Maroof Raza (Westland Non-Fiction: 2021)

Discussants: Amb. Sujan R. Chinoy, Director General of the Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defense Studies and Analyses; Prof. Alka Acharya, Professor, Centre for East Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University; and Shri Maroof. Raza, strategic analyst and author of the book

Chair: Shri K.N. Shrivastava, Director, IIC

**JANUARY 2022**

**7 7th Edition of Keys to Governance: Constitutional Morality**

Speakers: Prof. Niraja Gopal Jayal, Avantha Chair, King's India Institute, King's College, London and Centennial Professor, Dept. of Gender Studies, London School of Economics, formerly Professor at the Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, JNU; Prof. Suhas Palshikar, Chief Editor, Studies in Indian Politics and Co-Director of Lokniti (CSDS), formerly Professor, Dept. of Politics and Public Administration, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune; Prof. Christophe Jaffrelot, Senior Research Fellow CERI-CNRS and Professor, Sciences Po, Paris, Professor, King's India Institute, King's College, London and

Chairman, Trivedi Center for Political Data, Ashoka University; Shri Sanjay Hegde, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India

Moderator: Suhas Borker, Managing Trustee D.S. Borker Memorial Foundation and Editor, Citizens First TV (CFTV)

This is the seventh annual seminar in the series 'Keys to Governance'; the earlier six seminars in the series were on 'Compliance and Delivery' (2016), 'Political Will' (2017), 'Constitution as Ideology' (2018), 'Education as Empowerment' (2019), 'Steel Frame' (2020) and Independence of Judiciary (2021).

The annual seminar is held in remembrance of Shekhar Borker, 'Banana Boy' on the Indian postage stamp, private sector administrator, citizen environmentalist and advocate of empowerment of persons of disabilities who passed away in 2015 on 7 January

(Collaboration: D. S. Borker Memorial Foundation)

## 5 **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

### *Classical Indian Dance in Literature and the Arts*

By Kapila Vatsyayan

Discussants: Prof. Radha Vallabh Tripathi, former Vice-Chancellor, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi; Dr. Sudha Gopalakrishnan, Executive Director, IIC-International Research Division; Prof. Deepti Omchery Bhalla, Mohiniattam artist and Head and Dean, Dept. of Music and Fine Arts, University of Delhi; and Shri Shekhar Shastri, poet, musician and dramatist

Chair: Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC

## 6 **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

### *The Ninth Flower: Best of Amrita Pritam*

Translated by Jyoti Sabharwal (Stellar Publishers: 2021)

Discussants: Prof. Malashri Lal, formerly Professor of English, University of Delhi, academic, writer and editor; Shri Pratik Kanjilal, Editor, The India Cable and Publisher, *The Little Magazine*; and Ms Jyoti Sabharwal, writer-publisher and translator of the book

Moderator: Dr. Gauri Shankar Raina

## 12 **OF BRIDGES & BREAKS—THE CONSTITUTION AT A CROSSROADS**

### **Personal Data under the Constitution**

Speakers: K.V. Viswanathan, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India and former Additional Solicitor General; and Mariyam Kamil, DPhil Candidate, University of Oxford, General Editor, Oxford University Commonwealth Law Journal (2019-20)

Moderator: Lalit Panda, Senior Resident Fellow (Charkha), Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy (Collaboration: Charkha, the Constitutional Law Research Centre, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy)

**18      Making of an Ideal Citizen**

Discussants: Prof. Nivedita Menon, Professor, Centre for Comparative Politics and Political Theory, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Dr. Gautam Bhan, Urban Researcher and Writer; Dr. Ghazala Jameel, Assistant Professor, Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University; and Ms Dipta Bhog, journalist and activist

Chair: Prof. Apoorvanand, Dept. of Hindi, Faculty of Arts, University of Delhi

**National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5)**

Speakers: Dr. S.K. Singh, Professor of Mathematical Demography and Statistics, International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai; and Smt Meeta Rajivlochan, IAS, Secretary, National Commission for Women

Chair: Amb. K.P. Fabian, Distinguished Professor, Symbiosis University

**24      BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

*Electoral Democracy? An Inquiry into the Fairness and Integrity of India's Elections*

Release of the book by Shri N.N. Vohra, President IIC

Book release to be followed by a discussion

Chair: Shri N.N. Vohra

Panelists: Shri K.N. Shrivastava, Director, IIC; Shri M.G. Devasahayam, Chairman, People-First and Member, Constitutional Conduct Group, Coordinator, Citizens' Commission on Elections (CCE) and Editor of the book; Justice Shri Madan Lokur, former Judge, Supreme Court of India and Chair, CCE;

Shri Wajahat Habibullah, former Chief Information Commissioner and Vice-Chair, CCE; Prof. Subhashis Banerjee, Dept. of Computer Science, IIT Delhi and Member, CCE; Dr. S.Y.Quraishi, former Chief Election Commissioner; Shri Jawhar Sircar, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha; and Professor Jagdeep Chhokar, Co-Founder, Association for Democratic Rights and Former Dean, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad

Moderator: Ms. Anjali Bhardwaj, Co-convener, National Campaign for People's Right to Information

**25      IIC/WNCB DIALOGUES ON CHILD LABOUR**

**Role of Private Sector and the Media in Eradicating Child Labour**

Panelists: Tanja Brok, Communications Coordinator, Work: No Child's Business, the Hague, The Netherlands; Dr. Shankar Borua, creative entrepreneur and communications professional; and Smita Agarwal, Head, Education Programme at Tata Steel's Corporate Social Responsibility who has worked in the field of education for over two decades

Introduction: Aditi Datta, Senior Manager-Research and Communications, ICCSPL



Moderator: Rakhi Sehgal, labour researcher and trade union activist who is currently coordinating an ILO project on industrial relations in the Indian garment industry

Third and final discussion in a series of three dialogues addressing the root causes of child labour organised in collaboration with Work: No Child's Business (WNCB) to mark International Year for Elimination of Child Labour (IYECL-2021).

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### **NEIGHBOURHOOD FIRST**

Coordinator: Maj. Gen. (Retd.) Ashok K. Mehta

#### **Threat and Perceptions in the Himalayas: India, Bhutan and China**

Panelists: Amb. V.P. Haran, former Indian Ambassador to Bhutan; Lt. Gen. P.J. S. Pannu, former Additional Director General, Military Operations; and Dr. Nihar Nayak, Senior Research Fellow, M.P. Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses

Chair: Maj. Gen. Ashok K. Mehta

31

### **The Great Pertinence of Gandhi to India in the 75th Year of Its Independence**

Inaugural Address: Justice M.N. Venkatachaliah, Chairman, Sarvodaya International Trust

Valedictory Address: Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC

#### **Session I (11 am to 1 pm)**

Invocation (*Vaishnava janato*) by Smt Neha Vats Khankriyal

Speakers: Shri M. Hamid Ansari, former Vice President of India; Prof. Rajmohan Gandhi, Research Professor, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; and Dr. Gita Dharampal, Professor Emeritus, Heidelberg University, Germany

#### **Session II (4 pm – 6 pm)**

Speakers: Lord Bhikhu Parekh, Chairman, Gandhi Foundation, UK; Shri Shyam Saran, Life Trustee, IIC; and Amb. Alan Nazareth, author *Gandhi's Outstanding Leadership* and *Gandhi: Soul Force Warrior*

Sarod rendition of *Raghupati Raghava Raja Ram* by Ustad Amjad Ali Khan

Moderator: Shri Arun Maira, former Chairman, Boston Consulting Group  
(Collaboration: Sarvodaya International Trust)

# APPENDIX IV *Cultural*

## FEBRUARY 2021

### 8-14 IIC DOUBLE BILL MUSIC AND DANCE RECITALS

#### **Sarod Recital**

By Aayush Mohan from Delhi, disciple of the late Smt Sharan Rani, Pt. Balwant Rai Verma and Pt. Tejendra Majumdar

*Followed by*

#### **Odissi Recital**

By Moumita Vaats Ghosh from Delhi, disciple of Guru Smt Madhavi Mudgal

*Video recording of two recitals for IIC online programmes*

### 11 **A Breath of Spring from Japan**

An online Ikebana demonstration by Mr. Ken Katayama, Master Instructor, Sogetsu School, Tokyo

Introduction: Smt Veena Dass, President, Sogetsu School of Ikebana, Delhi Chapter

### 22-28 **Kuchipudi Recital (45 min)**

By Gururaju N. from Bengaluru, disciple of Smt. Vyjayanthi Kashi

*Video recording of a recital for IIC online programmes*

## MARCH 2021

### 1-7 **Ruth Wieder Magan**

New and Retrospective works

Ruth Wieder Magan is best known for her pioneering work integrating sacred texts into contemporary voice/body theatre. Her unique approach to the somatic and transcendental aspects of voice, text and spatial perception is deeply rooted in Jewish oral tradition and informed by contemporary body approaches.

Screening of three films:

#### **Mirror Sky (50 min)**

A film by Ruth Wieder Magan, Sara Siegel and Yuval Steinberg  
with Michael Shachrur

#### **Come Away Human Child (6.42 min)**

A short film by Ruth Wieder Magan, Dan Lahiani and Shane Vaughan with Red Moon Ensemble

**Kadayil Shabbaso (10 min)**

A short film by Ruth Wieder Magan and Shai Cabili  
with Mark Eliyahu

The films were accessed from 10:00 hours on 6th March 2021 until 19:00 hours on 7th March 2021 on the Centre's website [www.iicdelhi.in](http://www.iicdelhi.in)

(Organised with the support of 'The Foundation for Independent Artists', Ministry of Culture and Sport, Israel)

**9 The Ecstatic Voice. What is the Female Voice?**

A *Meet the Artist* programme with artists of the film *Mirror Sky* screened as part of IIC online programme activities

Participants: Ruth Wieder Magan, well-known contemporary voice/body theatre artist from Israel; Prof. Michal Govrin, prominent Israeli writer, poet and theatre director; Gabriella Lev, theatre director, writer, performer, Artistic Director and Co-Founder, Theatre Company Jerusalem; Michael Shachrur, prominent body worker, dancer; Sara Siegel, filmmaker; and Yuval Steinberg, filmmaker and game designer

Introduction: Reuma Mantzur, Cultural Attaché, Embassy of Israel

Moderator: Mohit Satyanand, Chairman and Co-founder, Teamwork Arts

**8-14 IIC DOUBLE BILL MUSIC AND DANCE RECITALS**

**Sitar Recital**

By Smarajit Sen from Kolkata, disciple of Pt. Buddhadev Dasgupta

*Followed by*

**Kathak Recital**

By Sangita Chatterjee from Delhi, disciple of Guru Vaswati Misra

*Video recordings of two recitals for IIC online programme activities*

**22-28 On 25th March 2021 at 6:00 pm**

**IIC DOUBLE BILL MUSIC AND DANCE RECITALS**

**Hindustani Music–Sarod Recital**

By Pt. Abhik Kumar Sarkar from Delhi, disciple of Ustad Amjad Ali Khan

Accompanied on the tabla by Shubhendu Das

*Followed by*

**Saabhinaya**

An evening of Odissi Recital

By Vrinda Chadha from Delhi, disciple of Guru Smt. Ranjana Gauhar

*Venue: C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium*

APRIL 2021

29 Mar to

4 April **Piano Recital**

By Joao Bittencourt, well known artist from Brazil

Joao Bittencourt is an accomplished pianist, accordionist, composer, producer and musical director from Brazil

(Collaboration: Embassy of Brazil)

*Video recording of a programme for IIC*

12-18 **Concert for Cairo—Amália Rodrigues in the Voice of the Portuguese Guitar (23 min)**

An online concert presented by Arte Institute and RHI Initiative on 18th December 2020 to mark the centenary year of the legendary Fado singer, Amália Rodrigues

Musicians: Ricardo J. Martins (Portuguese guitar); Nuno Martins (classical guitar); and Luis Tindade (bass)

19-25 **IIC DOUBLE BILL MUSIC AND DANCE RECITALS**

**Sitar Recital** (38 min)

By Lakshay Mohan from Delhi, disciple of Pt. Uma Shankar Mishra

*Followed by*

**Hindustani Vocal Recital** (32 min)

By Pulkit Sharma from Delhi, disciple of Prof. Ojesh Pratap Singh

*Video recordings of two concerts for IIC online programmes*

26 Apr to

2 May **The Three Tenors in Concert 1994** (73:22 min)

Video recording of the sold-out concert by the three internationally celebrated opera artists—José Carreras, Plácido Domingo and Luciano Pavarotti held at Los Angeles' Dodgers Stadium on July 16, 1994. With conductor Zubin Mehta and the Los Angeles Philharmonic and Chorus of the Los Angeles Music Center Opera

MAY 2021

3-9 **Uptown Blues: Ellington at 100** (118 min)

Concert by The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra in collaboration with the New York Philharmonic.

Wynton Marsalis and Kurt Masur take turns leading their orchestras in alternating movements of Grieg's *Peer Gynt Suite* and Ellington's jazz arrangements of the same work.

**17-23 IIC DOUBLE BILL MUSIC AND DANCE RECITALS****Odissi Recital**

By Manisha Manaswini, disciple of the late Guru Gangadhar and Smt. Aruna Mohanty

The artist presented *Rageshree Pallavi* set to Raga Rageshree and Tala ektali; dance composed by Guru Gangadhar Pradhan and *Nayika* dance composed by Guru Gangadhar Pradhan and Smt. Aruna Mohanty

*Followed by*

**Kathak Recital**

Presented by Asavari Pawar and Kalaashish repertory

*Video recording of two recitals for IIC online programmes*

**JUNE 2021****7-13 Brazilian Concert–Bianca and Julio**

Concert by Bianca Gismonti (vocal and piano) and Julio Favignola (drums), well-known contemporary jazz artists from Brazil.

The artists were accompanied by other guest artists to present three compositions—*Festa do Carmo* with Mestrinho, accordion (Brazil); *Escadas da Penha* with Frank Colón, percussion (Puerto Rico); and *Celestial Sphere* with Navin Gandhari, belababar (India); and Paolo Andriolo, bass

(Collaboration: Embassy of Brazil)

**14-20 IIC DOUBLE BILL MUSIC AND DANCE RECITALS****Sitar Recital**

By Suhel Saeed Khan from Dilli Gharana, disciple of Ustad Saeed Zafar Khan

Accompanied by Akbar Latif on the tabla

The artist presented two Ragas—Bageshree and Raga Rageshree

**Hindustani Vocal Recital**

By Shri Subhasish Bhawal from Kolkata, disciple of Pandit Amaresh Chandra Chawdhury, Samaresh Chawdhury, Ramashreya Jha, Ulhas Kashalkar

The artist presented a unique style which reflected a blend of beautiful musical compositions knitted in a classical background.

*Video recording of two concerts for IIC online programme activities*

**16 Aaj Kavita–Poetry Reading**

Poets–Yatish Kumar from Kolkata; Anamika Anu from Trivandrum; and Veeru Sonkar from Kanpur

Moderator: Ashok Vajpeyi

(Collaboration: The Raza Foundation)



**21-27 Concert–Triple Concerto (23 min)**

Written for Kosmos Ensemble by Errollyn Wallen

Kosmos Ensemble is a chamber-folk trio led by violinist Harriet Mackenzie which aims to create bridges between classical music and folk. They are Harriet Mackenzie (violin); Meg-Rosaleen Hamilton (viola); and Miloš Milivojevic (accordion)

Video recording of a concert presented by Kosmos Ensemble at the Festival of Chichester, Chichester Cathedral, July 2018

**28 Jun to**

**4 Jul Hindustani Vocal Recital (50 min)**

By Dr. Asit Roy from Bangladesh, disciple of Sangeetacharya Amiryanarjan Bandyopadhyaya, Pt. Jagdish Prasad, Ustad Rahim Fahimuddin Dagar and Smt Kaberi Kar

Accompanied by Alamgir Parvez on pakhawaj

The artist presented two Ragas—Raga Malkosh and Raga Shankara

*Video recording of a recital for the IIC online programme activities*

**JULY 2021**

**12-18 Desi Chopin (28 min)**

Should the great Polish piano composer Frederic Chopin's music be played only on the piano? Why not on the tabla, sitar or veena? *Desi Chopin* is an interpretation of Chopin's masterpieces by leading Indian musicians on traditional Indian musical instruments. The project was organised and arranged by the Polish Institute, New Delhi

Artists featured: Saraswati Rajagopalan (veena); Kailash Sharma (flute); Suhel Saeed Khan (sitar); Narinderpal Gill (keyboard); Manohar Balachandirane (mridangam); Varun Rajasekharan (ghatam and kanjira); Ujith Udaya Kumar (tabla); and Tomasz Pajak (violin)

Arrangement and Supervision: Tomasz Pajak

The artists presented *Prelude in D Flat Major; Waltz in A Minor; Mazurka in G Minor; Etude Number 3; Waltz in E Flat Major; Mazurka in F Major; and Prelude in A Major*

Video recorded at the Embassy of Poland in September 2020

(Collaboration: Polish Institute, New Delhi)

**19-25 Bharatanatyam Recital**

By Binal Wala from Ahmedabad, disciple of Smt Ellakshiben Thakore, Shri Kubernath Tanjorekar and Guru Swathi Daithankar

Accompanists: Somnath Natarajan (vocal); R. Natarajan (mridangam); Alap Parikh (flute); and Hemanth Sadhu (violin)

Binal Wala and artists of Kalamandir Performing Art, Ahmedabad–Dipal Khajanchi and Misha Shah presented Tanjore School of Bharatanatyam

*Video recording of the recital for IIC online programmes*

26 Jul to

1 Aug

**Mozart: Great Mass in C *minor*, K. 427** (59 min)

Considered one of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's greatest works, the *Great Mass* was composed in Vienna in 1782 and 1783. This large-scale work, a *missa solemnis* (Solemn Mass), is scored for two soprano soloists, a tenor and a bass.

Video recording of a concert presented by Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra on 18th March 2016 with Kiera Duffy (soprano); Emöke Barath (soprano); John Mark Ainsley (tenor) and Leon Kosavic (bass baritone)

Conductor: Nathalie Stutzmann

Bergen Philharmonic Choir; Edvard Grieg Choir; and Collegium Musicum Choir

Chorus Master: Håkon Matti Skrede

**AUGUST 2021**

2-8

**Kuchipudi Recital**

By Avijit Das, artist, choreographer and musician. He is the disciple of Guru Manju Bhargavi, Guru Padmavani and Guru Jaikishore Mosalikanti.

*The artist presented Shivashtakam; Daruvu Koluvaithiva Ranga sai; Sri Thaalapaaka Annamaachaarya; Keertanam–Brahma Okate*

*Video recording of a recital for IIC online programme activities*

16-22

**Mozart: Requiem Mass in D *minor*, K. 626** (50 min)

Recorded live at Grieghallen on 6th October 2017 with the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra Requiem Mass by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart who composed a part of the Requiem in 1791 in Vienna but it was unfinished at his death on 5th December the same year. It was completed in 1792 by Franz Xaver Süssmayr. Mozart's Requiem is a choral masterpiece whose genesis is shrouded in mystery—one that makes the piece all the more fascinating and emotionally stirring.

Conductor: Thierry Fischer

With Ann-Helen Moen (soprano); Kristina Hammarström (mezzo soprano); Thorbjørn Gulbrandsøy (tenor); and Leon Kosavic (bass baritone)

Bergen Philharmonic Chorus; and Edvard Grieg Choir

Chorus Master: Håkon Matti Skrede

23-29

**IIC DOUBLE BILL MUSIC AND DANCE RECITALS****Hindustani Vocal Recital**

By Ayush Dwivedi from Kanpur, disciple of Pt. Vinod Kumar Dwivedi

**Kathak Recital**

By Pratibha Sharma from Delhi, disciple of Smt Geetanjali Lal

*Video recording of two recitals for IIC online programme activities*

26

**Dara Shikoh and Rana Dil**

Conceptualised, created and directed by Manjari Chaturvedi

Script by Danish Iqbal

With Ekant Kaul as Dara Shikoh; and Manjari Chaturvedi as Rana-Dil

A unique theatrical dance production under 'The Courtesan Project', the performances traces the strange love story, poignant and tragic of Dara Shikoh and Rana-Dil, a dancing girl of humble birth. Dara Shikoh, the elder son of the emperor was so captivated by her charm and beauty that he wanted to marry her...

*The performance was presented on stage and webcast live on the Centre's website and on Facebook@Manjari Chaturvedi*

(Collaboration: Sufi Kathak Foundation; and Ganga Jamuna Culture Foundation)

**SEPTEMBER 2021**

30 Aug to

5 Sept

**On 4th September 2021 at 6.00 pm**

**Feeling India (45 min)**

An online Flamenco concert with Maria del Mar Fernández (voice); Manuel Lucas (guitar); Ana González and Alejandro Molina (dance)

An online live concert of songs, music and dance presenting a mix of Spanish and Indian compositions reinterpreted by the artists.

The concert was webcast live on 4th September 2021 at 6.00 pm on YouTube. The YouTube link was sent by email and posted on the website.

(Collaboration: Cervantes Institute, New Delhi)

**Teesri Kasam (55 min)**

A play in Hindi presented by Ruchika Theatre Group with Radhika Alkazi and Jaipreet Singh

Directed by Feisal Alkazi

Phaneshwar Renu's unforgettable story of the relationship between a nautanki dancer and a bullock cart driver

9

**AAJ KAVITA**

**An Evening of Poetry**

With poets—Prayag Shukla (Noida); Rupali Sinha (Delhi); Amber Pandey (Indore); and Amitabh Chaudhury (Churu) who read their own work

Moderator: Ashok Vajpeyi

(Collaboration: The Raza Foundation)

The programme can be accessed on:

facebookLive@razafoundation

YouTube@The Raza Foundation

**9 IIC DOUBLE BILL MUSIC RECITALS**

**Hindustani Vocal Recital**

By Nila Sinha Roy from Faridabad, disciple of Guru K.C. Lahiri, Guru Amiya Ranjan Banerjee and Smt. Dipali Nag

Accompanists: Ustad Akram Khan (tabla); Ustad Murad Ali Khan (sarangi); and Sumit Mishra (harmonium)

**13-19 Zindagi Yahan aur Wahan (60 min)**

Directed by Feisal Alkazi

Play reading in Hindi presented by Ruchika Theatre Group with Gruleen, Sachin, Smita and Qaisar

Nirmal Verma's tender tale of an affair in and around Connaught place in the 80s

**Manipuri Dance Recital**

By Sudip Kumar Ghosh from Tripura, disciple of Guru Th. Chourjeet Singh, Guru Th. Bimola Devi and Guru N. Amusana Devi

Accompanists: Guru Th. Chourjeet Singh (pung); Sanahambi Devi (vocal); and Megachandra (flute)

*Video of a dance recital recorded for IIC online programme activities*

**17 Kunwar Narain's Poetry: The Translator's Voice (39 min)**

Readings from the eminent Hindi poet, Kunwar Narain's poems and excerpts from 12 original collections by 21 translators in 15 different languages organised by The University of Lausanne, Switzerland as part of the programme *Remembering Kunwar Narain*.

Readings by Alessandra Consolaro (Italian); Alok Bhalla (English); Anastasia Guria (Russian); Annie Montaut (French); Apurva Narain (English); Danuta Stasik (Polish); Guzel Strelkova (Russian); Heinz Werner Wessler (German); John Vater (English); Margus Lattik (Estonian); Milena Bratoeva (Bulgarian); Nicola Pozza (French); Nicolas Boin Principato (French); Padma Patil (Marathi); Péter Sági (Hungarian); Prayag Saikia (Assamese); Premlata Verma (Spanish); Ramanik Agravat (Gujarati); Renata Czekalska (Polish); Santosh Alex (Malayalam); and Tomoko Kikuchi (Japanese)

(Collaboration: Rajkamal Prakashan Samuh; and The University of Lausanne, Switzerland)

- 25            We need to Talk about Dhruv**  
A visual enactment of a new play presented by Ruchika Theatre Group  
Directed by Feisal Alkazi  
Script devised by Ritvik Mohan Bhagat and Feisal Alkazi  
With Radhika Alkazi, Sanjiv Desai, Smita Mazumdar, Rajaram, Dhruv Chugh, Gunjan Sharma and others
- 29            IIC DOUBLE BILL MUSIC AND DANCE RECITALS**  
**Hindustani Vocal Recital**  
By Rita Dev from Delhi, disciple of Guru Dr. Girija Devi  
*Followed by*  
**Kathak Recital**  
By Sangita Chatterjee from Delhi, disciple of Smt Vaswati Misra
- Concert–Nuits du piano (73 min)**  
Live video recording of a concert held at the Salle Cortot, Paris on 21st January 2021  
Renowned pianists Clément Lefebvre and Philippe Bianconi presented works by Wagner, Liszt, Chopin and Schumann. The concert closed with extracts from Schumann's *Images d'Orient* for four hands.
- 29            IIC DOUBLE BILL MUSIC AND DANCE RECITALS**  
**Hindustani Vocal Recital**  
By Rita Dev from Delhi, disciple of Guru Girija Devi  
Accompanists: Durjoy Bhowmik (tabla); Zakir Dholpuri (harmonium); Aanchal Singh and Harvinder Singh (tanpura)  
*Followed by*  
**Kathak Recital**  
By Sangita Chatterjee from Delhi, disciple of Smt Vaswati Misra
- 1 Oct        Radhey Shyam**  
Screening of a film **Uma**  
Directed by the late Buddhadeb Dasgupta  
Introduced by Smt Aruna Vasudev  
**Shree Radha**  
A short film produced by Dr. Uma Sharma  
Followed by  
**Thumri Abhinaya and Raas Leela**  
Presented by Uma Sharma and her disciples



Dance Choreography: Dr. Uma Sharma

Music: Late Pt. Jwala Prasad

Compere: Sadhna Shrivastav

(Collaboration: Uma Sharma School of Dance and Music–Bharatiya Sangeet Sadan; and Sangeet Natak Akademi)

## **OCTOBER 2021**

**13**

### **AAJ KAVITA**

#### **An Evening of Poetry**

With poets–Tithi Dani (Reading, UK); Rupam Mishra (Pratapgarh); Ruchi Bhalla (Phaltan); and Naazish Ansari (Lucknow) who read from their original work

Moderator: Shri Ashok Vajpeyi

(Collaboration: The Raza Foundation)

The programme can be accessed on:

facebookLive@razafoundation

YouTube@The Raza Foundation

## **NOVEMBER 2021**

**1-7**

### **Sattriya Recital (31 min)**

Presented by Prerona Bhuyan from Guwahati, Assam, disciple of Guru Jatin Goswami

**11**

### **IIC DOUBLE BILL MUSIC RECITALS**

#### **Hindustani Vocal Recital**

By Meelu Verma from Delhi, disciple of Guru Savita Devi, Pt. Mohinder Sarin, Pt. Ram Narayan Mani Tripathi and Smt. Nargis Warsi

Accompanists: Ustad Kamal Ahmed (sarangi); Ustad Badloo Khan (harmonium); and Ustad Akhtar Khan (tabla)

**At 19:00**

#### **Sitar Recital**

By Dhruv Bedi from Delhi, disciple of Pt. Budhaditya Mukherjee

**18**

### **IIC DOUBLE BILL MUSIC AND DANCE RECITALS**

#### **Hindustani Vocal Recital**

By Ghulam Hasan Khan from Delhi, disciple of Ustad Ghulam Sadiq Khan

Accompanied by Junaid Hasan (tanpura and vocal support); Zakir Dholpuri (harmonium); and Ramaan Khan (tabla)

**At 19:00**

**Bharatanatyam Recital**

By Shreyasi Gopinath from Delhi, disciple of Guru Saroja Vaidyanathan and the late Guru Jamuna Krishnan

**25 IIC DOUBLE BILL DANCE RECITALS**

**Odissi Recital**

By Shagun Butani from Gurugram

With dance support by Mahika Sampat, disciple of Shagun Butani

Accompanists: Prashant Kumar Behera (vocal); Prashant Maharana (Odissi mardal); Lavanya Ambade (sitar); and Siddharta Dalbehera (flute)

**27 Qawwali Mehfil–Tradition and Experiment: Bulleh Shah and Amir Khusrau**

Performances by Ustad Ranjhan Ali and Manjari Chaturvedi; and Dhruv Sangari  
(Collaboration: Sufi Kathak Foundation)

**Kamaladevi Puraskar 2021**

Presentation of awards to young crafts persons

**Mandari Dance**

A short presentation of a traditional folk dance and music from Chahatisgarh

Presented by Ghotul group of artists from Kunda village, Bastar division

Chief Guest: Smt. Devaki Jain, eminent economist and writer

Awards were presented to Subhalaxmi Bai from Jagatsinghpur, Odisha for golden grass craft; Priya Karmakar from Birbhum, West Bengal for *suri* bowl with bell metal; Hrudananda Chand from Jajpur, Odisha for weaving *Phodo Kumbha* sarees; Prabir Tudu from Malda, West Bengal for bamboo craft; Jaspreet Kaur from Patiala, Punjab for *phulkari* embroidery; and Aman L. Konyak from Nagaland for crafting bead necklaces

(Collaboration: Delhi Crafts Council)

**DECEMBER 2021**

**10 Memories and Confessions–An Evening of Contemporary Poetry**

Reading of verses by Dr. Amarendra Khatua (*Acknowledging Loss*); Shri Sanjeev Sethi (*Hesitancies*); and Mrs Deepa Agarwal (*Forgotten Kaleidoscopes*)

Chair: Mandira Ghosh

(Collaboration: The Poetry Society, India)

**10 MUSIC APPRECIATION PROMOTION****Christmas Music Through the Centuries**

Illustrated lecture by Nicholas Hoffland, writer, design and music resource person, business communicator, art curator and cook.

Nicholas will take viewers on a musical journey using audio and film clips of Christmas music, written by western classical composers, from the early music of the 12th and 13th centuries through the renaissance, baroque, classical, romantic and modern periods ending with current popular music

**JANUARY 2022****10-16 Hindustani Vocal Recital (51 min)**

By Ghulam Hasan Khan from Delhi, disciple of Ustad Ghulam Sadiq Khan

Accompanied by Mahavir Chandrawat (tabla); and Satendar Verma (harmonium)

The artist presented Raga Nand

*Video recording of a concert for IIC online programmes*

**Kathak Recital (36 min)**

By Tabasmi Paul Majumdar from Kolkata, disciple of Dr. Malabika Mitra and Pt. Rajendra Kumar Gangani

*Video recording of a dance recital for IIC online programme activities*

# APPENDIX V *Festivals*

## MARCH 2021

1-7

### TO MARK INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2021

#### THE 17TH IAWRT ASIAN WOMEN'S FILM FESTIVAL: 5TH TO 7TH MARCH 2021

Organised in collaboration with International Association of Women in Radio & Television, India Chapter, the 17th edition of the festival brought together a collection of 33 films from 10 countries, directed by women filmmakers from Asia and of Asian origin—films from India, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Afghanistan, Armenia, Malaysia, United States, Finland, Belgium and Iran were screened.

This year, the festival took place online. Each film was available for a 48-hour window of free streaming via the festival's online Screening Room. Discussions with filmmakers and Masterclasses were live streamed, and were free and open to all.

#### **Village Des Femmes** (Village Of Women)

(Armenia/83 min/2019/Armenian)

Director: Tamara Stepanyan

Non-fiction

#### **Pani Paata Poratam** (Songs of Our Soil)

(India/52 min/2019/Telugu)

Director: Aditi Maddali

Non-fiction

#### **Drapchi Elegy** (India)

(17 min/2017/Tibetan)

Directors: Ritu Sarin, Tenzing Sonam

Non-fiction

#### **About Mumma** (India)

(40 min/2020/English, Hindi)

Director: Maanvi Chowdhary

Non-fiction

#### **Anyday, Everyday, One Fine Day!**

(India/6 min 30 sec/2020/English)

Director: Raashi Borade

Animation

#### **A little more blue** (India)

(4 min/2020/English)

Director: Sugandha Bansal

Animation

**Saakhya** (India)

(29 min/2020/Marathi)

Director: Kunika Kharat

Fiction

**Broken Harmony: China's Dissidents**

(USA/51 min/2019/Chinese/Mandarin, English)

Director: Risa Morimoto

Non-Fiction

**The Hour of Lynching** (India)

(19 min/2019/Hindi)

Directors: Shirley Abraham, Amit Madheshiya

Non-fiction

**Panel Discussion: 5:00 pm–6:00 pm**

**Towards Nurturing Peace** with Aditi Maddali, Ritu Sarin and Tenzing Sonam, Tamara Stepanyan Moderated by Chandita Mukherjee

**Masterclass: 7:00 pm–8:00 pm**

**Decoding Sound Practice with Amala Popuri**

Facilitated by Shikha Jhingan

## **THE 17TH IAWRT ASIAN WOMEN'S FILM FESTIVAL: 5TH TO 7TH MARCH 2021**

### **Festival schedule for 6th March 2021**

*Films available for viewing for 48 hours from 8:00 am on 6th March to 8:00 am on 8th March*

**Space Dialogues** (India)

(8 min 30 sec/2020/Hindi, English)

Director: Shaswati Talukdar

Experimental

**Blanket Talk** (Taiwan)

(6 min 34 sec/2019/Chinese)

Directors: Jennifer Li, Samantha Chang, Janette Peng

Animation

**For Tashi** (USA)

(7 min 35 sec/2020/English)

Directors: Rebecca Ruige Xu, Jiayue Cecilia Wu

Experimental



**Parwadeshgah (The Orphanage)**

(Denmark, Germany, France, Luxembourg, Afghanistan, Qatar)

(90 min/2019/Dari, Russian, Hindi-Urdu)

Director: Shahrbanoo Sadat

Fiction

**Soyabeen Biryani (for Junaid)**

(Finland/12 min/2019/Hindi)

Director: Vidha Saumya

Fiction

**Tombé (Armenia)**

(20 min)

Armenia/2018/Armenian

Director: Diana Kardumyan

Fiction

**Retirement (India)**

(4 min 29 sec/2019)

Director: Sawanti Das

Animation

**Lagi Senang Jaga Sekandang Lembu**

(It's Easier to Raise Cattle/Malaysia)

(18 min/2017/Malay)

Director: Amanda Nell Eu

Fiction

**Honar Dar Khatar Zendegi Kardan**

(The Art of Living in Danger/ Iran, Germany)

(87 min/2020/Farsi)

Director: Mina Keshavarz

Non-fiction

**Bebaak (Dying Wind in her Hair/India)**

(21 min/2019/Hindi, Urdu)

Director: Shazia Iqbal

Fiction

**A Can of Fish (India)**

(8 min/2018)

Director: Aditi Chitre

Animation

**Baatein (India)**

(7 min 30 sec/2020/multilingual)

Director: Shruti Jain

Animation

**Yahan Wahan Saare Jahan**

(Here and Everywhere/ India)

(5 min 24 sec/2020/Hindi)

Director: Maya Janine D'Costa

Experimental

**Panel Discussion: 5:00 pm–6:00 pm**

**Experiments with Media** with Shahrbanoo Sadat, Shashwati Talukdar, Jennifer Li, Samantha Chang, and Jannette Peng, Rebecca Ruige Xu, and Jiayue Cecilia Wu

Moderate: Surabhi Sharma

**Masterclass: 7:00 pm–8:00 pm**

**The Editor as Outsider with Jabeen Merchant**

**Facilitated by** Bina Paul

How do choices made at the editing table shape the structure and narrative of a film? In this session, renowned film editor Jabeen Merchant took us through her oeuvre in fiction and non-fiction films.

**Run Kalyani (India)**

(100 min/2019/Malayalam)

Director: Geetha J

Fiction

**A Rifle and a Bag (India, Romania, Italy)**

(90 min/2020/Gondi, Madia, Hindi)

Directors: Cristina Hanes, Isabella Rinaldi, Arya Rothe

Non-fiction

**The Spell of Purple (India)**

(24 min/2020/Gujarati)

Director: Prachee Bajania

Fiction

**Yathawat (As it is/India)**

(24 min/2015/Nepali)

Director: Tribeny Rai

Fiction

**Blooming Buds** (India)

(28min/2020/Hindi,English)

Director: Anahita Amani Singh

Fiction

**Amepā** (India)

(7 min/2020/Idu Mishmi dialect)

Director: Kshipra Shekhar Dhavle

Animation

**And I, And I** (Hong Kong)

(27 min/2020/Cantonese)

Director: Lam Yan Yue

Non-fiction

**Patches** (India)

(4 min/2020/English)

Director: Rutika Mukund Khustale

Animation

**Pavakutti** (My Little Doll/India)

(7 min/2019/Malayalam)

Director: Ashitha Nair

Animation

**Funeral** (Hong Kong)

(6 min/2020/Cantonese)

Director: Yiu Wan Yin Anna

Animation

**Smaran** (Impressions/India)

(22 min/2019/Hindi)

Purandhya Sharma / Non-fiction

**Panel Discussion: 5:00 pm–6:00 pm**

**Emerging Voices** with Prachee Bajania, Lam Yan Yue, Kshipra Shekhar Dhavle, Tribeny Rai

Moderator: Deepti Khurana

**8-14**

**WOMEN'S FILM FESTIVAL**

Organised in collaboration with Federation of Film Societies of India, NR, the festival presented a screening of documentary films and feature films made by leading women filmmakers at C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium on 8th and 9th March 2021 at 18:00 each evening.

**Monday, 8th March 2021 at 18:00**

**Imaginary Homes**

(2020/18 min; Punjabi, Mundari with English subtitles)

Director: Priya Naresh

An old woman with a fragmented past and a young maid build an imaginary home together.

*Followed by*

**In the Land of Poison Women** (Bishkanyear Deshot)

(104 min; 2019; Pangcheпа with English subtitles)

Director: Manju Borah

*Recipient of the Best Feature Film in Pangcheпа, National Film Awards 2019*

Venue: C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium at 18:00

9

**Begamon Ka Bhopal** (Bhopal, a city of Begums)

(27 min; 2017; Hindi with English subtitles)

Director: Rachita Gorowala

Produced by Films Division India

*Followed by*

**Run Kalyani** (100 min; 2019; dvd; Malayalam with English subtitles)

Written and Directed by Geetha J.

*Multiple award winner including awards for Best Actress-Feature Film and Best Director-Feature Film, Yellowstone International Film Festival 2021; Special Jury Award, Kolkata International Film Festival 2019; Best Feature Film, South Asian Film Festival, Montreal 2020; among many others*

Venue: C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium at 18:00

**AUGUST 2021**

9-22

**ART EAST FESTIVAL 2021: TELL ME A STORY–12TH TO 14TH AUGUST 2021**

Organised in collaboration with New Imaginations, Jindal School of Journalism and Communication. Curated by Kishalay Bhattacharjee, Associate Professor and Director, New Imaginations, O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat

This year's edition of the festival, **Tell me a Story** was held as a virtual festival focusing on the theme of storytelling. The festival showcased a slice of folk/traditional craft and contemporary art that were originally storytelling rituals with a visual and performative aspect that overtime became a practice. The virtual festival included exhibitions, film screenings, and talks/discussions.

**Art as Storytelling**

Online exhibition of paintings, photographs and photographic collages, illustrations, texts and video installation.

Works by Prakash Patra, Pattachitra artist from Bhubaneswar; photographic collages and paintings by Isaac Tseten Gergen from Ladakh; illustrations by Sirawon Tulisen Khathing from Shillong with texts by Rachel Lyngdoh; crafting stories by Siddhartha Das; and photographs and video installation by Parasher Baruah

*The online exhibition was on view 9 to 22 August 2021*

**9-15 ARTEAST 2021: TELL ME A STORY–FILM FESTIVAL PART I**

**Living Stories: Storytelling Traditions of India**

(26 min; 2011; English and with subtitles)

Director: Neela Venkataraman

The film takes us on a journey to different parts of India, to explore the different kinds of storytelling arts in India—from Pandvani, a storytelling art in Chhattisgarh to Kathakali in Kerala

**Unfolding the Pata Story**

(54 min; 2014; Bengali with English subtitles)

Director: Supriyo Sen

The film celebrates the unique life and dynamic spirit of the *Patua* community—of Rupban, Rani, Dukhushyam and other traditional scroll painter, who have fought all odds to redefine their position as social commentators in the global world.

**Janambhumi Charaoli** (Leaving my Motherland)

(07 min; 2021; English subtitles)

Director: Parasher Baruah

**Divinity Cloth–Mata ni Pachedi** (7 min)

Director: Partha Protim Baruah

This short film is an introduction to the making of Mata ni Pachedi, an impressive form of textile art that serves the purpose of a shrine for the marginalised and excluded.

**Of Bards and Beggars** (30 min; 2003; English subtitles)

Directors: Shweta Kishore, Yask Desai

*The film was accessible from 10.00 am on 12th August 2021 until 7.00 pm on 14th August 2021*

**12 Crafting Heritage**

Illustrated lecture by Siddhartha Das, curator, designer, visual artist and teacher

*The lecture was accessible from 10.00 am on 12th August 2021 until 7.00 pm on 14th August 2021*

*Special video recording of the lecture for ArtEast 2021*

**13 ARTEAST 2021: TELL ME A STORY**

**The Intriguing tale of the *Patta Chitra Patuas* of Bengal and other Concerns**



Illustrated lecture by Ms Ritu Sethi, Founder-Trustee, Craft Revival Trust and Editor, Global InCH, the international journal of intangible cultural heritage

Moderator: Kishalay Bhattacharjee

**14 Stories on Warp and Weft**

Illustrated lecture by Ms. Sentila Tsukjem Yanger, culture conservationist, textile specialist, and art and craft curator

Moderator: Kishalay Bhattacharjee

**16-22 ARTEAST 2021: TELL ME A STORY–FILM FESTIVAL PART II**

**In the Shadow of Time** (Samayara Chhaire)

(59 min; 2016; Oriya with English subtitles)

Director: Shankhajeet De

*Recipient of the 64th National Film Award for Best Documentary on Art and Culture, National Film Awards 2017*

**FILMS BY NINA SABNANI**

**Hum Chitra Banate Hain**

(8.50 min; 2015; with English subtitles)

A film by Nina Sabnani

**Tanko Bole Chhe**

(The Stiches Speak; 12.04 min; with English subtitles)

A film by Nina Sabnani

**Baat Wahi Hai** (It's the same story/13.38 min)

A film by Nina Sabnani

**Mukund and Riyaz** (8.26 min)

A film by Nina Sabnani

**OCTOBER 2021**

**22-26 The IIC Experience: A Festival of the Arts**

**22 Kshetraja**

An exhibition of prints from the collection of National Gallery of Modern Art

*Inauguration of the exhibition by Dr. Meenakshi Gopinath, Life Trustee, IIC on Friday, 22nd October 2021 at 4 pm*

*The exhibition remained on view until 26th October, 11 am to 7 pm*

*Venue: Conference Room I*

(Collaboration: National Gallery of Modern Art)

### **Flights of Materiality**

Sculptural metaphors of the Anthropocene

An exhibition of sculptural forms by G.R. Iranna, H.G. Arunkumar, Karl Antao, Shambhavi and Puneet Kaushik

Advisor: Chandrika Grover Ralleigh

*Inauguration of the exhibition by Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC on Friday, 22nd October 2021 at 5 pm*

*The exhibition remained on view until 30th October 2021, 11 am to 7 pm*

*Venue: Gandhi–King Memorial Plaza*

(Collaboration: Gallery Espace)

### **Inauguration of the Festival**

By Shri N.N. Vohra, President, IIC

Followed by

### **Shiva–Facets of Him**

Choreographic work in Bharatanatyam presented by Vaibhav Arekar and artists of Sankhya Dance Company from Mumbai

Artists: Sushant Jadhav; Eesha Pinglay; Mrinal Joshi; Radhika Karandikar; Shruti Ranade; Aditi Paranjape; Anagha Harkare; Gautam Marathe; and Sachhidanand Narayankar

### **FOOD FESTIVAL: CHEF’S SPECIAL**

#### **From the Land of the Five Rivers: Traditional Punjabi Cuisine**

With Chef Manjit Gill and Chef Priteeka Gill Malik

### **Pen, Ink, Action: Satyajit Ray at 100**

To celebrate the centenary year of Satyajit Ray, legendary filmmaker, writer, illustrator and music composer, a festival of classic black and white feature films; films from the Calcutta Trilogy; period pieces; a children’s film; and Ray’s all-time favourite film

### **Jalsaghar (The Music Room)**

(100 min; 1958; dvd; b/w; Bengali with English subtitles)

Director: Satyajit Ray

*With Chhabi Biswas, Padma Devi, Pinaki Sen Gupta*

*Recipient of the Silver Prize, Composer (Ustad Vilayat Khan), Moscow International Film Festival 1959; and Certificate of Merit, 2nd Best Feature Film in Bengali, National Film Awards, India 1959*

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**Pen, Ink, Action: Satyajit Ray at 100****A King's Gambit**

Research and text: Indrani Majumdar, translator of Ray

*Inauguration of the exhibition by Dr. Ashis Nandy, Trustee, IIC on Saturday, 23rd October 2021 at 11 am*

*The exhibition remained on view until 5 November 2021, 11 am to 7 pm*

**Pen, Ink, Action: Satyajit Ray at 100****Mahanagar (The Big City)**

(131 min; 1963; b/w; dvd; Bengali with English subtitles)

Director: Satyajit Ray

*With Madhabi Mukherjee, Anil Chatterjee, Haradhan Bannerjee, Jaya Bhaduri*

*Recipient of the Silver Berlin Bear for Best Indian Film, Berlin International Film Festival 1964; BJFA Awards for Best Indian Film and Best Dialogue, Bengal Film Journalists' Awards, 1964; and Certificate of Merit, 3rd Best Feature Film in Bengali, National Film Awards, India 1964*

**Charulata (The Lonely Wife)**

(117 min; 1964; b/w; dvd; Bengali with English subtitles)

Director: Satyajit Ray

*With Soumitra Chatterjee, Madhabi Mukherjee, Sailen Mukherjee*

*Multiple award winner including OCIC Award and Silver Berlin Bear for Best Director, Berlin International Film Festival 1965; President's Gold Medal for Best Feature Film, National Film Awards, India 1965; BFJA Awards for Best Director, Best Screenplay, Best Music Director, Best Actor and Best Indian Film, Bengal Film Journalists' Awards 1965*

**Elephant in the Room (60 min)**

Play based on a story by Yuki Ellias

Script: Sneha Sapru

Conceived, Directed and Performed by Yuki Ellias

A Dur Se Brothers Production

A quirky and modern reinterpretation of the story of Lord Ganapati

**FOOD FESTIVAL: CHEF'S SPECIAL****Tok, Jhal, Mishti: A Bengali Dinner**

With Chef Chitra Ghose

**Pen, Ink, Action: Satyajit Ray at 100**

**Aranyer din Ratri** (Days and Nights in the Forest)

(115 min; 1970; b/w; dvd; Bengali with English subtitles)

Director: Satyajit Ray

*With Soumitra Chatterjee, Sharmila Tagore, Subhendu Chatterjee, Shamit Bhanja*

24

**Pen, Ink, Action: Satyajit Ray at 100**

**Sonar Kella** (The Golden Fortress)

(136 min; 1974; dvd; Bengali with English subtitles)

Director: Satyajit Ray

*With Soumitra Chatterjee, Santosh Dutta, Siddharth Chatterjee*

*Recipient of the Golden Lotus Award for Best Direction; Regional Award for Best Feature Film in Bengali; and Silver Lotus Award for Best Screenplay, National Film Awards, India 1975*

**Jana Aranya** (The Middleman)

(131 min; 1976; b/w; dvd; Bengali with English subtitles)

Director: Satyajit Ray

*With Pradip Mukherjee, Satya Banerjee, Deepanker De*

*Recipient of the Golden Lotus Award for Best Direction, National Film Awards, India 1976*

**Ghare Baire** (The Home and the World)

(140 min; 1985; dvd; Bengali with English subtitles)

Director: Satyajit Ray

*With Swatilekha Chatterjee, Victor Banerjee, Jennifer Kendal, Soumitra Chatterjee*

*Recipient of the NBR Award for Top Foreign Films, National Board of Review, USA 1985; Regional Award for Best Feature Film in Bengali, Best Supporting Actor and Best Costume Design, National Film Awards, India 1985; and BFJA Award for Best Actor, Bengal Film Journalists' Awards 1986*

**Hindustani Vocal Recital**

By Vidushi Shalmalee Joshi, Jaipur-Atrauli Gharana, daughter and disciple of Smt Madhuri Kulkarni, Pt. Chintubuwa Mhaikar and of late Pt. Ratnakar Pai

Accompanied by Tejovrush Sunil Joshi on tabla; and Vinay Mishra on harmonium

**FOOD FESTIVAL: CHEF'S SPECIAL**

**Kaeshur Khyen: Cuisine of Kashmiri Pandits**

Prepared by Chefs of Samavar Restaurant

25

**Glimpses of World Cinema**

Screening of films from Germany; Hungary; and Spain

**Budapest Noir** (Hungary)

(95 mins; 2017; dvd; Hungarian with English Subtitles)

Director: Éva Gárdos

*Recipient of the Best Mask Award, Hungarian Film Week 2018; and Award for Best Original Score—Independent Film (Foreign Language) Film, Hollywood Music in Media Awards 2017*

**A Thief's Daughter** (La hija de un ladrón/Spain)

(102 min; 2019; Blu ray; Spanish with English subtitles)

Director: Belén Funes

*Multiple award winner including Gaudí Awards for Best Director, Best Screenplay and Best Non-Catalan Language Film, Gaudí Awards 2020; Goya for Best New Director, Goya Awards 2020; Best Actress Award, Thessaloniki International Film Festival 2019; among others*

**Release of the IIC Quarterly—Indian Cinema: Today and Tomorrow: Infrastructure, Aesthetics, Audiences** (Winter 2020-Spring 2021)

Guest Editors: S.V. Srinivas, Ratheesh Radhakrishnan, Subhajit Chatterjee

Edited by Omita Goyal, Chief Editor IIC

**Carnatic Vocal Recital**

By Vignesh Ishwar from Chennai, disciple of Palakkad Shri T.S. Anantharama Bhagawathar and presently under Shri T.M. Krishna

Accompanied by R.K. Sriramkumar on the violin; K. Arunprakash on mridangam; and N. Guruprasad on ghatam

**FOOD FESTIVAL: CHEF'S SPECIAL****From the Land of the Magyars: A Hungarian Dinner**

With Chef Sonia Taank, Embassy of Hungary

(Collaboration: Liszt Institute–Hungarian Cultural Centre, Delhi)

**GLIMPSES OF WORLD CINEMA****Transit** (Tranzit/Germany)

(101 mins; 2018; blu ray; German/French with English Subtitles)

Director: Christian Petzold

*Multiple award winner including Bavarian Film Award for Best Screenplay, Bavarian Film Awards 2019; Dublin Film Critics Award, Dublin International Film Festival 2019; NBR Award for Top Five Foreign Language Films, National Board of Review, USA 2019; among others*



**GLIMPSES OF WORLD CINEMA**

**Relativity** (Mein Ende. Dein Anfang/Germany)

(111 mins; 2019; blu ray; German with English Subtitles)

Director: Mariko Minoguchi

*Recipient of German Film Critics Award for Best Screenplay, Best Feature Film Debut, German Film Critics Association Awards 2020; and Jury Prize for Best Film, Riviera International Film Festival 2020*

**The Innocence** (La inocencia/Spain)

(92 min; 2019; blu ray; Spanish with English subtitles)

Director: Lucia Alemany

*Multiple award winner including Gaudí Award for Best Supporting Actor, Gaudí Awards 2020; Consentino Award for Best Director, and FICAL Awards for Best First Film and Best Actress, Almería International Short Film Festival 2019; Awards for Best Actress and Best Director, Toulouse Cinespaña 2020; among others*

**Whiskey Bandit** (A viszkis/Hungary)

(126 min; 2017; dvd; Hungarian with English subtitles)

Director: Nimród Antal

*Recipient of the Award for Best Editor and Best Sound, Hungarian Film Week 2018*

**Sagun Nirgun**

Kabir and Meera presented by Mir Mukhtiyar Ali and group from Bikaner

Mir Mukhtiyar Ali and his group are traditional Rajasthani folk singers

**FOOD FESTIVAL: CHEF'S SPECIAL**

**Revisiting IIC Classics**

With Chef Vijay Thukral

**PEN, INK, ACTION: SATYAJIT RAY AT 100**

**Shatranj ke Khilari** (The Chess Players/India)

(129 min; 1977; dvd; Hindi/Urdu/English with English subtitles)

Director: Satyajit Ray

*With Sanjeev Kumar, Saeed Jaffrey, Shabana Azmi, Richard Attenborough*

*Recipient of the Regional Award for Best Feature Film in Hindi, National Film Awards, India 1978; Filmfare Awards for Best Supporting Actor; Best Director; and Best Film—Critics, Filmfare Awards 1978*

## DECEMBER 2021

4&amp;5

**Dutch Children's Film Festival 2021**

A weekly screening of four award winning children's films organised in collaboration with Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, New Delhi to celebrate National Children's Day. The film was accessible for a period of 36 hours from Saturday 9 am to Sunday 11:55 pm. The registration link for accessing the weekly screenings was given.

**On Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th 2021****Miss Sing Song**

(96 min; 2017; Dutch with English subtitles)

Director: Mischa Kamp

*Recipient of the Adult's Jury Award for Live-Action Feature Film or Video, Chicago International Children's Film Festival 2018*

The musical adventure of the 16-year-old Jasmine who goes to Suriname to attend a song contest, but is secretly looking for her mother

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**IIC Winter Festival of Dance and Music: 16th and 17th December 2021**

**At 18:00**

**Sitar Recital**

By Rajeev Janardhan from Delhi, disciple of Pt. Bimalendu Mukherjee and Pt. Arvind Parikh

Accompanied by Harpreet Singh on the tabla

**At 19:00**

**Kuchipudi Recital**

By Gururaju from Bangalore, disciple of Guru Vyjayanti Kashi

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**IIC Winter Festival of Dance and Music**

**At 18:00**

**Saptguitar Recital**

By Satish Sharma from Gurugram

Accompanied by Athar Hussain Khan on the tabla

**At 19:00**

**Bharatanatyam Recital**

By Lakshmi Parthasarathy Athreya from Chennai, disciple of Guru Chitra Visweswaram

JANUARY 2022

**10-16      A FESTIVAL OF COMEDY FILMS**

**The Front Page (USA)**

(100 min; 1931; b/w; English)

Director: Lewis Milestones

*With Adolphe Menjou, Pat O'Brien, Mary Brian*

*Recipient of NBR Award for Top Ten Films, National Board of Film Review, USA 1931; and National Film Registry, National Film Preservation Board, USA 2010*

**17-23      My Man Godfrey (USA)**

(94 min; 1936; b/w; English)

Director: Gregory La Cava

*With William Powell, Carole Lombard, Alice Brady*

*Recipient of the National Film Registry, National Film Preservation Board, USA 1999*

**24-30      Earthworm Tractors (USA)**

(69 min; 1936; b/w; English)

Director: Ray Enright

*With Joe E. Brown, June Travis, Guy Kibbee*

# APPENDIX VI *Films and Exhibitions*

FEBRUARY 2021

**1-14      Not the whole body is flesh**

An exhibition of paintings by Daniela Reis from Portugal.

(Collaboration: Portuguese Embassy Cultural Centre)

**1-7        FOCUS JAPAN**

Screening of NHK documentary films on Japan's history, literature, art, culture and heritage. Organised with the support of NHK World and Embassy of Japan, New Delhi

**Bonsai: Nature in a Pot** (25 min; 2020; English)

The living art of Bonsai is derived from an ancient Chinese horticultural practice, part of which was then redeveloped under the influence of Japanese Zen Buddhism.

**Coding Art: When Artificial Intelligence Writes, Paints and Sings**

(42 min; 2020; English)

Director: Angelika Kelhammer

A DW DocFilm—Will computers someday be as creative as artists? Humans have long believed that only they can express themselves through art—but will they be forced out of this process? This documentary examines whether AI will one day be able to create art

**Never Forget to Lie**

(53 min; 2013; English and with subtitles)

Director: Marion Marzynski

In the most recent of his critically-lauded autobiographical films, Marian Marzynski explores, for the first time, his own wartime childhood and the experiences of other child survivors, teasing out their feelings about Poland, the Catholic Church, and the ramifications of identities forged under circumstances where survival began with the directive 'never forget to lie.'

**8-14      The Warsaw Ghetto: Memories of Horror**

(42 min; 2021; English)

Director: Eric Bednarski

A DW DocFilm. A Polish businessman risked his life to film everyday life in the Warsaw Ghetto. These harrowing 8 mm movies were stored for decades in archives, and have recently been compiled in this documentary.

**Nanook of the North**

(79 min; 1922; b/w; silent with English title cards)

Director: Robert J. Flaherty

Considered the first feature length documentary, Flaherty's classic film tells the story of Inuit hunter Nanook and his family as they struggle to survive in the harsh conditions of Canada's Hudson Bay region

**15-28 Aks-e-Mausiqui (Shadow of music)**

An exhibition of archival portraits of leading Indian classical artists taken during their live performances.

Photographs by Rakesh Sinha from Lucknow

**15-21 Simon Schama's Shakespeare: Episode One: England**

(59:25 min; 2012; English)

In this two-part series, historian Simon Schama explores the life and times of William Shakespeare to shed a new light on some of the greatest plays ever written.

**22-28 Simon Schama's Shakespeare: Episode Two: Hollow Crowns**

(59:25 min; 2014; English)

In the second part of the series, Simon Schama argues that it is impossible to understand how Shakespeare came to belong 'to all time', without understanding just how much he was of his time. Shakespeare explored questions that are still asked today

**'Seeing through the viewfinder': Ishu Patel**

A selection of short animation films by Ishu Patel, acclaimed animation film director/producer and educator whose films have received theatrical and television distribution worldwide. His many international awards include two Oscar Nominations, the Silver Bear at the Berlin Film Festival, the British Academy Award, and the Grand Prix at both Annecy and the Montreal World Film Festival. Four shorts produced by National Film Board of Canada were screened.

**Bead Game (5:36 min; 1977)**

*Recipient of the award for Best Short Fiction Film, British Academy of Film and Television Arts, 1978; Award of Excellence, Film Advisory Board, USA 1978; Special Prize for Animation, International Documentary and Short Film Festival for Cinema and Television, Leipzig, German Democratic Republic, 1977; among others*

**Afterlife (7 min; 1978)**

*Recipient of the Grand Prix, 12th International Animation Festival, Annecy, France 1979; Outstanding Achievement Award, London Film Festival, 1979; Silver Hugo, 16th International Film Festival, Chicago, 1979; among others*



**Top Priority** (9:12 min; 1981)

*Recipient of the Blue Ribbon Human Concern Award, 25th American Film Festival, New York 1983; Best Short Film, Seaman International de Cinema, Spain 1982; and Special Recognition of Merit, Los Angeles Film Exposition Filmex, 1982*

**Paradise** (15:23; 1984)

*Recipient of the Silver Berlin Bear Award, Berlin Film Festival 1985; Special Jury Prize, 25th International Animation Film Festival, Annecy, France 1985; First Prize, Los Angeles International Animation Celebration, Los Angeles 1985; among others*

**22-28      Searching for Sugar Man** (Sweden/UK/Finland)

(86 min; 2012; English)

Director: Malik Bendjelloul

*Multiple award winner including Oscar Award for Best Documentary, Feature, Academy Awards, USA 2013; BAFTA Film Award for Best Documentary Film, BAFTA Awards 2013; Audience Award and Best Feature Length Documentary, Amsterdam International Documentary Film Festival 2012; among many others*

In the early 1970s, Sixto Rodriguez was a Detroit folksinger who had a short-lived recording career with only two well received but non-selling albums. Unknown to Rodriguez, his musical story continued in South Africa where he became a pop music icon and inspiration for generations. Long rumoured there to be dead by suicide, a few fans in the 1990s decided to seek out the truth of their hero's fate. What follows is a bizarrely heartening story.

**22-28      Mon Oncle Antoine** (Canada)

(104 min; 1971; French with English subtitles)

Director: Claude Jutra

Claude Jutra's sweeping portrait of village life in 1940s Quebec has been called one of the greatest Canadian films of all time. Recalling a time when the local general store was the crossroads of life, the film illustrates the way a young boy sees the world and those closest to him—first through the eyes of a teenager, and later, as events change him, through the eyes of an adult

**MARCH 2021**

**1-14      Antarctica—The Last Frontier**

A photographic journey to Antarctica with Dr. Ajit K. Huilgol, ARPS

**8-14      Simon Schama's John Donne**

(73 min; 2009; English)

Produced by BBC 4

Simon Schama celebrates the life and work of one of Britain's greatest love poets, John Donne.

For Schama, Donne is the poet who transformed English poetry through his emotional honesty and skilled use of language. With the help of academic John Carey and actor Fiona Shaw, he undertakes a passionate appraisal and forensic examination of Donne's work.

**10      ESPACIO FEMENINO/FEMININE SPACE**

A festival of Spanish films directed by women filmmakers organised in collaboration with Cervantes Institute, New Delhi. The five award winning films to be screened have been made by film directors who made their cinematic debut in the 1950s and 1960s and are pioneers in the history of Spanish cinema. The films not only reflect the work and aesthetics of these women directors, they also present an interesting portrait of the historical period in Spain from 1953 to 1981.

**Segundo López, Urban Adventurer** (Segundo López, aventurero urbano)

(80 min; 1952; b/w; Spanish with English subtitles)

Director: Ana Mariscal

**17      The Cuenca Crime** (El crimen de Cuenca)

(90 min; 1979; Spanish with English subtitles)

Director: Pilar Miró

**20      Evening Performance** (Función de noche)

(90 min; 1981; Spanish with English subtitles)

Director: Josefina Molina

**24      *Después de... No se os puede dejar solos***

(90 min; 1979; Spanish with English subtitles)

Director: Cecilia y José Juan Bartolomé

**27      *Después de... Atado y bien atado***

(99 min; 1981; Spanish with English subtitles)

Director: Cecilia Bartolomé y José Juan Bartolomé

**Never Forget to Lie**

(53 min; 2013; English and with subtitles)

Director: Marion Marzynski

In the most recent of his critically-lauded autobiographical films, Marian Marzynski explores, for the first time, his own wartime childhood and the experiences of other child survivors, teasing out their feelings about Poland, the Catholic Church, and the ramifications

of identities forged under circumstances where survival began with the directive 'never forget to lie.'

**15-28      What To Do With Difference | Art & Artists as a Bridge**

**An International Artists Exhibition**

A group exhibition of artworks by artists of Art for Change Foundation led by Dr. Rachel Smith, Stefan Eicher, Joshua John, Shalem Kallimel and Isaac Gergan

Works by 12 international artists and 9 Indian artists along with works from the Art for Change Foundation's collection were on view. The artists from the March 2020 International Artist Residency are: Dan Cooper (USA); Elizabeth Kwant (UK); Sedrick Huckaby (USA); K.W. Bell (USA); Moriah Miller (USA); Heather Harper (USA); Stephanie McDairmant (USA); Jennie Kimbrough (USA); Marianne Lettieri (USA); Laura Stevenson (USA); Liz Braid (Australia); Shamira Wilson (USA); Navya Sah (India); Sanjeev Mirajkar (India); Sakshi Yadav (India); Mohd. Intiyaz (India); Bernard Cargay (India); Sangeeta Pathak (India); Ravi Chaurasiya (India); Isaac Gergan (India); Mohd. Sultan Alam (India); and Khandakar Ohida (India).

*On view at the Art Gallery, Kamaladevi Complex, 11:00 am to 7:00 pm*

**15-21      Art of the Western World**

A documentary series presented by Michael Wood, exploring magnificent masterpieces of the Western world in their cultural and historical settings. The series consists of eighteen episodes, each of which focuses on the artistic contributions of one period in the history of the West, from Ancient Greece to the late 1980s. From the classical ideals in Greek and Roman antiquity, through the Renaissance, to the postmodernism of the later 1980s, the series provides a panorama of 2000 years of architecture, painting and sculpture, and studies the art masterpieces as reflections of the Western culture that produced them.

Two episodes were presented every week online

**Episode 1–The Legacy of Greece (25 min)**

This episode traces the origins of humanism and the immortal classical style to Ancient Greece

**Episode 2–Imperial Stone: The Art of Rome (26 min)**

The genius of Roman engineering and architecture was used to build an empire, whilst portrait sculpture exalted its rulers

**22-28      Episode 3–A White Garment of Churches (26.10 min)**

With the fall of the Roman empire, Christianity flourished with the Church as patron of monumental Romanesque architecture and sculpture

**Episode 4–The Age of Gothic (26.13 min)**

The origin of Gothic architecture as found in the choir of the Abbey Church of St. Denis and the Chartres Cathedral serves as a model of High Gothic style

APRIL 2021

29 Mar to

4 Apr **Children Full of Life** (Japan, Canada)

(40 min; 2003; English subtitles)

Director: Noboru Kaetsu

*Recipient of the Global Television Grand Prize at the 25th Anniversary Banff Television Festival*

Mr. Kanamori, a teacher of a 4th grade class, teaches his students not only how to be students, but how to live. He gives them lessons on teamwork, community, the importance of openness, how to cope, and the harm caused by bullying. He instructs each to write their true inner feelings in a letter, and read it aloud in front of the class. By sharing their lives, the children begin to realise the importance of caring for their classmates. Toshiro is an amazing example of what all teachers across the world should be like. He truly understands what teaching children is all about and certainly made a positive difference in the lives of these 10 year olds

### **Art of the Western World**

A documentary series presented by Michael Wood, exploring magnificent masterpieces of the Western world in their cultural and historical settings. The series consists of eighteen episodes, each of which focuses on the artistic contributions of one period in the history of the West, from Ancient Greece to the late 1980s. From the classical ideals in Greek and Roman antiquity, through the Renaissance, to the postmodernism of the later 1980s, the series provides a panorama of 2000 years of architecture, painting and sculpture, and studies the art masterpieces as reflections of the Western culture that produced them.

Two episodes were presented every week online

#### **Episode 5–The Early Renaissance in Italy** (26 min)

The rebirth of classical themes and humanistic ideas marked the Renaissance in Italy, as seen in Florentines Brunelleschi, Masaccio, Ghiberti, and Botticelli.

#### **Episode 6–The Northern Renaissance** (26.08 min)

Glowing colour—made possible by the new medium of oil paint—and minute detail set the work of the Flemish masters Van Eyck and Grunewald apart from the Florentines.

#### **5-11 Episode 7–Heroic Ambitions** (26:09 min)

Da Vinci, Michelangelo, and Raphael displayed extraordinary talent working in a variety of media and elevated the status of the artist in Italian society.

#### **Episode 8–The Play of Light** (25:58 min)

Venetians like Titian, Tintoretto, and Palladio re-adapted the classical style with a theatrical flourish

**12-18      Episode 9–The Birth of Baroque (25:50 min)**

The Church's campaign to counter the Reformation relied on dramatic depictions of religious scenes, such as those of Caravaggio and Bernini.

**Episode 10–Masters of the Baroque (26:03 min)**

The royal courts in Spain and the wealthy burghers in the Netherlands commissioned major paintings by Velasquez and Rembrandt and shaped their content

**19-25      Episode 11–The Age of Reason (25:31 min)**

The playful fantasy and provocative subjects of the Rococo style practised by Watteau, Fragonard, and Boucher gave way to strict Rationalism, which insisted on morality in art and the purity of classical form, as seen in the works of David.

**Episode 12–The Passionate Eye (25:59 min)**

Striving for individual expression, Romantic painters Goya, Gericault, and Delacroix demonstrated a range of styles and subjects

**26 Apr to**

**2 May**

**Episode 13–Painting the Modern World (25:51 min)**

Courbet and his followers rejected the standard academic themes and techniques, Manet shocked Paris, and Impressionists represented the world bathed in colour and changing light.

**Episode 14–Distanced Creations (26:23 min)**

Post-Impressionists Seurat, Van Gogh, Gauguin, and Cezanne broke new ground with daring and imaginative use of colour and approaches to form

**5-11      On and Off the Records**

(57 min; 2014; English)

Director: Pratik Biswas

Produced by Public Service Broadcasting Trust

The film explores the intimate and integral relationship between the evolution of Hindustani classical music in the 20th century and recording technology. The documentary discussed some of the crucial issues which a sound engineer encounters when recording a classical singer's performance at rehearsal halls and at studios. Above all, the film celebrates the music and art of some of the leading singers and musicians of the period

**Bhutan–Change Comes to the Happy Kingdom**

(42 min; 2021; English)

Director: Irja von Bernstorff

A DW film

The remote Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan appears and operates much as it did one hundred years ago. But the unavoidable seeds of change are beginning to blossom. *Bhutan: Change*

*Comes to the Himalayan Happy Kingdom* is a complex examination of the crossroads between honouring the past and embracing the future

**12-25 # Eudaimonia–Happiness**

An exhibition of paintings in oil on canvas and on wood

By Ana Romero from Portugal

(Collaboration: Portuguese Embassy Cultural Centre)

**12-18 Civil Society and Reconciliation: Rethinking History to Embrace Memory (34 min)**

A documentary by Dr. Claudia Astrarita, Research Grant Program, The Toyota Foundation

The film is based on case studies and interviews in Japan, Germany and Italy which provide empirical evidence on how media critically shaped the narration of post-Second World War events and how this interpretation is instrumentally linked to the rhetoric on peace and stability. The film untangles the connections between formal apology, regime building and peace in post-war contexts, illustrating the critical role of media and civil society in influencing collective memory and fostering reconciliation

**Nine Months to Freedom**

(66 min; 1972; English and with subtitles)

Director: S. Sukhdev

Produced by Films Division

A documentary film on Bangladesh's liberation struggle. The film chronicles the nine-month long struggle for freedom.

*Screening to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the birth of Bangladesh*

**19-25 The Power of Choice: The Life and Ideas of Milton Friedman**

(82 min; 2007; English)

Director: Katherine Anderson

Teacher, scientist, author, intellectual, and winner of the 1976 Nobel Prize in Economics, Milton Friedman was one of the 20th century's greatest proponents of free markets and individual liberty. *The Power of Choice* tells the story of his life

**ARCHAEOLOGY AND HERITAGE**

**Treasures in the Sand–Turkmenistan's Ancient Heritage**

(42 min; 2021; English and with subtitles)

Director: Michael Gregor

DW DocFilm

To outsiders, Turkmenistan is one of the world's least known countries. A little known fact is that 4,000 years ago, the country was home to one of the ancient world's centres of power.



Archaeologists have recently discovered palace buildings and magnificent burial treasures at the site of the capital, Gonur Depe, in the Karakum Desert. The ruined cities of Merv and Kunya-Urgench have been declared UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The film uncovers these and other important sites in the country

**26 Apr to**

**9 May      *The Floating World of Ukiyo-e Prints***

An exhibition of Japanese woodblock prints known as ukiyo-e or ‘pictures of the floating world’, one of the most important genres of art of the Tokugawa period (1603–1867) in Japan.

**26 Apr to**

**2 May      *Around the World with Joseph Stiglitz* (87 min; 2008; English)**

A film by Jacques Sarasin

In this hard-hitting documentary about the perils and promises of globalisation, Nobel laureate Joseph E. Stiglitz takes a tour of the world which starts in his hometown of Gary, Indiana.

As we travel the globe, Stiglitz explains that globalisation is not only a story of environmental disaster and pressure on wages and working standards. There are countries which have managed globalisation well and have found ways to make it work.

This illuminating documentary—featuring one of the great minds of the twentieth century—is ultimately a message of hope

***Be Afraid—The Science of Fear* (42:36 min; 2021; English)**

A DW DocFilm

Why are anxiety disorders on the rise? Is there a pill for fear? Fear can cause trembling, a racing heart, sweating, and stress. How is the coronavirus pandemic affecting our sense of fear? Can a fear of heights be conquered with the help of virtual reality? Why do so many people enjoy being scared, and what positive effects can it have? When we are afraid, the amygdala in our brain takes control of body and mind. In recent years, scientists around the world have succeeded in further decoding human fear and developing completely new therapies. At the University of Freiburg Medical Center, a team led by psychiatrist Katharina Domschke is investigating the cause of panic attacks. The experts’ lab experiments reveal something surprising...

**MAY 2021**

**3-9      *The Floating World of Ukiyo-e Prints***

An exhibition of Japanese woodblock prints known as ukiyo-e or ‘pictures of the floating world’, one of the most important genres of art of the Tokugawa period (1603–1867) in Japan.

### **Art of the Western World**

A documentary series presented by Michael Wood, exploring magnificent masterpieces of the Western world in their cultural and historical settings. The series consists of eighteen episodes, each of which focuses on the artistic contributions of one period in the history of the West, from Ancient Greece to the late 1980s. From the classical ideals in Greek and Roman antiquity, through the Renaissance, to the postmodernism of the later 1980s, the series provides a panorama of 2000 years of architecture, painting and sculpture, and studies the art masterpieces as reflections of the Western culture that produced them.

Two episodes were presented every week online

### **INTO THE TWENTIETH CENTURY**

#### **Episode 15–Between Genius and the Abyss (26:03 min)**

With modernity came new energy and forms in Viennese building and painting. Paris saw the emergence of the Fauves, and of Picasso and Cubism. Kandinsky and others experimented with colour abstraction.

#### **Episode 16–Between Utopia and Crisis (26:03 min)**

Modernism spawned not only Cubism, but also the abstract and the surreal. Le Corbusier and Wright applied the abstract principles to buildings. Dada responded to the devastation of World War One with nihilism; surrealists Dali, Magritte, and Miro showed Freudian influence.

### **10-16 IN OUR OWN TIME**

#### **Episode 17–The Aftermath (25:52 min)**

The Abstract Expressionist movement established New York as a centre for the visual arts. Works by Pollock, Warhol, Lichtenstein, and the sculptor Oldenburg are examined.

#### **Episode 18–New, Newer, Newest (26:06 min)**

With many of the rules tested and discarded, the art world has become international. Art is now accessible to everyone to create and appreciate.

### **10-23 Albrecht Dürer: Perfection of Form and Beauty**

Presenting selected works of Albrecht Dürer (1471-1528), regarded as the greatest artist of the German Renaissance. The online exhibition includes paintings (oil and watercolour), woodcuts, etchings and drawings covering an eclectic mix of religious works, portraits, landscapes, studies of animals, of plants and of people.

### **10-16 Margaret Atwood: You Have Been Warned!**

(60 min; 2017; English)

Director: Katy Homan

For decades, Margaret Atwood has been universally acclaimed as Canada's greatest living writer. Fearlessly outspoken in life and in her work, Atwood has always been an unrelenting

provocateur. Alan Yentob meets Margaret Atwood in Toronto and discovers how a childhood spent between the Canadian wilderness and the city helped shape her vision of herself and the world, set alight her imagination and set her forth on a path to literary success.

**Rabindranath Tagore (India)**

(54 min; 1961; b/w; English)

A film by Satyajit Ray

The documentary was made to celebrate Tagore's birth centenary in May 1961. Ray was conscious that he was making an official portrait of India's celebrated poet and hence the film does not include any controversial aspects of Tagore's life. However, it is far from being a propaganda film. The film comprises dramatised episodes from the poet's life and archived images and documents

**Ancient China from Above: Secrets of the Great Wall**

(43:51; 2020; English)

A National Geographic documentary series takes viewers back in time to see aerial footage of how earlier landscapes in China were shaped, including the Great Wall, Kublai Khan's legendary lost city and a newly-discovered city from 4,000 years ago.

In this episode, Dr. Allan Maca investigates the biggest manmade structure on earth; The Great Wall of China

**17-23 Cave of Forgotten Dreams**

(90 min; 2010; English)

A film by Werner Herzog

*Multiple award winner including LAFA Award for Best Documentary/Non-Fiction Film, Los Angeles Film Critics Association Awards 2011; NYFCC Award for Best Non-Fiction Film, New York Film Critics Circle Awards 2011; VFCC Award, Vancouver Film Critics Circle Awards 2012; among others*

Well-known filmmaker Werner Herzog and a small crew are given a rare chance to film inside France's Chauvet Cave, where the walls are covered with the world's oldest surviving paintings. To preserve the art, visitors are permitted to enter the site for only two weeks a year. Examining the 30,000-year-old drawings, Herzog discusses how the artwork represents humanity's earliest dreams with scientists and art scholars conducting research at Chauvet.

**Into the Universe with Stephen Hawking**

A 2010 Discovery Channel Smini science documentary series with Stephen Hawking. The world's most famous living scientist explores the greatest mysteries of the cosmos. In three landmark instalments he reveals the wonders of the universe as never seen before. Definitive, provocative, surprising, and beautiful, *Into the Universe with Stephen Hawking* is a fascinating look through the mind's eye of one of the finest brains on the planet.

**Episode 1–Aliens** (41:50 min)

In 'Are We Alone?' Hawking considers one of the most important mysteries facing humankind—the possibility of alien, intelligent life. He leads viewers a journey from the moons of Jupiter to a galaxy maybe not so far, far away.

**24-30 Episode 2—Time Travel (43:31 min)**

'Is Time Travel Possible?' Hawking explores the world's favourite scientific 'what if?' He explores all the possibilities, warping the very fabric of time and space as he goes. From killing your grandfather to riding a black hole, we learn the pitfalls and the prospects for a technology that could quite literally, change everything.

**The Ten-Year Lunch: The Wit and Legend of the Algonquin Round Table**

(56 min; 1987; English)

Director: Aviva Slesin

*Recipient of the Oscar Award for Best Documentary, Features, Academy Awards 1988; and Lilian Gish Award for Excellence in Documentary, Los Angeles Women in Film Festival 1987*

Throughout the 'Roaring '20s,' a flock of the decade's most vibrant writers gathered daily to dine at New York City's Algonquin Hotel. Here the likes of Edna Ferber, Dorothy Parker, George S. Kaufman and Harpo Marx socialised and philosophised while crafting works that captured the era's high-class ambitions and ultimate decadence. In this Oscar-winning documentary, Aviva Slesin uses the Round Table as a focal point to explore how the Jazz Age shaped these artists' relationships and lives.

**Montezuma**

(59 min; 2009; English)

Director: John Trefor

A BBC production

Dan Snow travels to Mexico to investigate the history, character and legacy of Montezuma, the last great ruler of the Aztecs of central America. He uncovers the extraordinary story of the Aztecs themselves, a cultured and civilised people whose lives were governed by elaborate ceremony and blood-curdling ritual.

Dan Snow also discovers how, in a titanic clash of cultures, their leader Montezuma faced up to a mortal threat from another world—the weaponry, gold-lust and greed of 16th century Spanish conquistadors.

**The Godmother of Rock & Roll: Sister Rosetta Tharpe (UK)**

(60 min; 2011; English)

Director: Mick Csàky

During the 1940s, 50s and 60s, Sister Rosetta Tharpe played a highly significant role in the creation of rock and roll, inspiring musicians like Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, Johnny Cash, Little Richard and Chuck Berry. She may not be a household name, but this flamboyant African American gospel singing superstar, with her spectacular virtuosity on the newly-electrified guitar, was one of the most influential popular musicians of the 20th century

**PEN, INK, ACTION: SATYAJIT RAY AT 100**

To celebrate the centenary year of Satyajit Ray, legendary filmmaker, writer, illustrator and music composer, a series of programmes were organised in virtual and physical mode throughout the year. The programmes included exhibitions, films—documentary and features, talks and discussions to try to present both the known and lesser known aspects of Satyajit Ray.

**Satyajit Ray (India)**

(136 min; 1985; English)

A film by Shyam Benegal

Produced by Films Division

Satyajit Ray is seen on the sets and at home through the lens of film director Shyam Benegal. In conversation with a fellow artist for whom he has considerable respect, Ray opens up in a manner rarely seen, reminiscing about his childhood and growing years, discussing his oeuvre, responding to questions on his craft and exploring memories immortalised in his films. The result is a discovery of the private person as much as a look at his work—a close-up of a major presence in world cinema.

The film brings together a rare selection of visual material documenting Ray as designer, illustrator, film director and scriptwriter

**JUNE 2021**

**31 May to**

**13 Jun      *The Haft Awrang of Jami***

This exhibition presented a selection of illuminated manuscripts from the *Haft Awrang* of Jami, a compilation of seven *masnavi* poems written in the 15th century.

**31 May to**

**6 Jun      *Jorge Luis Borges: The Mirror Man (France)***

(47:23 min; 1999; English)

Director: Philippe Molins

Written by Alberto Manguel

Documentary on one of Latin America's most famous and beloved literary figures, Jorge Luis Borges. The great Argentine writer and poet is considered, along with Gabriel García Márquez, as one of the main progenitors of the school of 'magical realism' in literature. Despite suffering from progressive blindness for most of his life, Borges wrote of time, dreams, infinity, the universe, secret societies impenetrable labyrinths, memory, folk heroes, God and his fascination with, and childhood fear of, mirrors, a major recurring theme in his work.

### **Into the Universe with Stephen Hawking**

A 2010 Discovery Channel Smini science documentary series with Stephen Hawking. The world's most famous living scientist explores the greatest mysteries of the cosmos. In three landmark instalments he reveals the wonders of the universe as never seen before. Definitive, provocative, surprising, and beautiful, *Into the Universe* with Stephen Hawking is a fascinating look through the mind's eye of one of the finest brains on the planet.

#### **Episode 3—The Story of Everything (86:34 min)**

In this episode, Hawking reveals the wonders of the cosmos to a new generation. Delve into the mind of the world's most famous living scientist and reveal the splendour and majesty of the universe as never seen before. See how the universe began, how it creates stars, black holes and life—and how everything will end.

### **14-27 PEN, INK, ACTION: SATYAJIT RAY AT 100**

#### **Aap kya Sandesh Laya**

An exhibition presenting a selection of *Sandesh* (Bengali: *Shondesh*) covers, illustrated by Satyajit Ray.

To celebrate the centenary year of Satyajit Ray, legendary filmmaker, writer, illustrator and music composer, a series of programmes were organised in virtual and physical mode throughout the year. The programmes included exhibitions, films—documentary and features, talks and discussions to try to present both the known and lesser known aspects of Satyajit Ray.

### **14-20 Salman Rushdie: A Chance of Lasting**

(46:08 min; 2014; English)

Interviewer: Marc-Christoph Wagner

Video recording of an interview with Salman Rushdie, celebrated Indian-born British writer. Rushdie talks about his early love for reading, his Indian childhood and his father, who told stories to him instead of reading them out loud; his early attempts at writing, about the years of hiding, his relationship to his son and how reading and literature helped him through those dark years. Rushdie ends by reflecting about his autobiographical book *Joseph Anton: A Memoir*

#### **Chasing a Rainbow—The Life of Josephine Baker**

(90 min; 1986; English)

Director: Christopher Ralling

Narrated by Olivier Todd

*Recipient of the International Emmy for Best Documentary Film 1986*

This documentary profiles the life and career of legendary entertainer Josephine Baker who migrated to France where she was a major artist from 1927 until her death in 1974. With rare archival footage, photographs, and interviews the film follows Baker from her time in St.



Louis to her life in France. *Chasing a Rainbow: The Life of Josephine Baker* is also a commentary on race relations across the world in the 1920s.

**21-27      Albert Einstein: Still a Revolutionary (USA)**

(80 min; 2020; English)

Director: Julia Newman

Albert Einstein, the most famous scientist of all time, was a world renowned celebrity, greeted like a rock star when he appeared in public. An anti-war firebrand, Einstein also spoke out on issues ranging from women's rights and racism to immigration and nuclear arms control. Using a wealth of rarely-seen archival footage, correspondence, and new and illuminating interviews, Julia Newman's documentary *Albert Einstein: Still a Revolutionary* makes the case that Einstein's example of social and political activism is as important today as are his brilliant, ground-breaking theories

**In the Footsteps of Alexander the Great (1998)**

Director: David Wallace

A four-part BBC series, written and presented by Michael Wood

Michael Wood retraces Alexander the Great's amazing journey from Greece to India, searching for the truth behind the legend and experiencing the tremendous scale of his achievements.

Using the ancient historians as his guides, Wood follows Alexander's journey as closely as possible, crossing deserts and rivers, from Turkey to war-torn Afghanistan. As the journey progresses, he recreates the drama of Alexander's epic marches and bloody battles. All along the way he finds proof of the survival of the legends surrounding Alexander, a leader whose life has excited the world's imagination for 2,000 years.

**Episode 1: Son of God (60 min)**

Alexander sets off from his native Macedonia on a war of revenge against the Persian empire. He crosses the Dardenelles into Turkey, where he was welcomed as a liberator by the Greek cities along the coast. At Issus, Alexander defeats the Persian king, Darius and turned south, through Lebanon, Israel and Gaza to reach Egypt. There, the oracle of Siwa declared him Son of God

**28 Jun to**

**4 Jul**

**Episode 2: Lord of Asia (60 min)**

Alexander invades Persia—today's Iran. Michael Wood traces his route through the Zagros mountains to Persepolis. He hears from storytellers that this defeat is still remembered today by the Zoroastrian community. The programme ends at the Caspian Sea, the edge of the world for Alexander

28 Jun to

11 Jul

**Two Banks of a River–The Indus in Ladakh**

Photographs and text by Isaac Tsetan Gergan

*As part of this exhibition, there was an online talk on Tuesday, 6th July 2021 at 4.00 pm*

**River Dialogues: Two Banks of a River–The Indus in Ladakh**

Illustrated lecture by Isaac Tsetan Gergan, artist, photographer and Director, Art for Change Foundation, based in Leh and Delhi

Chair: Kishalay Bhattacharjee

(Collaboration: Living Waters Museum)

**The Indus Valley Civilization: The Masters of the River**

(52 min; 2013; English and with subtitles)

This documentary, made by NHK (Japan) and Canadian TV, looks at the early Indus Valley civilisation, focusing on one of the lesser known sites at Dholavira, in what is now Gujarat, in western India. With the help of CGI animation the documentary reconstructs the ruined city and shows how the civilisation was able to grow to a formidable size by its innovative harnessing of a now vanished river system.

Interviewing some of the leading experts on the site, including leading archaeologist, Dr. R.S. Bisht, the film pieces together one of the most remarkable stages in human development, when, with the rise of city life, international trade across large areas became feasible.

2021 marks the centenary of the discovery of the Indus Valley Civilization

**‘The Hitch’–Christopher Hitchens**

(88 min; 2014; English)

Director: Kristoffer Seland Hellesmark

An independent documentary profiling the controversial author and literary critic Christopher Hitchens. It features a selection of fascinating clips, speeches and thoughts of Hitchens.

Director Kristoffer Seland Hellesmark was one day searching for a documentary on Hitchens but was unable to find one. He subsequently decided to make his own, resulting in an 88-minute film composed of clips from Hitchens’s interviews and talks, serving as a tribute to one of the greatest thinkers—perhaps the most articulate and contrarian intellectual of his generation.

JULY 2021

28 Jun to

11 Jul **Two Banks of a River—The Indus in Ladakh**

Photographs and text by Isaac Tsetan Gergan  
(Collaboration: Living Waters Museum)

5-11

**Ballet 422**

(75 min; 2014; English)

Director: Jody Lee Lipes

*With Justin Peck, Tiler Peck, Sterling Hyltin*

Cinematographer and documentary filmmaker Jody Lee Lipes crafts an intimate, fly-on-the-wall film offering a rare peek into the highly-guarded world of professional ballet. The film shadows Justin Peck, the 25-year old choreographer of the New York City Ballet, as he undertakes the Herculean task of creating the company's 422nd original piece while simultaneously fulfilling his role as a Corps de Ballet member

**In the Footsteps of Alexander the Great (1998)**

Director: David Wallace

A four-part BBC series, written and presented by Michael Wood

Michael Wood retraces Alexander the Great's amazing journey from Greece to India, searching for the truth behind the legend and experiencing the tremendous scale of his achievements.

Using the ancient historians as his guides, Wood follows Alexander's journey as closely as possible, crossing deserts and rivers, from Turkey to war-torn Afghanistan. As the journey progresses, he recreates the drama of Alexander's epic marches and bloody battles. All along the way he finds proof of the survival of the legends surrounding Alexander, a leader whose life has excited the world's imagination for 2,000 years.

**Episode 3: Across the Hindu Kush (60 min)**

Following Alexander's route Michael Wood treks over the Khawak pass in Afghanistan, crosses the Oxus river and follows the golden road to Samarkand. He continues to Alexandria the Farthermost—Khodzents in Tajikistan—retraces Alexander's famous victory at the Sogdian rock, and visits the ruins of the ancient city of Balkh with the help of an Afghan war lord

12-25

**'Heat and Dust'—Between India and Zion**

Curators: Dr. Shimon Lev, Yael Margalit

Artists: Revital Arbel, Andi Arnovitz, Siona Benjamin, Chanchal Banga, Tal Eliaz, Anchia Anzi, Tim Nachum Gidal, Maite Coloma, Shimon Lev, Liat Livni, Dorit Lombroso, Yael

Margalit, Rajul Mehta, Motti Mizrachi, Reuma Moses, Hadas Parush, Doron Polak, Rachel Rotenberg, Eyal Segal, Maya Smira, Jean-Pierre Weill

*The online exhibition was on view from 12th to 25th July 2021*

(Collaboration: Embassy of Israel)

## **12-18      Climate Change–The Facts (UK)**

(57.02 min; 2019; English)

A BBC Documentary

Presented by David Attenborough

David Attenborough takes a stark look at the facts surrounding climate change in today's world, detailing the dangers we are already having to deal with and future threats, but also the possibilities for prevention and radical political, social and cultural change

### **Before the Flood**

(96 min; 2016; English)

Director: Fisher Stevens

*Recipient of the Hollywood Film Award 2016 for Documentary Film of the year*

This epic documentary follows Leonardo DiCaprio, actor, environmental activists and U.N. Messenger of Peace as he travels to five continents and the Arctic, speaking to scientists, world leaders, activists and local residents to examine first-hand the devastating effects of climate change, and to investigate concrete solutions to prevent catastrophic damage that could make the Earth unsustainable for human life

### **Genius of the Ancient World (2015)**

A three-part BBC series. Historian Bettany Hughes travels to India, Greece and China on the trail of three giants of ancient philosophy—Buddha, Socrates and Confucius. All three philosophers lived between the 6th and 5th centuries BCE, during a period of unprecedented and intense intellectual development.

Trailblazers whose radical ideas signalled a key change in human consciousness, each embodied the shift from a reliance on the supernatural, as the sole way to explain humankind's place in the cosmos, to one where rational argument and logical reasoning offered new, exciting possibilities.

Drawing on archaeology and expert opinion, Bettany Hughes follows in the footsteps of these great figures, in her quest to unpack their philosophy in the context of their age. She reveals how, even though their ideas came about two and a half thousand years ago, their thinking still shapes, and continues to provide solutions to, our own lives.

### **Genius of the Ancient World: Episode 1–Buddha**

(59:10 min; 2015; English)

In this first episode Bettany Hughes investigates the revolutionary ideas of the Buddha. In his 20s the Buddha abandoned his family and homeland in the foothills of the Himalayas to embark on an ambitious philosophical quest to find a solution to human suffering

**26 Jul to**

**1 Aug**

**Genius of the Ancient World: Episode 2–Socrates**

(59:13 min; 2015; English)

In the second Episode, Bettany Hughes investigates the revolutionary ideas of Socrates. Socrates was born in Athens during a creative, yet extremely tumultuous period of Greek history.

Athens had given birth to democracy, and become a hotbed of new philosophical ideas. Socrates would become, arguably, it's most vocal and charismatic thinker.

He set about scrutinising, and working through, the key moral issues of his day. His technique, a systematic form of question and answer 'the Socratic method', was delivered with such a dazzling irony, that he became a celebrity in his day.

Yet, by challenging tradition and convention, he also made enemies. Eventually he was put on trial, found guilty, and sentenced to drink deadly hemlock

**PEN, INK, ACTION: SATYAJIT RAY AT 100**

**The Inner Eye** (India)

(22 min; 1981; English)

A film by Satyajit Ray

Produced by Films Division

**26 Jul to**

**8 Aug**

**Fleeting Footprints of Light**

An exhibition of photographs by Mala Mukerjee from Kolkata

**26 Jul to**

**1 Aug**

**Kew: The Garden that Changed the World**

(60 min; 2011; English)

A BBC 2 production

In 2009 the Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew celebrated their 250th anniversary, Dan Cruickshank, well-known British art historian and television presenter, unearths some of the surprising stories that shaped the famous gardens. His travels take him from the royal gardens to the corridors of power and the outposts of Empire as he pieces together Kew's story, uncovering tales of bravery, high adventure, passion and drama

AUGUST 2021

2-8

**Fleeting Footprints of Light**

An exhibition of photographs by Mala Mukerjee from Kolkata

*The online exhibition was on view from 26th July to 8th August 2021*

**Taking Root: The Vision of Wangari Maathai**

(81 min; 2008; English)

Directors: Alan Dater, Lisa Merton

*Taking Root* tells the dramatic story of Kenyan Nobel Peace Prize laureate Wangari Maathai, whose simple act of planting trees grew into a nationwide movement to safeguard the environment, protect human rights and defend democracy—a movement for which this charismatic woman became an iconic inspiration

**Olympia**

Is Leni Riefenstahl's *Olympia* Nazi propaganda—or the greatest film about sport ever made? The two-part documentary has been acclaimed as a masterpiece that revolutionised the way sport was depicted on screen. This epic record of the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games attempts to combine sporting reportage with a celebration of physical beauty and the spectacle involved in this uniquely unifying event. And what cinema historians still debate today is whether Riefenstahl was defying Goebbels and Hitler all those summers ago, or whether she was doing exactly what they wanted.

The two-part documentary was screened over the next two weeks.

**Olympia Part One: Festival of Nations** (Olympia 1. Teil–Fest der Völker)

(111 min; 1938; b/w; German with English subtitles)

Director: Leni Riefenstahl

*Recipient of the Kinema Junpo Award for Best Foreign Language Film, Kinema Junpo Awards 1941*

Part One begins with a history of the Olympic games—with a mystical glide through the smoke-wreathed ruins and statues of ancient Greece depicting the traditions of the ancient games in the city of Olympia. The film floats through time and space until it reaches the lighting of the Olympic cauldron in Berlin—the torch relay was invented for the 1936 Games and continuing with a portrayal of many of the field events at the 1936 Berlin games.

9-15

**Olympia Part Two: Festival of Beauty** (Olympia 2. Teil–Fest der Schönheit)

(90 min; 1938; b/w/; German with English subtitles)

Director: Leni Reifenstahl

*Recipient of the Mussolini Cup for Best Foreign Film, Venice Film Festival 1939*

Part Two features the track and field events. Riefenstahl captures the grace of athletes during field hockey, soccer, cycling, equestrian, aquatic and gymnastic events. Riefenstahl celebrates



the human body by combining the poetry of bodies in motion with close-ups of athletes in the heat of competition. The production tends to glorify the young male body and, some say, expresses the Nazi attitude toward athletic prowess. Highlights are the Pentathlon and the Decathlon, which was won by American Glenn Morris; it ends with the triumphant conclusion of the games.

**2-8      *Genius of the Ancient World* (2015)**

A three-part BBC series. Historian Bettany Hughes travels to India, Greece and China on the trail of three giants of ancient philosophy—Buddha, Socrates and Confucius. All three philosophers lived between the 6th and 5th centuries BCE, during a period of unprecedented and intense intellectual development.

Trailblazers whose radical ideas signalled a key change in human consciousness, each embodied the shift from a reliance on the supernatural, as the sole way to explain humankind's place in the cosmos, to one where rational argument and logical reasoning offered new, exciting possibilities.

Drawing on archaeology and expert opinion, Bettany Hughes follows in the footsteps of these great figures, in her quest to unpack their philosophy in the context of their age. She reveals how, even though their ideas came about two and a half thousand years ago, their thinking still shapes, and continues to provide solutions to, our own lives.

***Genius of the Ancient World: Episode 3—Confucius***

(59:01 min; 2015; English)

In the third and final episode, Bettany Hughes investigates the game-changing ideas of Confucius. Confucius is considered the first Chinese thinker to take a systematic, philosophical approach to the social, political and moral challenges of his world.

Born in a chaotic, violent age, he believed that harmony could be restored through the example of the sage rulers of history. A great innovator, he commandeered rituals and traditions of the past, to form a compelling philosophical vision. A pioneer in education, he attracted a loyal band of students, and tried to instil his principles of moral excellence and self-cultivation in China's rulers

**16-22      *Maps: Power, Plunder and Possession* (2010)**

A three-part series produced by BBC 4

In a series about the extraordinary stories behind maps, Professor Jerry Brotton, British historian, Professor of Renaissance Studies, Queen Mary University of London uncovers how maps aren't simply about getting from A to B, but are revealing snapshots of defining moments in history and tools of political power and persuasion.

***Maps: Power, Plunder and Possession—Episode 1: Windows on the World***

(60 min; 2010; English)

Director: Rosie Schellenberg

Professor Jerry Brotton explains the creation and importance of maps, discovering the latest technology being used to improve the cartographer's art and revolutionise mankind's knowledge of the world. On a visit to the oldest known map, etched into a hillside 3,000 years ago, he considers how different cultures have approached map-making over millennia, often as a tool for expansionism and political control

**23-29 Maps: Power, Plunder and Possession—Episode 2: Spirit of the Age**

(60 min; 2010; English)

Director: Helen Nixon

Professor Jerry Brotton examines the way maps have reflected contemporary politics and belief—and in some cases inspired them. He studies medieval religious cartography on maps showing pilgrims the routes to Jerusalem or heaven, Victorian illustrations of the world—with every nation awarded a score according to how 'civilised' they were deemed to be—and modern mapping of social problems including infant mortality and HIV

**23 Aug to**

**5 Sept Outstanding Polish Women**

An exhibition that celebrated the life and achievements of outstanding Polish women from Marie Skłodowska-Curie to mountaineer Wanda Rutkiewicz; Irena Sandler, a heroine who saved Jewish children from the ghetto in German occupied Warsaw during World War II; to the leading Polish Suffragettes; and to Nobel laureate, Olga Tokarczuk

*The exhibition was simultaneously on view in the Quadrangle Garden and as an online exhibition on our website*

(Collaboration: Polish Institute, New Delhi)

**23-29 Living at the Edge of Climate Change**

(36:59 min; 2017; English subtitles)

Director/Editor/Camera: Kirk David Mason

For millions of people living in East Africa, the climate has a direct bearing on their existence. Farmers and Maasai pastoralists alike join with Tanzanian scientists and government officials in describing the transformations they are making to adapt to a new reality, a reality that doesn't end in East Africa. The stories of older people who have witnessed the effects of life-altering temperature increases, as well as younger people rethinking their sense of future, come to life in 'Living on the Edge of Climate Change.'

**SEPTEMBER 2021**

**30 Aug to**

**5 Sep Outstanding Polish Women**

An exhibition that celebrated the life and achievements of outstanding Polish women from Marie Skłodowska-Curie to mountaineer Wanda Rutkiewicz; Irena Sandler, a heroine who saved Jewish children from the ghetto in German occupied Warsaw during World War II; to

the leading Polish Suffragettes; and to Nobel laureate, Olga Tokarczuk

*The online exhibition was on view from 23rd August to 5th September 2021. The same exhibition was on view physically in the Quadrangle Garden from 25th August to 5th September 2021, 11.00 to 19.00*

(Collaboration: Polish Institute, New Delhi)

**Picturing a People: George Johnston, Tlingit Photographer (Canada)**

(48 min; 1997; English)

Writer/Director: Carol Geddes

George Johnston was a hunter, trapper, entrepreneur and photographer. This man, whose Tlingit name was Kaash Kláŋ, documented his family at work and play, and the Yukon community of Teslin, where he lived. The Tlingit are indigenous peoples of the Pacific Northwest Coast of North America. The film is an engaging portrait of an extraordinary man and the evocative photos he took documenting a fascinating part of Canadian history

**Maps: Power, Plunder and Possession (2010)**

A three-part series produced by BBC 4

In a series about the extraordinary stories behind maps, Prof. Jerry Brotton, British historian, Professor of Renaissance Studies, Queen Mary University of London uncovers how maps aren't simply about getting from A to B, but are revealing snapshots of defining moments in history and tools of political power and persuasion.

**Maps: Power, Plunder and Possession–Episode 3: Mapping the World**

(60 min; 2010; English)

Director: Annabel Hobley

Prof. Jerry Brotton explains how maps encouraged the plunder and conquest of far-off lands as fabled riches drove explorers such as Christopher Columbus and Walter Raleigh to the New World. He examines the founding of America and the myth of Eldorado, before discussing how cartography made international enterprise possible through the Dutch East India Company and similar ventures. Last in the series

**6-19**

**Pristine**

An online exhibition of photographs by Navin Sakhuja, Ophthalmologist

First published in the *IIC Quarterly*, **Autumn 2017** issue, the photographs engaged with the power and beauty of nature.

**6-12**

**Delphi: Bellybutton of the Ancient World**

(60 min; 2010; English)

Director: David Wilson

What really went on at the ancient Greek oracle at Delphi, how did it get its awesome reputation and why is it still influential today? Michael Scott of Cambridge University

uncovers the secrets of the most famous oracle in the ancient world. A vital force in ancient history for a thousand years, it is now one of Greece's most beautiful tourist sites, but in its time it has been a gateway into the supernatural, a cockpit of political conflict, and a beacon for internationalism. And at its heart was the famous inscription which still inspires visitors today—'Know Thyself'

**6-12      The Gene Code (2011)**

A two-part BBC 4 programme presented by Dr. Adam Rutherford, British geneticist, author, and broadcaster.

Dr. Adam Rutherford takes viewers on a rollercoaster ride as he explores the consequences of one of the biggest scientific projects of all time—the decoding of the entire human genome in 2000. In 2001 scientists announced that humanity had read every single piece of information which makes up the human genome, the code within our DNA. It was a pivotal moment in scientific history.

**The Gene Code 1: The Book of Life (58:42 min; 2011; English)**

In programme 1, 'The Book of Life', Dr. Adam Rutherford discovers that every human carries the entire story of life on earth hidden in his or her DNA. He sees how we are all linked directly to the origins of life and to the first creatures with backbones. He investigates the implications of the fact that for much of its existence, the human race was an endangered species

**20-26      Goya: Crazy like a Genius**

(69 min; 2002; English)

Director: Ian MacMillan

Written and presented by renowned art critic Robert Hughes, *Crazy Like A Genius* explores the world of Francisco Goya: charting his achievements as a court painter, satirist and war reporter, as well as a topographer of the inner self—of madness, fear and despair. The film offers a detailed visual and intellectual analysis of Goya masterpieces, including *Witches in the Air*, *The Third of May* and *The Dream of Reason*, as well as examples of his early work and portraiture such as *The Duchess of Alba*, *The Nude Maja* and *The Clothed Maja*. Hughes gives an insight into the enormous changes that took place in Goya's work in the course of his life: the shift from light to dark

**The Forbidden City: The Great Within**

(70 min; 1995; English)

A film by Francis Gerard

Filmed on location at the famous Imperial Palace complex in Beijing, the documentary dramatises scenes of daily life at the palace during the Qing dynasty (1644–1911). Using footage of palace interiors, period paintings, archival material, and readings from over a thousand years of diaries to present a dramatic portrayal of the 'Forbidden City', the symbolic heart of Imperial China. The film focuses on the last 150 years, concluding with

Pu Yi, the last emperor in the 1920s

**Notes on Blindness**

(90 min; 2016; English)

Directors: Peter Middleton, James Spinney

Acclaimed documentary by Peter Middleton and James Spinney dramatising the life-changing experiences of theology professor John Hull, whose audiotape diaries of his journey into blindness formed the basis of his 1990 book *Touching the Rock*. *Notes on Blindness* is built upon the voices of John and his family (from audio diaries, taped letters, domestic recordings and interviews). The result brilliantly blurs the boundary between drama and documentary. Middleton and Spinney have created an immersive film worthy of Hull's end-quote declaration that 'to gain our full humanity, blind people and sighted people need to see each other'.

**Chapi: The Essence of the Zarzuela**

(56 min; 2015; English)

Director: Domingo Rodes

Film on Ruperto Chapi y Lorente (27 March 1851–25 March 1909), one of the most important and acclaimed Spanish composers of the nineteenth century. Chapi is best known for the music he composed for *zarzuelas* (Spanish musical theatre). He wrote *zarzuelas* in all shapes and sizes, including the three-act *zarzuela grande* and the one-act *género chico* (short/light) forms. His most celebrated work is *La revoltosa*.

The film features the Orquestra Sinfonica de Alicante conducted by Joan Iborra

**22 Sep to**

**4 Oct**

**Glorious Past and a Shining Future for Dhakai Jamdani**

An exhibition of museum quality Dhakai Jamdani sarees from the collection of Siddhartha Tagore. On display are Jamdanis from the late 19th century woven in Dhaka (Bangladesh) and some from an earlier period including some rare pieces produced by the East India Company

Curated by Puneet Kaushik and Rema Kumar

(Collaboration: Art Konsult)

**27 Sep to**

**3 Oct**

**DNA. Secret of Photo 51**

(52 min; 2003; English)

Written, Produced and Directed by Gary Glassman

Narrated by Sigourney Weaver

On April 25, 1953, the science journal *Nature* announced that James Watson and Francis Crick had discovered the double helix structure of DNA, the molecule that is fundamental to life. But absent from most accounts of their Nobel Prize-winning work is the contribution

made by a scientist—molecular biologist and crystallographer Rosalind Franklin—who would never know that Watson and Crick had seen a key piece of her data without her permission and that it would lead them to the double helix

**Kumpanía: Flamenco Los Angeles**

(60 min; 2011; English)

Director: Katina Dunn

*Recipient of the Audience Award, Madrid International Film Festival 2021; and Jury Award for Best Documentary, Memphis International Film Festival 2012*

The film explores the Romani origins of flamenco in 17th century Spain and juxtaposes it with the flamenco culture in contemporary Spain. The documentary also focuses on a group of flamenco dancers, singers and guitarists based in Los Angeles who are dedicated to preserving the art in its original form. 'Kumpanía' is a Romani word meaning 'people who travel the same territory'

**Act of Dishonour**

(90 min; 2010; Dari with English subtitles)

Written and Directed by Nelofer Pazira

*Winner, Special Mention, Mannheim-Heidelberg International Film Festival 2020*

In a land beset by endless strife, nothing must get in the way of the preservation of honour—even if that means sacrificing a loved one. Mena, a young, beautiful bride-to-be, lives in a small, remote village in northern Afghanistan, a harsh landscape that still shimmers with breath taking colours. Respecting the deeply conservative local customs, she and her fiancé, Rahmat, have little contact yet cherish a special bond. The arrival of a Canadian film crew briefly opens a window on a new world for Mena, a foray beyond the boundaries of convention that leads her inexorably down a dangerous road. This eloquent, nuanced portrait of life in Afghanistan is part lament against injustice, part testament to the spirit of a people who have survived decades of war

**On 1st October 2021 at 6 pm**

**Kekkee Manzil: House of Art** (90 min; 2020; English)

Director/Editor: Dilesh Korya

Producer: Behroze Gandhi

The film was introduced by Dr. Shernaz Cama, Behroze Gandhi and Adil Gandhi

A feature documentary that interweaves personal testimony with rare historical and 8 mm family archive to tell the story of how a modern art movement was born alongside the new nation of India. The film traces the journey of Kekoo, well-known gallerist who transformed not only his own life but the artistic heritage of the city of Bombay



OCTOBER 2021

**4-10 Sylvia Plath: Voices and Visions**

(56 min; 1988; English)

Director: Lawrence Pitkethly

Produced by New York Center for Visual History

The film follows in considerable and sometimes excruciatingly painful detail Sylvia Plath's life from her childhood in Massachusetts to her suicide, at age 30, in London in 1963. Included are the candid recollections of her mother, Aurelia Plath, and acquaintances such as Clarissa Roche and Dido Merwin. Providing perspectives on Plath's work are A. Alvarez, a critic, and Sandra M. Gilbert, a feminist scholar and herself a poet

**Oliver Sacks: Tales of Music and the Brain**

(50 min; 2008; English)

Director: Louise Lockwood

With Alan Yentob, Anne Barker, Tony Cicoria

Alan Yentob talks to Dr. Oliver Sacks about his latest book 'Musicophilia: Tales of Music and the Brain' which deals with the power of music and how it helps those with extreme neurological conditions, and meets some extraordinary people overcome their conditions with music

**Leonard Bernstein Conducts West Side Story—The Making of a Recording**

(87 min; 1984; English)

Conductor: Leonard Bernstein

Video Director: Christopher Swann

The 1984 recording of *West Side Story* is one of the all-time greats. Made by Deutsche Grammophon in New York, it brought together three of music's most illustrious names—American composer-conductor Leonard Bernstein, who wrote the music for *West Side Story*, New Zealand soprano Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, and Spanish tenor José Carreras. This documentary presents a behind the scenes look at the recording session and includes rare insights into a rather tense recording session, before the final musical vision was complete

**In Search of Myths and Heroes (2005)**

A four-part series. Historian Michael Wood travels the globe seeking evidence of four of the world's most famous myths. He begins his quest in Jerusalem, travelling to Egypt and Africa as he hunts for evidence of the fabled Queen of Sheba. His search for the lost kingdom of Shangri-La takes him through India, Nepal and Tibet. He roams the Celtic world from Cornwall to Wales, Ireland and Scotland in search of the legendary King Arthur. And finally, he heads to Greece, Turkey and Georgia as he tracks the legend of Jason and the Golden Fleece.

**Episode 3–Arthur: The Once and Future King**

(60 min; 2005; English)

In this episode of the series, Wood explores the greatest British myth: the tale of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. Traveling round the Celtic world from Cornwall to Wales, Brittany, Ireland and Scotland, Wood uncovers the extraordinary story of how a shadowy Welsh freedom fighter—a Dark Age Che Guevara—became a medieval superman, and finally the model of a Christian hero

**11-17 Episode 4–Jason and the Golden Fleece**

(60 min; 2005; English)

The tale of Jason, the Argonauts and the Golden Fleece is one of the oldest stories in all of Greek myth. In this episode, Michael Wood traces the route of Jason and his famous boat, the Argo, along its route from Greece to Turkey and Georgia. The story of Jason can be traced back to the town of Volos in modern day Greece. The probable site of ancient Lolkos, it was here that King Pelias feared Jason a contender to this throne and so sent him on an impossible mission to finish him off. The mission was to travel to the far away kingdom of Colchis—in the Black Sea—to retrieve the magical Golden Fleece that had been taken there. But Jason proved courageous and strong and set out on an epic route

**4 Glorious Past and a Shining Future for Dhakai Jamdani**

An exhibition of museum quality Dhakai Jamdani sarees from the collection of Siddhartha Tagore.

Curated by Puneet Kaushik and Rema Kumar

(Collaboration: Art Konsult)

**8 The Invisible Visible (Ek Koshish)**

(81 min; 2021; English and with subtitles)

Director: Kireet Khurana

India is home to the largest number of homeless people in the world. There are an estimated 70 million homeless and destitute in India. This film focuses on the work of Koshish, the field action project of Tata Institute of Social Sciences and raises important questions on the *Bombay Beggary Prevention Act, 1959*.

Screening was followed by a discussion on **Addressing Homelessness–Towards an Inclusive Society**

Panelists: Dr. Indu Prakash Singh; Kireet Khurana; Swati Maliwal; Mohd. Tarique; and R. Subrahmanyam, Secretary, Dept. of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India

Moderator: Ms Amita Joseph

(Collaboration: Business and Community Foundation)

**11-17 After the Silk Roads: Asia, Europe and the Discovery of the Americas (57 min)**

Video recording of the annual International Institute for Asian Studies, Leiden University lecture delivered by Dr. Peter Frankopan, Senior Research Fellow, Worcester College and Director, Oxford Centre for Byzantine Research, Oxford University. Dr. Frankopan is author of the acclaimed book, *The Silk Roads: A New History of the World*

**Baghdad Twist**

(33 min; 2007; English)

Director: Joe Balass

Producer: National Film Board of Canada

Featuring a unique collection of archival images, home movies and family photographs from Iraq, *Baghdad Twist* is a short film that pulls back the curtain on Iraq's once thriving Jewish community. Baghdad-born filmmaker Joe Balass takes us on a journey through the fragmented memories of an Arab exile. This powerful collage forms a portrait of a time and place that no longer exists

**Still Waters: The Poetry of P.K. Page**

(38 min; 1990; English)

Director: Donald Winkler

Producer: National Film Board of Canada

Patricia Kathleen Page, or P.K. Page was an acclaimed Canadian poet, novelist, script writer, playwright, essayist, journalist, librettist, teacher and artist. This short film encapsulates the life of P.K. Page, through an exploration of her life and art, the film shows how her powerful works have extended beyond their inherent confines into the realms of anthropology and ecology

**Chasing Trane: The John Coltrane Documentary**

(99 min; 2016; English)

Director: John Scheinfeld

The music of John Coltrane is the real star of *Chasing Trane: The John Coltrane Documentary*. What makes *Chasing Trane* special is that music, and the insight it provides into Coltrane's life. Denzel Washington stands-in for Coltrane's voice, narrating the film with the saxophonist's own words, and Washington is superb in his own understated way.

*Chasing Trane* follows Coltrane through his whole life. We witness his humble beginnings playing not-very-good sax in a military band, and then learn of his obsessive devotion to practising. Day and night the musician would practice, and when neighbours would complain about the sound he would silently finger the instrument, over and over again.

A definitive documentary about an outside-the-box thinker with extraordinary talent whose boundary-shattering music continues to impact and influence people around the world

NOVEMBER 2021

**1-14      Colours Unlimited: The Bus Art of Tamil Nadu**

An online exhibition of photographs by Vijay Jodha

**1-7      Philippe Petit and Slavoj Žižek: Act of Courage (96 min)**

Video recording of the conversation organised by The New York Public Library on 3 December 2018

Slovenian philosopher, cultural critic, and Lacanian psychoanalyst Slavoj Žižek in conversation with French high-wire artist Philippe Petit, subject of the award-winning documentary *Man on a Wire*, and famous the world over for his high-wire walks. The two discuss their life's work and what inspires them to continue exploring new territory

**Egypt's Lost Pyramid**

(54 min; 2019; English)

Director: Stuart Elliott

Archaeologists investigate the remains of a 4000-year-old pyramid, which contains a sealed buried chamber that has somehow been robbed—without any signs of entry

**Stealing van Gogh**

(59 min; 2018; English)

Director: Julian Hendy

Art historian Andrew Graham-Dixon uncovers the truth behind the greatest art heist of the 21st century. In December 2002, two priceless paintings were stolen from the Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam in a brutal and audacious robbery.

A brilliant and fascinating look at how stolen art is used as a black-market currency—canvas banknotes, basically—and how it can be used as a crook's ultimate bargaining chip to reduce a sentence

**1-5      PEN, INK, ACTION: SATYAJIT RAY AT 100**

**A King's Gambit**

An exhibition of original period costumes created for the 1977 film by Satyajit Ray, *Shatranj Ke Khilari* (The Chess Players). Based on research and original sketches by Ray himself, and Shama Zaidi; created by local dressmakers. Apart from costumes, the display also includes footwear, turbans, costume jewelry, stills and working stills, copies of letters and pages from Ray's *kheror khata* (script book).

From the collection of Shri Suresh Jindal, Producer of *Shatranj ke Khilari*

Research and text: Indrani Majumdar, translator of Ray

**1 Janani's Juliet (India)**

(53 min; 2019; dvd; Tamil/English)

Director: Pankaj Rishi Kumar

Producer: Public Service Broadcasting Trust

*Multiple award winner and India's Official Entry to the Oscar Awards, recipient of the Best Long Documentary Award, International Documentary and Short Film Festival, Kerala 2019; Satyajit Ray Golden Award for Best Documentary, and Mrinal Sen Golden Award for Best Direction in Documentary, South Asia Film Festival; Human Rights Prize, Fine Arts Film Festival, USA; among others*

*Janani's Juliet* follows the journey of Pondicherry-based theatre group, Indianostrum, as they navigate through caste and class obstacles, and understand how these impact women's freedom and love. They adapt Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* to their story and what emerges is a critical reflection and commentary on the contemporary world, where love struggles to survive

**2 Moti Bagh (India)**

(60 min; 2019; dvd; Hindi/English)

Director: Nirmal Chander

Producer: Public Service Broadcasting Trust

*Recipient of the award for Best Indian Feature, All Living Things Environmental Film Festival 2019; Best Documentary Award, International Documentary and Short Film Festival, Kerala 2019; and Official Indian entry to the Oscar Awards 2019*

For over five decades, 83 year old Vidyadutt Sharma has nurtured Moti Bagh, his 5 acre farm in a small Himalayan village. Around him are 7000 ghost villages—a chilling testimony to large scale migration by locals in search of employment. Chronicling the changing landscape in verses of resistance, Vidyadutt Sharma and Ram Singh, his Nepali farmhand, plough the fields and keep themselves alive, hoping to return Moti Bagh to its old glory

(Collaboration: Public Service Broadcasting Trust)

**8-14 The Ancient World- Alexandria: The Greatest City**

(50 min; 2010; English)

A series of documentaries presented by the historian Bettany Hughes. Travelling across present locations, Bettany explores the cultural and political pasts of ancient peoples, including the Greeks, Minoans and Egyptians.

Bettany Hughes goes to Alexandria, Egypt, too look at one of the great cities of history. Founded by Alexander the Great, Alexandria was once one of the intellectual and culture hubs of the world. It was home to one of the Seven Wonders of the World and the immense Library of Alexandria

**15-21      The Ancient Worlds: The Minoans**

(50 min; English)

The tale of the Minotaur and the Labyrinth is perhaps the most compelling of all Greek myths. Just over 100 years ago, English archaeologist Arthur Evans went to the ‘Minotaur’s Island’ to explore the roots of this myth and discovered instead a sophisticated Bronze Age civilisation that had been lost to history for thousands of years.

He called them The Minoans, and the riches of their culture astonished the world, prompting Evans to proclaim them the first civilisation of the Western World

**22-28      The Ancient Worlds: Engineering Ancient Egypt**

(51 min; English)

Through their superlative buildings, the legacy of the Egyptian empire continues to enthrall people to this day. Yet these incredible structures were made over 4,000 years ago.

Historian Bettany Hughes explores what drove the people of this ancient civilisation to build on such a massive scale. The story is told through the reigns of two pharaohs—Khufu and Ramesses II

**10-21      Restoration of Polish Independence**

The exhibition commemorated the restoration of Poland’s independence and sovereignty in 1918 as the Second Polish Republic.

On view are digital copies of archive photographs, documents and texts.

*The exhibition was on view from 10th to 21st November 2021*

(Collaboration: Embassy of Poland; and Polish Institute, New Delhi)

**29 Nov to**

**5 Dec      The Ancient Worlds: Helen of Troy**

(52 min; English)

Bettany Hughes travels across the eastern Mediterranean to disentangle myth from reality and find the truth about the most beautiful woman on earth. She is ‘the face that launched a thousand ships’; the woman blamed for the Trojan War—a conflict that caused countless deaths—but who was the real Helen of Troy?

**Algorithms: The Secret Rules of Modern Living**

(58 min; 2015; English)

Director: David Briggs

Without us noticing, modern life has been taken over. Algorithms run everything from search engines on the internet to satnavs and credit card data security—they even help us travel the world, find love and save lives. Professor Marcus du Sautoy demystifies the hidden world of algorithms. By showing us some of the algorithms most essential to our lives, he reveals



where these 2,000-year-old problem solvers came from, how they work, what they have achieved and how they are now so advanced they can even programme themselves

**Everything and Nothing (2011)**

This series deals with two of the deepest questions there are—what is everything, and what is nothing? In two epic, surreal and mind-expanding films, Professor Jim Al-Khalili searches for an answer to these questions as he explores the true size and shape of the universe and delves into the amazing science behind apparent nothingness.

**Everything (58 min; English)**

The first part, *Everything*, sees Professor Al-Khalili set out to discover what the universe might actually look like. The journey takes him from the distant past to the boundaries of the known universe. Along the way he charts the remarkable stories of the men and women who discovered the truth about the cosmos and investigates how our understanding of space has been shaped by both mathematics and astronomy

**15-21 Restoration of Polish Independence**

The exhibition commemorated the restoration of Poland's independence and sovereignty in 1918 as the Second Polish Republic.

On view were digital copies of archive photographs, documents and texts

**17-28 The Qawwali Photo Project**

An exhibition of photographs dedicated to Qawwali practitioners

Photographs by Dinesh Khanna, Mustafa Quraishi and Leena Kejriwal

Conceptualised by Manjari Chaturvedi

*Inauguration on 17th November 2021 at 6 pm by Shri Amitabh Kant and Shri Hans Raj Hans*

As part of the inauguration there was a **Dastaan-e-Qawwali** presented by Askari Naqvi

**Solo recitations of Qawwals** were presented by new voices at **17:00** hrs each evening during the course of the exhibition

**Solo Qawwal Recitals** by:

18th November- Qawwal Abdullah from the Shrine of Bakhtiyar Kaki, Dargah Mahrauli

19th November- Qawwal Abdullah from the Shrine of Bakhtiyar Kaki, Dargah Mahrauli

20th November - Niyazi Nizami Brothers from Hazrat Nizamuddin Shrine - Haider Nizami; Hasan Nizami; and Imran Nizami

21st November - Qawwal Abdullah and his son Humayun from the Shrine of Bakhtiyar Kaki, Dargah Mahrauli

22th November - Qawwal Hasnain Nizam and his son Faiz Nizami from Nizamuddin Shrine

23th November - Qawwal Saqlain Nizami & Sibtain Nizami from Nizamuddin Shrine

24th November - Qawwal Raja Sarfaraz Darbari from Rampur  
25th November - Qawwal Shahid Niyazi and Sami Niyazi from Rampur  
26th November - Ustad Ranjhan Ali from Verka, Amritsar  
27th November - Ustad Ranjhan Ali from Verka, Amritsar and Dhruv Sangari from Delhi  
28th November - Qawwal Sultan Niyazi from Nizamuddin Shrine

**27                    Kekee Manzil: House of Art** (90 min; 2020; English)

Director/Editor: Dilesh Korya

Producer: Behroze Gandhi

Introduction: Smt Geeta Kapur and Behroze Gandhi who introduced the film

*Screening was followed by a discussion with*

Rashna Gandhi Imhasly, Behroze Gandhi, Shireen Gandhi and Adil Gandhi

Moderator: Ashok Vajpeyi

A feature documentary that interweaves personal testimony with rare historical and 8 mm family archive to tell the story of how a modern art movement was born alongside the new nation of India. The film traces the journey of Kekoo and Khorshed Gandhi, well-known gallerists who transformed the artistic heritage of the city of Bombay

(Collaboration: The Raza Foundation)

**29 Nov to  
5 Dec**

**My Octopus Teacher**

(90 min; 2020; English)

Director: Pippa Ehrlich, James Reed

With Craig Foster, Tom Foster

*Multiple award winner including Oscar for Best Documentary Feature, Academy Awards, USA 2021; BAFTA Film Award for Best Documentary, BAFTA Awards 2021; Critics Choice Documentary Award for Best Cinematography and Best Science/Nature Documentary, Critics Choice Documentary Awards 2020; among others*

A filmmaker forges an unusual friendship with an octopus living in a South African kelp forest, learning as the animal shares the mysteries of her world.

After years of swimming every day in the freezing ocean at the tip of Africa, Craig Foster meets an unlikely teacher: a young octopus who displays remarkable curiosity. Visiting her den and tracking her movements for months on end he eventually wins the animal's trust and they develop a never before seen bond between human and wild animal

**Grizzly Man**

(104 min; 2005; English)

Director: Werner Herzog

*Multiple award winner including CFCA Award for Best Documentary, Chicago Film Critics Association Awards 2006; DGA Award for Outstanding Directorial Achievement in Documentary, Directors Guild of America, USA 2006; LAFA Award for Best Documentary/Non-Fiction Film, Los Angeles Film Critics Association Awards 2005; among others*

A devastating and heart-rending take on grizzly bear activists Timothy Treadwell and Amie Huguenard, who were killed in October of 2003 while living among grizzly bears in Alaska. In telling this story, Werner Herzog relies considerably on Treadwell's own video footage, shot during his time in the wild. The famed German director takes Treadwell's story into unexpected emotional frontiers and startling landscapes of the mind. Treadwell is an intriguing, infuriating, perhaps even tragic figure. But Herzog himself is equally compelling, and this brilliant film is just one reason why

**Pavarotti (UK)**

(114 min; 2019; English)

Director: Ron Howard

Pavarotti is a riveting film that lifts the curtain on the icon who brought opera to the people. Ron Howard puts audiences front row centre for an exploration of the voice, the man, the legend. Luciano Pavarotti gave his life to the music and a voice to the world. This cinematic event features history-making performances and intimate interviews, including never-before-seen footage and cutting-edge Dolby Atmos technology

**DECEMBER 2021**

**29 Nov to**

**5 Dec**

**The Ancient World (2010)**

A series of documentaries presented by the historian Bettany Hughes. Travelling across present locations, Bettany explores the cultural and political pasts of ancient peoples, including the Greeks, Minoans and Egyptian.

**The Ancient Worlds: Helen of Troy**

(52 min; English)

Bettany Hughes travels across the eastern Mediterranean to disentangle myth from reality and find the truth about the most beautiful woman on earth. She is 'the face that launched a thousand ships'; the woman blamed for the Trojan War—a conflict that caused countless deaths—but who was the real Helen of Troy?

**5-18**

**iSculpt for Delhi**

An exhibition of contemporary installations and sculptures

Curator: Uma Nair

On display were works by Satish Gupta, Neeraj Gupta, Seema Kohli, Keshari Nandan, Atul Sinha, Ankon Mitra, Rahul Modak, Dhananjay Singh, Biman Bihari Das, Rita Datta,

Parmod Kumar Mann, Bhola Kumar, Rakesh Kumar Gupta, Brajesh Verman, Umesh Dutt Sharma, Nimesh Pilla, Mukul Panwar, Farhat Jamshed, and Arun Pandit

On view in the Quadrangle Garden are:

Qutab Project—photographs by Caleb Call; and digital images by Nishi Sharma

*Inauguration on Saturday, 4th December 2021 at 18:00*

(Collaboration: Delhi Arts Society)

**6-12      The Ancient Worlds: Athens—the Truth about Democracy**

(48 min; English)

Democracy, liberty and the freedom of speech are trumpeted as the bedrock of western civilisation, but what was Athens really like?

Bettany Hughes goes deep underground to explore a treasure trove of pre-historic bones and ancient artefacts. In silver mines and tombs she uncovers evidence for what this society was really like.

This was a democratic city built on slave labour, manipulated by aristocrats, where women wore the veil and men pursued a bloody foreign policy, slaughtering thousands in the pursuit of the world's first democratic empire.

**6-12      Water: The Great Mystery (Russia)**

(85 min; 2008; English)

Directors: Saida Medvedeva and Vaisily Anisimov

Narrated by Lex Lang

Water is essential for life on earth, but what do we *really* know about this amazing substance. From its less dense state at freezing temperature to its recently discovered 'memory effect', *Water: The Great Mystery* is a well-produced documentary that looks into many fascinating topics and cutting edge research experiments from the viewpoints of scientists, theologians and philosophers that will hopefully help give people a greater understanding of the universe. At points this documentary touches on issues surrounding quantum physics, spirituality and the powers of the mind

**8-14      Aks-e-Mousiqui**

An exhibition of archival portraits of leading Indian classical artists taken during their live performances

Black and white photographs by Rakesh Sinha from Lucknow

*Inauguration on Tuesday, 7th December 2021 at 18:30*

**13-19      The Ancient Worlds: Alexandria, the Greatest City**

(50 min; English)

Bettany goes in search of this lost civilisation, revealing the story of a city founded out of the

desert by Alexander the Great in 331 BC to become the world's first global centre of culture, into which wealth and knowledge poured from across the world.

Three cities dominated the ancient world: Athens, Rome and a third, now almost forgotten. It lies hidden beneath the waters of the Mediterranean and a sprawling modern metropolis. Alexandria was a city built on a dream; a place with a very modern mind set, where—as with the worldwide web—one man had a vision that all knowledge on earth could be stored in one place.

Until its decline in the fourth and fifth Centuries AD, Alexandria became a crucible of learning; Hughes uncovers the incredible discoveries and the technical achievements of this culture.

### **13-19 Charles Darwin and the Tree of Life**

(59 min; 2009; English)

Hosted by David Attenborough

David Attenborough asks three key questions: how and why did Darwin come up with his theory of evolution? Why do we think he was right? And why is it more important now than ever before? David starts his journey in Darwin's home at Down House in Kent, where Darwin worried and puzzled over the origins of life. David goes back to his roots in Leicestershire, where he hunted for fossils as a child, and where another schoolboy unearthed a significant find in the 1950s. And he revisits Cambridge University, where both he and Darwin studied, and where many years later the DNA double helix was discovered, providing the foundations for genetics. At the end of his journey in the Natural History Museum in London, David concludes that Darwin's great insight revolutionised the way in which we see the world. We now understand why there are so many different species, and why they are distributed in the way they are. But above all, Darwin has shown us that we are not set apart from the natural world, and do not have dominion over it. We are subject to its laws and processes, as are all other animals on earth to which, indeed, we are related

### **Fear, Faith and Genius—Its Gothic!**

(42 min; 2021; English)

A film by Grit Lederer

A DW DocFilm

This documentary focuses on some of the most spectacular panels and paintings of the Gothic period. The mid-15th century saw the creation of works like 'Purgatory,' 'Hell,' and 'Paradise.' Gothic specialists introduce us to these works, while explaining just how innovative Gothic painting really was. They walk us through the beauty of the colours, show us just how daring the erotic scenes can be, and highlight the raw power of the devils and monsters. Art historian and director Grit Lederer explains how special macro-optic technology sheds new light on the artworks' tiniest details, while the storied Cologne Cathedral opens at midnight to let art historians examine the 'Liebeszauber' painting, still shrouded in mystery to this day

**Is There one Who Understands me? The World of James Joyce (Ireland)**

(90 min; 1983; English)

Directors: Shep Morgan, Seán O'Mórdha

Feature length documentary on one of the most influential and innovative writers of the 20th century, James Joyce. Mixing beautifully filmed shots of present day Dublin and Paris with the turn of the century, the film is interspersed with period music and is an artistic work in its own right. More importantly, it includes interviews with Joyce's relatives and Richard Ellman, the world's greatest Joycean scholar who have all since passed away. For this reason alone, it is unlikely to be surpassed

**18-29      Devi**

An exhibition focusing on the depiction of women as *Devi* or Goddesses as seen in folk and tribal art of India. On view are Goddesses in Kalighat, Madhubani, Mata ni Pachedi, pichwai painting traditions; folk art paintings of Assam, Bengal, and Odisha; and through the shadow puppets and wooden sculptures of Karnataka

Curated by Seema Bhalla

*Preview on Friday, 17th December 2021 at 18:30*

(Collaboration: Art Konsult)

**21-30      Bangladesh's War of Liberation 1971**

An exhibition of photographic panels to mark the 50th anniversary of Bangladesh's war of liberation

*Preview on Monday, 20th December 2021 at 18:30*

**20-26      Monty Don's Paradise Gardens (2018)**

A two-part BBC television series with British gardener and broadcaster, Monty Don. Monty Don travels the Islamic world and beyond from Morocco to India in search of Paradise Gardens celebrated in the Koran and uncovers the influence they've had back in the UK.

**Episode I: Spain, Morocco and Iran**

(58 min; English)

Director: Jason Holmes

Monty starts in Spain, a country synonymous with Christian traditions but which, for 800 years, was actually Islamic. At the Alhambra, he discovers the basic building blocks of paradise gardens—green spaces divided into four by channels of water that meet at a central fountain. In Seville, Monty explores their symbolic significance. Water is the key feature of these gardens. In Morocco, Monty discovers the wide variety of paradise gardens. But it is Monty's final stop that sheds the most light on the origins of these incredible gardens. In Iran, he explores the huge influence emanating from the gardens of old Persia. In the cultural centres of Isfahan, Kashan and Shiraz, Monty visits some of the most exquisite gardens in



the world and then in the middle of the desert, comes across the secret to their creation

**22-28 Black, White and the Unseen**

An interpretation of Impressionism

Exhibition of charcoal sketches by Reshma Valliappan aka Val Resh

*Preview on Tuesday, 21st December 2021 at 18:30*

**27 Dec to**

**2 Jan Episode II: Turkey, India and UK**

(58 min; English)

Director: Jason Holmes

In Turkey, Monty is dazzled by a display of the Ottoman Empire's favourite flower—the tulip—and learns of its sacred significance. Travelling to India, Monty encounters a new type of spirituality in the tomb gardens of the Mughal Empire. Mausoleums were set in vast gardens as places where an earthly king could enter a divine paradise. But unlike our quiet courtyards and cemeteries, these were places filled with life—tented cities where people lived as well as prayed. As favoured spots for yoga and exercise, they still retain this lively spirituality today.

Returning to the UK, Monty sets out to see how the concept of paradise gardens have fared in some very different places. In Bradford, a water garden inspired by India provides a setting for different communities to come together, while at Hestercombe, Somerset, Monty uncovers the inspiration behind what appears to be the most English of gardens

**Samuel Beckett: Silence to Silence (Ireland)**

(80 min; 1984; English)

Director: Seán O'Mórdha

What a sensitive documentary can do, and what Seán O'Mórdha's *Samuel Beckett: Silence to Silence* does admirably, is bring together the man's life and work in a way that offers glimpses of how the one flowed into the other. For those who haven't read much about the singular Nobel Prize-winner, the documentary provides illuminating details of his childhood, school days and his war years with the French resistance; for admirers, there are tantalizing snatches of his prose, poetry and inimitable plays.

**The Brandenburg Gate: History of a Symbol**

(42 min; 2021; English)

A film by Florian Optiz

DW DocFilm

Built in 1793, the Brandenburg Gate received little attention at first. That changed when Napoleon triumphantly entered the city through the gate after his victory over Prussia in

1806—and took its Quadriga to Paris as a spoil of war. After the charioteer returned to Berlin in 1814, the Brandenburg Gate became a national symbol of triumph. Following the Second World War, the gate stood at the place where two opposing political systems met. Here, East and West confronted each other, from either side of the Wall. That changed in 1989, when people from East and West crossed the Wall at the Brandenburg Gate to embrace each other. More than any other German monument, the Brandenburg Gate has been exploited again and again for the politics of power; its symbolism has been reinterpreted numerous times; and it has been used and abused as a backdrop by countless political groups

**27 Dec to**

**2 Jan**

**Saving the temples on the Nile**

(42 min; English)

A DW DocFilm

A timeless treasure, nearly lost forever. Without the UNESCO's unprecedented rescue operation, future generations might have only seen the stunning temples of Ramses II and Cleopatra in the pages of history books. In 1960, then Egyptian President Nasser ordered the dam's construction. In order to save the temples of Ramses II and Cleopatra, among others, UNESCO reached out to over 50 countries, and raised \$80 million. After receiving multiple proposals to save the structure, it was one from Sweden that proved successful. The plan: dismantling the complex and rebuilding it on higher ground.

Between November 1963 and September 1968, saws were used to cut the two temples into 1,036 blocks, each weighing between seven and 30 tons. Their new location was 64 meters above the old site and 180 meters further inland. After five years of construction, this major undertaking was completed on September 22, 1968. The Nubian temples of Abu Simbel are now a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

**Magic Numbers: Hannah Fry's Mysterious World of Numbers (2018)**

A three part BBC series

In this series, mathematician Dr Hannah Fry explores the mystery of maths. It underpins so much of our modern world that it is hard to imagine life without its technological advances, but where exactly does maths come from? Is it invented like a language or is it something discovered and part of the fabric of the universe? It's a question that some of the most eminent mathematical minds have been wrestling with. Dr. Eleanor Knox from King's College London believes it is discovered, Prof Hiranya Peiris from University College London believes it is invented, while Prof Jim Gates from Brown University believes it is both, and Prof Brian Greene from Columbia University has no idea. The jury is very much divided.

**Episode I: Numbers as God (59 min)**

In this episode, Hannah goes back to the time of the ancient Greeks to find out why they

were so fascinated by the connection between beautiful music and maths. The patterns our ancestors found in music are all around us, from the way a sunflower stores its seeds to the number of petals in a flower. Even the shapes of some of the smallest structures in nature, such as viruses, seem to follow the rules of maths. All strong evidence for maths being discovered.

But there are those who claim maths is all in our heads and something we invented. To find out if this is true, Hannah has her brain scanned. Then along comes the invention of zero to help make counting more convenient and the creation of imaginary numbers, and the balance is tilted in the direction of maths being something we invented. The question of whether maths is invented or discovered just got a whole lot more difficult to answer

## **JANUARY 2022**

**3-9**

### **Stephen Fry: The Machine that Made Us (UK)**

(59 min; 2008; English)

Director: Patrick McGrady

Stephen Fry examines the story behind the first media entrepreneur, printing press inventor Johann Gutenberg, to find out why he did it and how, a story which involves both historical enquiry and hands-on craft and technology. Fry travels across Europe to find out how Gutenberg kept his development work secret, about the role of avaricious investors and unscrupulous competitors and why Gutenberg's approach started a cultural revolution. He then sets about building a copy of Gutenberg's press

### **David Suchet: The Mystery of Agatha Christie**

(57 min; 2013; English)

Director: Clare Lewis

David Suchet, TV's Poirot, has spent more of his life acting out the plots and dramas created by Agatha Christie than anyone else in the world. Suchet is embarking on a journey to learn more about the woman who created Poirot and whose books remain outsold only by Shakespeare and the Bible. Suchet's journey takes him to the places Christie lived, the landscapes that inspired her and to meetings with people who knew the woman behind the fame and those inspired by her extraordinary legacy. He explores the close links between Christie's extraordinary life and her work and discovers what it was about the woman from a small seaside town that allowed her to become the best-selling murder mystery writer in history.

### **The Forgotten Temple of Banteay Chhmar**

(42 min; 2020; English)

A film by Wolfgang Luck

A DW DocFilm

Deep in the jungle of Cambodia lies a jewel from the Khmer Empire: the temple of Banteay Chhmar. Half devoured by plants and long forgotten by most people, the 800-year-old complex is being rediscovered, slowly. The village community of Banteay Chhmar is taking charge. Far from the well-trodden tourist trails, the rice farmers of this small village are trying an experiment unknown in Cambodia: with almost no outside help, they are fighting to preserve and restore their temple using nothing but their own strength.

**Magic Numbers: Hannah Fry's Mysterious World of Numbers (2018)**

A three part BBC series

In this series, mathematician Dr Hannah Fry explores the mystery of maths. It underpins so much of our modern world that it is hard to imagine life without its technological advances, but where exactly does maths come from? Is it invented like a language or is it something discovered and part of the fabric of the universe? It's a question that some of the most eminent mathematical minds have been wrestling with. Dr Eleanor Knox from King's College London believes it is discovered, Prof Hiranya Peiris from University College London believes it is invented, while Prof Jim Gates from Brown University believes it is both, and Prof Brian Greene from Columbia University has no idea. The jury is very much divided.

**Episode II: Expanded Horizons (59 min)**

In this episode, Hannah travels down the fastest zip wire in the world to learn more about Newton's ideas on gravity. His discoveries revealed the movement of the planets was regular and predictable. James Clerk Maxwell unified the ideas of electricity and magnetism, and explained what light was. As if that wasn't enough, he also predicted the existence of radio waves. His tools of the trade were nothing more than pure mathematics. All strong evidence for maths being discovered.

But in the 19th century, maths is turned on its head when new types of geometry are invented. No longer is the kind of geometry we learned in school the final say on the subject. If maths is more like a game, albeit a complicated one, where we can change the rules, surely this points to maths being something we invent—a product of the human mind. To try and answer this question, Hannah travels to Halle in Germany on the trail of perhaps one of the greatest mathematicians of the 20th century, Georg Cantor.

**10-16 Episode III: Weirder and Weirder (59 min)**

Hannah explores a paradox at the heart of modern maths, discovered by Bertrand Russell, which undermines the very foundations of logic that all of maths is built on. These flaws suggest that maths isn't a true part of the universe but might just be a human language—fallible and imprecise. However, Hannah argues that Einstein's theoretical equations, such as  $E=mc^2$  and his theory of general relativity, are so good at predicting the universe that they must be reflecting some basic structure in it. This idea is supported by Kurt Godel, who proved that there are parts of maths that we have to take on faith.

Hannah then explores what maths can reveal about the fundamental building blocks of the universe—the subatomic, quantum world. The maths tells us that particles can exist in two states at once, and yet quantum physics is at the core of photosynthesis and therefore fundamental to most of life on earth—more evidence of discovering mathematical rules in nature. But if we accept that maths is part of the structure of the universe, there are two main problems: firstly, the two main theories that predict and describe the universe—quantum physics and general relativity—are actually incompatible; and secondly, most of the maths behind them suggests the likelihood of something even stranger—multiple universes.

We may just have to accept that the world really is weirder than we thought, and Hannah concludes that while we have invented the language of maths, the structure behind it all is something we discover.

**10-16      The Secret World of Lewis Carroll (UK)**

(60 min; 2015; English)

Director: Clare Beaven

*Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* is a timeless classic and one of the most quoted books in English only preceded by the Bible and Shakespeare. To mark the books 150th anniversary this film explores its extraordinary appeal and the life of the man who wrote it, the Reverend Charles Dodgson or better known as Lewis Carroll. Martha Kearney, a radio broadcaster and journalist, examines biographies of the author himself and of the girl who inspired his most famous creation, Alice Liddell.

**Conquistadors (2002)**

A 4-part series directed by David Wallace for BBC2/PBS with the English historian and broadcaster, Michael Wood. The Spanish conquest of the Americas in the sixteenth century was one of the most important and cataclysmic events in history. Spanish expeditions endured incredible hardships in order to open up the lands of the 'New World', and few stories in history can match these for drama and endurance.

In *Conquistadors*, Michael Wood follows in the footsteps of some of the greatest of the Spanish adventurers travelling from the forests of Amazonia to Lake Titicaca, the deserts of North Mexico, the snowpeaks of the Andes and the heights of Machu Picchu. He experiences the epic journeys of Cortes, Pizarro, Orellana and Cabeza de Vaca, and explores the turbulent and terrifying events surrounding the Spanish conquest of the Aztec and Inca empires.

**Conquistadors: The Fall of the Aztecs (49 min)**

Director: David Wallace

The story of the conquest in 1519-21 of the Aztec empire in Mexico by Hernan Cortes and five hundred intrepid Spanish conquistadors. In this film Michael Wood follows the womaniser and gambler Cortes from his home in Spain to the Mayan pyramids on the shores of the Yucatan, and on through the tropical forests of Tabasco to the snow-capped volcanoes of Mexico.

**17-23      Conquistadores: The Conquest of the Incas (49 min)**

The amazing story of the overthrow of the Inca empire by Francisco Pizarro and his brothers. Following the route taken by the Spaniards, Wood climbs ancient Inca roads to Cajamarca where the Inca leader tried to ransom himself for a roomful of gold and undertakes an epic jungle trek to the lost city of the Incas.

**24-30      Conquistadores: The Search for El Dorado (49 min)**

Michael Wood tells the story of the ill-fated Spanish expedition of 1541, to find mythical lands of gold. After crossing the Andes, Wood and his team build a raft and sail down the river Napo before following the route of the Conquistadors to the head waters of the river Amazon. Tracing one of the great voyages of exploration Wood tells how the Spaniards were the first outsiders to see Amazonia and the first to discover and travel the length of the river, an achievement which was 'less of a journey and more of a miracle'.

**10-16      David Suchet on the Orient Express**

(60 min; 2010; English)

Director: Chris Malone

In this travelogue, actor David Suchet journeys across Europe aboard the world famous Orient Express Train, as he prepares to play Poirot in an adaptation of Agatha Christie's 'Murder on the Orient Express.'

**17-23      A Very English Genius (UK)**

(58 min; 2002; English)

Director: Robin Dashwood

On 1 July 1952, a 30-year-old architect called Michael Ventris made a BBC radio broadcast which was to secure his place in archaeological and history books forever. He announced that he'd deciphered Linear B, Europe's earliest known, and previously incomprehensible, writing system. His discovery was to revolutionise our understanding of Western civilisation. It was made all the more remarkable by the fact that Ventris was no more than an amateur enthusiast, a man passionately and often tortuously determined to crack the linguistic code which had puzzled experts, archaeologists and academics for three decades

**Wilfred Owen: A Remembrance Tale (UK)**

(59 min; 2009; English)

Director: Louise Hooper

Jeremy Paxman tells the tragic story of World War One poet Wilfred Owen. At a time of jingoism and wartime propaganda, one Shropshire lad was compelled to tell the truth. Jeremy Paxman travels to the battlefields of France to discover how the ugliest and most terrible arena imaginable gave birth to some of the most poignant and powerful poetry in the English language. Wilfred Owen is played by Samuel Barnett



24-30

**Worn Out with Desire to Write (UK)**

(54 min; 1985; English and with subtitles)

Directors: Alan Benson, Daniel Wiles

Marguerite Duras—20th-century France's greatest *femme de lettres*—was the sort of woman who spared neither herself nor others. In this vintage filmed interview, the late novelist and filmmaker talks openly about the hardship and the romance of her childhood in French Indochina, sharing how this period haunted her life and shaped her work. The film includes excerpts from her films and readings from her books by actress Elizabeth Rider and Duras herself, including *The Lover*, winner of the Prix Goncourt and translated into more than forty languages

**Debussy: Entre Quatre-z-Yeux**

(59 min; 1999; English and with subtitles)

Director: Paul Smaczny

Préludes for Piano, Book One by Claude Debussy. Performance by Daniel Barenboim. An explanation is given on these Préludes by Daniel Barenboim as well as readings of Debussy's own writings.

According to Claude Debussy, 'Music begins where the words end.' It builds a bridge between reality and unreality. In his Preludes, he left the music open to interpretation by the performer and the listener, wishing that 'they be played only privately' and 'among four eyes,' (entre quatre-z-yeux). Debussy sets dance movements to music, evoking three bacchantes sculpted on a column in the Louvre Museum. 'La fille aux cheveux de lin' derives from a poem by Leconte de Lisle, while 'La Cathedrale engloutie' tells the story of the sunken cathedral of Ys, which rises again from the waters, becomes visible and sinks once more—a tone painting of cathedral-like chords. Claude Debussy endeavoured to revolutionise tone colour. He wanted to journey down new roads remote from harmonic 'rules.' 'Music is mysterious mathematics whose elements partake in the eternal. It lives in the movement of water, in the play of the waves in the changing winds.'

**Fermat's Last Theorem (UK)**

(48m min; 1996; English)

Director: Simon Singh

Andrew Wiles stumbled across the world's greatest mathematical puzzle, Fermat's Theorem, as a ten- year-old schoolboy, beginning a 30-year quest with just one goal in mind—to solve the problem that has baffled minds for three centuries.

A documentary about mathematics and mathematicians, but also about childhood dreams, ambition, obsession, passion, failure and triumph.

# APPENDIX VII *Film Club*

## FEBRUARY 2021

**1-7**      **The Last Time I Saw Paris** (USA)  
(116 min; 1954; English)  
Director: Richard Brooks  
*With Elizabeth Taylor, Van Johnson, Walter Pidgeon*

### **Ángela Molina–Goya Prize of Honour 2021**

Organised in collaboration with Cervantes Institute, New Delhi, a tribute to well-known Spanish actress, Ángela Molina. One of the most outstanding actresses in Spanish cinema with a career spanning over four decades and an extensive filmography of almost a hundred films. Three Spanish feature films were screened over three weekends in February 2021.

**13**      **La Sabina** (Spain/Sweden)  
(105 min; 1979; Spanish with English subtitles)  
Director: José Luis Borau  
*Recipient of the CEC Awards for Best Director and Best Supporting Actress, Cinema Writers Circle Awards, Spain 1980*

**20**      **Half of Heaven** (La Mitad del cielo)  
(127 min; 1986; Spanish with English subtitles)  
Director: Manuel Gutiérrez Aragón  
*Multiple award winner including Fotogramas de Plata for Best Spanish Film, Best Movie Actor & Best Movie Actress, Fotogramas de Plata, 1987; Goya for Best Original Score, Goya Awards 1987; Golden Seashell & Prize San Sebastián, San Sebastián International Film Festival 1986; among others*

**27**      **The Things of Love** (Las cosas del Querer/Spain)  
(100 min; 1989; Spanish with English subtitles)  
Director: Jaime Chávarri

**15-21**      **The Railrodder** (24 min; 1965)  
Director: Gerald Potterton  
*Recipient of the Honorable Mention for Short Film, Berlin International Film Festival 1965*

## MARCH 2021

**22-28 ESPACIO FEMENINO/FEMININE SPACE**

A festival of Spanish films directed by women filmmakers organised in collaboration with Cervantes Institute, New Delhi. The five award winning films to be screened have been made by film directors who made their cinematic debut in the 1950s and 1960s and are pioneers in the history of Spanish cinema. The films not only reflect the work and aesthetics of these women directors, they also present an interesting portrait of the historical period in Spain from 1953 to 1981. Two films were screened every Wednesday and Saturday in March 2021 accessible for a duration of 48 hours. Vimeo links to the films were posted in the IIC website ([www.iicdelhi.in](http://www.iicdelhi.in)) and sent by email.

**24 *Después de... No se os puede dejar solos***

(90 min; 1979; Spanish with English subtitles)

Director: Cecilia y José Juan Bartolomé

*Recipient of the Premio Ace Award for Best Actress, Premio Ace Awards 1984*

**27 *Después de... Atado y bien atado***

(99 min; 1981; Spanish with English subtitles)

Director: Cecilia Bartolomé y José Juan Bartolomé

**A Matter of Life and Death (UK)**

(104 min; 1946; English)

Directors: Michael Powell, Emeric Pressburger

*With David Niven, Roger Livesey, Kim Hunter, Marius Goring*

*Recipient of the Bodil Award for Best Foreign Film, Bodil Awards 1948*

## APRIL 2021

**29 Mar to**

**4 Apr Noam Chomsky: Internationalism or Extinction (56 min)**

A landmark lecture by Noam Chomsky about the threats to planetary survival that are of growing concern today. The prospect of human extinction emerged after World War II—the dawn of a new era scientists now term the Anthropocene. Chomsky uniquely traces the duality of existential threats from nuclear weapons and from climate change—including how the concerns emerged and evolved, and how the threats can interact with one another.

*Video recording of the lecture delivered in 2016*

**Gigi (USA)**

(115 min; 1958; English)

Director: Vincente Minnelli

*With Leslie Caron, Maurice Chevalier, Louis Jourdan*

*Multiple award winner—9 Oscars awards including for Best Picture, Best Director, Best Writing, Best Art Direction, Academy Awards, USA 1959; David for Best Foreign Production, David di Donatello Awards 1959; DGA Award for Outstanding Directorial Achievement in Motion Pictures, Director's Guild of America, USA 1959; among many others*

**5-11 SHORTS-TO-FEATURES**

A festival of Spanish films that showcases the work of four exceptional filmmakers organised in collaboration with Cervantes Institute, New Delhi and Alcalá de Henares Film Festival (ALCINE). Envisioned as a dialogue between two works (a short film and a feature film) of each filmmaker, the festival includes the films of directors Juanjo Giménez, Álex Montoya and Belén Macías and producer María del Puy Alvarado. Four filmmakers with different perspectives that showcases the diversity, vitality, robust presence and promising future of Spain's younger directors.

The online screenings were held throughout April 2021 with a screening of two works each by the four filmmakers. All the films were accessible for a period of 48 hours starting from 23:30 hours onwards on the dates indicated below. Vimeo links of the films were sent by email and posted on the Centre's website, [www.iicdelhi.in](http://www.iicdelhi.in)

**WEEK DEDICATED TO ÁLEX MONTOYA**

**6 Lucas** (28 min; 2013; Spanish with English subtitles)

Direction, Production, Editing: Álex Montoya

**9 The Meeting** (Asamblea)

(75 min; 2019; Spanish with English subtitles)

Direction, Editing: Álex Montoya

*Recipient of the Jury Prize for Best Film and Best Actor, Alicante Film Festival 2019; and AVAV award for Best Sound, Premis de l'Audiovisual Valencià, 2019*

**12-18 WEEK DEDICATED TO BELÉN MACÍAS**

**13 Bad Feeling** (Mala espina)

(20 min; 2001; Spanish with English subtitles)

Director: Belén Macías

**16**            **Marseille** (Marsella)  
(98 min; 2013; Spanish with English subtitles)  
Director: Belén Macías

**19-25**        **WEEK DEDICATED TO JUANJO GIMÉNEZ**

**20**            **Rodilla**  
(16 min; 2009; Spanish with English subtitles)  
Director: Juanjo Giménez

**23**            **We need each other** (Nos hacemos falta)  
(97 min; 2001; Spanish with English subtitles)  
Director: Juanjo Giménez  
*Recipient of the Special Mention for Best Actor, Ourense Independent Film Festival 2002*

**26 Apr to**

**2 May**        **WEEK DEDICATED TO MARÍA DEL PUY ALVARADO**

**27**            **Pulse** (Press)  
(17 min; 2013; b/w; Ukrainian with English subtitles)  
Direction, Script and Editing: Álvaro Giménez Sarmiento

**30**            **Antonio Muñoz Molina: The Writer's Job** (Antonio Muñoz Molina: El oficio del escritor)  
(60 min; 2014; Spanish with English subtitles)  
Direction, Script and Editing: Álvaro Giménez Sarmiento

## MAY 2021

**3-9**            **José and Pilar** (José e Pilar)  
(117 min; 2010; Spanish & Portuguese with English subtitles)  
Director: Miguel Gonçalves Mendes  
*Recipient of the Audience Award for Best Brazilian Documentary, São Paulo International Film Festival 2010; Audience Award for Best Film, Winner of the Don Quijote Award and Film Award for Best Documentary, Coimbra Caminhos do Cinema Português 2011; and Andorinha Trophy for Best Documentary, Cineport–Portuguese Film Festival 2011*

**Zero for Conduct** (Zéro de conduit: Jeunes diables au college/France)  
(44 min; 1933; b/w; French with English subtitles)  
Director: Jean Vigo  
*Recipient of the Parajanov-Vartanov Institute Award for Best Film, Parajanov-Vartanov Awards 2011*

**10-16 Whisky Galore! (UK)**

(82 min; 1949; b/w; English)

Director: Alexander Mackendrick

*With Basil Radford, Joan Greenwood*

*Recipient of the NBR Award for Top Foreign Films, National Board of Review, USA 1950*

**17-23 Director in Focus: Rafeeq Ellias**

Rafeeq Ellias is a multiple award-winning photographer and filmmaker, whose films explore and engage with India's smallest minority communities. Sensitively portraying the richly textured lives of communities living on the margins, the films present an India where multiple identities meet and flourish.

**The Ninety First Symphony: The Musical Journey of Homi Dastoor**

(20:01 min; 2016; English)

Direction and Cinematography: Rafeeq Ellias

*Recipient of the Jury Award, 5th Kolkata Shorts International Film Festival 2016*

**What Man Joe: Portrait of a Funeral Musician**

(36:29 min; 2018; English and with subtitles)

Direction and Cinematography: Rafeeq Ellias

**How Green Was my Valley**

(119 min; 1941; b/w; English)

Director: John Ford

*With Walter Pidgeon, Maureen O'Hara, Anna Lee*

*Multiple award winner including Oscar Award for Best Picture, Best Actor in a Supporting Role, Best Director, Best Cinematography and Best Art Direction, Academy Awards, USA 1942; NYFCC Award for Best Director, New York Film Critics Circle Awards 1941; recipient of the National Film Registry, National Film Preservation Board, USA 1990; among others*

**24-30 Amreeka (USA/Palestine)**

(96 min; 2009; Arabic and English with English subtitles)

Director: Cherien Dabis

*Multiple award winner including FIRESCI Prize, Critics Week, Cannes Film Festival 2009; Best Arabic Film and Best Screenplay, Cairo International Film Festival 2009; Woman of Worth 'Vision' Award, Tribeca Film Festival 2009; among others*



JUNE 2021

31 May to

6 Jun

**Shakespeare Unwrapped—Shakespeare's Kings & Queens (92:26 min)**

A family drama

Performed by drama students at Niagara University, U.S.A. during lockdown in October 2020 as part of the educational work of The Live Literature Company founded by Valerie Doulton.

Curated and Developed by Valerie Doulton

Directed by Valerie Doulton and Josie Di Vincenzo

Cast: Laura Barcomb; Adriana Bollinger; Sariah Call; Skylah Fields; Zach Gammel; Zachary King; Isabel Merkel; Nathaniel Park; Caleb Paxton; Randi Sykes; and C.J. Webster

**The Old Man and the Sea (Russia)**

(20 min; 1999; English)

Director: Aleksandr Petrov

*Multiple award winner including Oscar Award for Best Short Film, Animated, Academy Awards, USA 2000; Audience Award and Grand Prix for Best Animated Short Film, Annecy International Animated Film Festival 2000; First Prize, Zagreb World Festival of Animated Films 2000; among others*

**BERLANGA CELEBRATES ONE HUNDRED YEARS**

A series of films to celebrate the centenary year of Luis García Berlanga (1921-2010), arguably one of the greatest Spanish film directors of his time and an arch-satirist of Spanish society. Remarkably, much of his best and most cutting work were made under the scrutiny of a censorious dictatorship. The online film series revisited four ground-breaking films that played a significant role in his career and evolution as a filmmaker. Organised in collaboration with Cervantes Institute, New Delhi; Filmoteca de la AECID, ICAA; Filmoteca Española, AC/E; and Academia del Cine, Spain.

The films were screened every Friday in June 2021 for a duration of 48 hours. Vimeo links of the films were posted on the IIC website ([www.iicdelhi.in](http://www.iicdelhi.in)) and sent by email.

**Friday, 4th June 2021 from 23:30 onwards****That Happy Couple (Esa pareja feliz/Spain)**

(83 min; 1951; b/w; Spanish with English subtitles)

Direction: Juan Antonio Bardem and Luis García Berlanga

*Recipient of 'Jimeno' Revelation Award, Cinema Writers Circle Awards, Spain 1952*

The first feature by Juan Antonio Bardem and Luis García Berlanga, this comedy—highly influenced by Italian neorealism—is a tender and funny story about a young couple who

seek to improve their quality of life. A brilliant satire on Spanish values and propaganda of the early fifties was the only film co-directed by Bardem and Berlanga

**Friday, 11th June 2021 from 23:30 onwards**

**Calabuch** (Spain/Italy)

(92 min; 1956; b/w; Spanish with English subtitles)

Director: Luis García Berlanga

*Recipient of the OCIC Award, Venice Film Festival 1956; CEC Award for Best Actor and Best Original Story, Cinema Writers Circle Awards, Spain 1957; and Prize of the National Syndicate of Spectacle for Best Film, Best Supporting Actor and Best Screenplay, National Syndicate of Spectacle, Spain 1956*

**Friday, 18th June 2021 from 23:30 onwards**

**Plácido** (Spain)

(85 min; 1961; b/w; Spanish with English subtitles)

Director: Luis García Berlanga

*Recipient of the CEC Award for Best Film and Best Director, Cinema Writers Circle Awards, Spain 1962; Prize of the National Syndicate of Spectacle for Best Supporting Actor and Best Film, National Syndicate of Spectacle, Spain 1961; and Sant Jordi for Best Film, Best Spanish Actor and Best Spanish Director, Sant Jordi Awards 1962*

**Friday, 25th June 2021 from 23:30 onwards**

**National Heritage** (Patrimonio nacional/Spain)

(110 min; 1981; Spanish with English subtitles)

Director: Luis Gracia Berlanga

*Recipient of the Fotogramas de Plata Award for Best Spanish Movie Performer, Fotogramas de Plata 1982; and Sant Jordi Award for Best Film, Sant Jordi Awards 1981*

**7-13 Eames: The Architect and the Painter** (USA)

(84 min; 2011; English)

Directors: Jason Cohn and Bill Jersey

Narrated by James Franco

**14-20 When the Moors Ruled in Europe**

(102 min; 2005; English)

Director: Timothy Copestake

28 Jun to

4 Jul

**The Umbrellas of Cherbourg** (France/Les parapluies de Cherbourg)

(91 min; 1964; French with English subtitles)

Director: Jacques Demy

*Recipient of the Palme d'Or, OCIC Award and Technical Grand Prix, Cannes Film Festival 1964; Critics Award for Best Film, French Syndicate of Cinema Critics 1965; and Winner of the Prix Louis Delluc Award 1965*

## JULY 2021

5-11

**Badiou** (USA/France)

(84 min; 2018; French with English subtitles)

Directors: Gorav Kalyan, Rohan Kalyan

Nietzsche wrote that all philosophy is a biography of the philosopher. The life of Alain Badiou suggests that the reverse is also true. The first feature length film on France's most famous living philosopher

**Night Train to Munich** (UK)

(90 min; 1940; b/w; English)

Director: Carol Reed

*With Margaret Lockwood, Rex Harrison, Paul Henreid*

12-18

**YASUJIRO OZU: NORIKO TRILOGY**

With his singular and unwavering style, Japanese director Yasujiro Ozu (1903-1963) disregarded the established rules of cinema and created a visual language all his own. Precise compositions, contemplative pacing, low camera angles, and elliptical storytelling are just some of the signature techniques the great filmmaker used to evoke a sense of melancholy and poetry in everyday existence. The three films that Ozu made between 1949 and 1953 constitute his most enduring achievement. Dubbed the 'Noriko Trilogy' after the name of the female protagonist in all three films, the films (*Late Spring*, *Early Summer*, *Tokyo Story*) co-star the two most familiar members of Ozu's longstanding stock company: Chishu Ryu (1904–1993), the director's favourite actor; and Setsuko Hara (1920–2015), who plays Noriko in all three parts of the trilogy.

**Late Spring** (Banshun/Japan)

(108 min; 1949; b/w; Japanese with English subtitles)

Director: Yasujiro Ozu

*Recipient of the Kinema Junpo Award 1950 for Best Film; and Mainichi Film Concours Award for Best Film, Best Actress, Best Director and Best Screenplay, Mainichi Film Concours 1950*

**19-25**      **Early Summer** (Bakushu/Japan)  
(125 min; 1951; b/w; Japanese with English subtitles)  
Director: Yasujiro Ozu  
*Recipient of the Blue Ribbon Awards 1952 for Best Actress, Best Supporting Actress, Best Director and Best Cinematography; Kinema Junpo Awards 1952 for Best Film; and Mainichi Film Concours Awards 1952 for Best Film and Best Actress*

**26 Jul to**

**1 Aug**      **Tokyo Story (Tokyo Monogatari/Japan)**  
(134 min; 1953; b&w; Japanese with English subtitles)  
Directed by Yasujiro Ozu  
With Setsuko Hara and Chishu Ryu

**AUGUST 2021**

**2-8**      **Witness for the Prosecution (USA)**  
(116 min; 1957; b/w; English)  
Director: Billy Wilder  
*With Tyrone Power, Marlene Dietrich, Charles Laughton*  
*Multiple award winner including David for Best Foreign Actor, David di Donatello Awards 1958; Golden Globe for Best Supporting Actress, Golden Globes, USA 1958; Golden Train Award for Best Actress, Faro Island Film Festival 1957; among others*

**9-15**      **Rebetiko** (Rembetiko)  
(54 min; 2010)  
Director/Choreographer: Yannis Adoniou  
Music: Minos Matsas  
Vocalist: Catherine Clambaneva  
Shadow Theatre Artist: Leonidas Kassapides

**12**      **The Unorthodox** (Israel)  
(92 min; 2018; Hebrew & Yiddish with English subtitles)  
Director: Eliran Malka  
*Recipient of the Award of the Israeli Academy for Best Art Direction, Best Costume Design, Best Editing & Best Make-up, Academy of Israeli Film Academy 2019; and Key to Discovery Award for Best Film, Moscow Jewish Film Festival 2019*  
(Collaboration: Embassy of Israel)

**16-22 W.B. Yeats: No Country for Old Men (Ireland)**

(55 min; 2012; English)

Director: Maurice Sweeney

**Laura (USA)**

(98 min; 1945; b/w; English)

Director: Otto Preminger

*Recipient of the Oscar Award for Best Cinematography, Black-and-white, Academy Awards 1945; Winner of the National Film Registry, National Film Preservation Board, USA 1999; and Photoplay Awards for Best Performance and Best Picture, Photoplay Awards 1945*

**23-29 Persepolis (France/USA)**

(96 min; 2007; English)

Directors: Vincent Paronnaud, Marjane Satrapi

*Multiple award winner including Jury Prize and Palm Dog, Cannes Film Festival 2007; César for Best Adapted Screenplay and Best First Film, César Awards, France 2008; Sutherland Trophy, British Film Institute Awards 2007; Audience Award and MovieZone Award, Rotterdam International Film Festival 2008*

**SEPTEMBER 2021**

**30 Aug to**

**5 Sep Philip Larkin: Love and Death in Hull (UK)**

(60 min; 2003; English)

Directors: James Kent, Nicolas Kent, Ian MacMillan

**The Maltese Falcon (USA)**

(101 min; 1941; b/w; English)

Director: John Houston

*With Humphrey Bogart, Mary Astor, Gladys George*

*Recipient of the NBR Award for Best Acting, National Board of Review, USA 1041; Photoplay Award for Best Performance, Photoplay Award 1942; and Winner of the National Film Registry, National Preservation Board, USA 1989*

**6-12 The Cow (Gaav/Iran)**

(100 min; 1969; b/w; Persian with English subtitles)

Director: Dariush Mehrjui

*Recipient of the Fipresci Prize, Venice Film Festival 1971; and OCIC Award, Forum of New Film, Berlin International Film Festival 1072*

**7 A SELECTION OF NATIONAL PANORAMA FILMS: 7th TO 24th  
SEPTEMBER 2021**

Screening of eight National Panorama and National Award winning films organised in collaboration with Directorate of Film Festivals, Min. of Information and Broadcasting, Govt. of India

**Ek je Chhilo Raja** (Bengali)

(147 min; 2018; Blu ray; with English subtitles)

Director: Srijit Mukherji

*Recipient of the Best Feature Film in Bengali, National Film Awards 2019; WBFJA Awards for Best Actor, Best Director and Best Screenplay, West Bengal Film Journalists Association 2019*

**10 Hellaro** (Gujarati)

(121 min; 2019; Blu ray; with English subtitles)

Written and Directed: Abhishek Shah

*Recipient of the Golden Lotus Award for Best Feature Film and Winner of the Special Jury Award, National Film Awards 2019; and Best Indian Feature Film, FIPRESCI–India Grand Prix 2020*

**13-19 The Tin Drum** (Die blechtrommel/Germany)

(142 min; 1979; German with English subtitles)

Director: Volker Schlöndorff

*Multiple award winner including Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film, Academy Awards, USA 1980; Palme d'Or, Cannes Film Festival 1979; Challenge Award 'Golden Bowl' for Outstanding Feature Film, German Film Awards 1979; among others*

**13 House Owner** (Tamil)

(111 min; 2019; Blu ray; with English subtitles)

Director: Lakshmy Ramakrishnan

**14 Iewduh** (Market; Khasi/Garo/Nepali)

(95 min; 2019; Blu ray; with English subtitles)

Director: Pradip Kurbah

*Recipient of the Kim Ji Seok Award, Window on Asian Cinema, Busan International Film Festival, Korea 2019*

**16 Mai Ghat: Crime No: 103/2005** (Marathi)

(104 min; 2019; Blu ray; with English subtitles)

Director: Ananth Narayan Mahadevan



*Recipient of the Silver Peacock for Best Actor-Female, International Film Festival of India 2019; and Best Cinematography Award, Indian Film Festival of Cincinnati 2020*

**20-26**     **Ashes and Diamonds** (Papiół i diament/Poland)  
(103 min; 1958; b/w; Polish with English subtitles)  
Director: Andrzej Wajda  
*Recipient of the Fipresci Prize, Venice Film Festival 1959*

**20**     **A Dog and His Man** (Chhattisgarhi)  
(83 min; 2019; Blu ray; with English subtitles)  
Director: Siddharth Tripathy

**22**     **Eigi Kona** (Stallone my Pony; Manipuri)  
(90 min; 2019; Blu ray; with English subtitles)  
Directors: Bobby Wahengbam, Maipaksana Haorongbam  
*Recipient of the award for Best Feature Film in Manipuri, National Film Awards 2019; Special Jury Mention; Best Child Artist; and Best Costume Design, 13th Manipuri State Film Awards 2020*

**24**     **Kalira Atita** (Yesterday's past)  
(83 min; 2021; Blu ray; Odia with English subtitles)  
Director: Nila Madhab Panda

**27 Sep to**

**3 Oct**     **Shadow of a Doubt**  
(108 min; 1943; b/w; English)  
Director: Alfred Hitchcock  
*With Teresa Wright, Joseph Cotton, Macdonald Carey*  
*Recipient of the NBR Award for Best Actress, National Board of Review, USA 1943; and Winner of the National Film Registry, National Film Preservation Board, US 1991*

## OCTOBER 2021

**5**     **TO MARK SPANISH CINEMA DAY 2021**  
**Voyage to Nowhere** (El viaje a ninguna parte/Spain)  
(134 min; 1986; Spanish with English subtitles)  
Written and Directed by Fernando Fernán-Gómez  
*Recipient of the Goya Awards for Best Director, Best Screenplay and Best Film, Goya Awards 1986; Award for Best Film, Sant Jordi Awards 1987; and ADIRCAE Awards 1987 for Best Director and Best Performance*  
(Collaboration: Cervantes Institute)

- 11-17**      **Ivan's Childhood** (Ivanovo detstvo/Russia)  
(91 min; 1962; b/w; Russian with English subtitles)  
Director: Andrei Tarkovsky  
*Recipient of the Golden Gate Award for Best Director, San Francisco International Film Festival 1962; and Golden Lion, Venice Film Festival 1962*

**NOVEMBER 2021**

- 1-7**        **Ninotchka**  
(110 min; 1939; b/w; English)  
Director: Ernst Lubitsch  
*With Greta Garbo, Melvyn Douglas, Ina Claire*  
*Recipient of the Audience Award and Golden Train Award for Best Screenplay, Faro Island Film Festival 1939; NBR Award for Top Ten Films and Best Acting, National Board of Review, USA 1939; and Winner of the National Film Registry, National Film Preservation Board, USA 1990*

- 8-14**      **Miles Ahead** (USA)  
(100 min; 2015; English)  
Director: Don Cheadle

**Dutch Children's Film Festival 2021**

- Romy's Salon** (The Netherlands)  
(90 min; 2019; Dutch with English Subtitles)  
Director: Mischa Kamp  
*Multiple award winner including ECFA Award and Golden Poznan Goat for Best Feature Film for Children, Ale Kino! – International Young Audience Film Festival 2019; Cinekid Film Award for Best Dutch Family Film, Cinekid 2019; Children's Jury Prize for Best Film and Professional Jury Prize for Best Film, Tel Aviv International Children's Film Festival 2019; among others*

- 15-21**     **Life According to Nino** (Het leven volgens Nino)  
(77 min; 2014; Dutch with English subtitles)  
Director: Simone van Dusseldorp  
*Recipient of the Cinekid Film Award for Best Children's Film, Cinekid 2014; and Special Jury Diploma 'Molodists for Kids' programme, Molodist International Film Festival 2015*

- 22-28**     **The Horror Bus** (De griezel bus)  
(96 min; 2005; Dutch with English subtitles)  
Director: Pieter Kuipjers

*Recipient of the Best of the Fest Award, Chicago International Children's Film Festival 2006; Golden Film Awards for Best Director, Producer, and Actors, Golden and Platin Film, Netherlands 2006; and Jury Award for Best Film, Leeds Young People's Film Festival 2007*

29 Nov to

5 Dec

**Miss Sing Song**

(96 min; 2017; Dutch with English subtitles)

Director: Mischa Kamp

*Recipient of the Adult's Jury Award for Live-Action Feature Film or Video, Chicago International Children's Film Festival 2018*

22-28

**The Great Dance: A Hunter's Story (USA/South Africa)**

(90 min; 2000; English)

Directors: Craig Foster, Damon Foster

*Recipient of the Audience Award for Best Film and Best South African Film, Encounters South African International Documentary Festival 2001; Festival Prize for Best Sound, Jackson Wild Media Awards 2000; and Panda Award for Best Achievement in Sound, Wildscreen Festival 2000*

**DECEMBER 2021**

6

**The Maltese Falcon (USA)**

(100 min; 1941; b/w; English)

Director: John Houston

*Humphrey Bogart, Mary Astor, Gladys George*

*Recipient of the NBR Award for Best Acting, National Board of Review, USA 1941; Winner of the National Film Registry, National Film Preservation Board, USA 1986; and Photoplay Award for Best Performance, Photoplay Awards 1942*

8

**FILMS OF THE SPIRIT**

Curated by Rajiv Mehrotra

**The Making of the Mahatma**

(144 min; 1996; English)

Director: Shyam Benegal

*With Rajit Kapur, Pallavi Joshi*

*Recipient of the National Film Award for Best Actor and National Film Award for Best Feature Film in English, National Film Awards 1996*

(Collaboration: Foundation for Universal Responsibility of His Holiness the Dalai Lama)

- 13 Gaslight (USA)**  
(114 min; 1944; b/w; English)  
Director: George Cukor  
*With Charles Boyer, Ingrid Bergman, Joseph Cotton*  
*Multiple award winner including Oscar Awards for Best Actress in a Leading Role and Best Art Direction–Interior Decoration, Black-and-White, Academy Awards 1945; Golden Globe for Best Actress, Golden Globes, USA 1945; NBR Award for Best Acting, National Board of Review, USA 1944; among others*
- 15 Double Indemnity (USA)**  
(107 min; 1944; b/w; English)  
Director: Billy Wilder  
*With Fred MacMurray, Barbara Stanwyck, Edward G. Robinson*  
*Recipient of the National Film Registry, National Film Preservation Board, USA 1992; and OFTA Film Hall of Fame, Online Film and Television Association 2007*
- 20 And then There Were None (USA)**  
(97 min; 1945; b/w; English)  
Director: Rene Clair  
*With Barry Fitzgerald, Walter Houston, Louis Heyward*  
*Recipient of the Best Film Award, Locarno International Film Festival 1946*
- 21 The Postman Always Rings Twice (USA)**  
(113 min; 1946; b/w; English)  
Director: Tay Garnett  
*With Lana Turner, John Garfield, Cecil Kellaway*
- 27 The Third Man (UK)**  
(93 min; 1949; b/w; English)  
Director: Carol Reed  
*With Orson Welles, Joseph Cotton, Alida Valli*  
*Multiple award winner including Oscar Award for Best Cinematography, Black-and White, Academy Awards 1951; BAFTA Film Award for Best British Film, BAFTA Awards 1950; Grand Prize of the Festival, Cannes Film Festival 1949; among others*
- 28 Séance on a Wet Afternoon (UK)**  
(115 min; 1964; b/w; English)  
Director: Bryan Forbes

*With Kim Stanley, Richard Attenborough, Margaret Lacey*

*Recipient of the BAFTA Film Awards for Best British Actress, BAFTA Awards 1965; Edgar for Best Foreign Film, Edgar Allan Poe Awards 1965; NYFCC Award for Best Actress, New York Film Critics Circle Awards 1964; among others*

**JANUARY 2022**

**17-23      FILMS OF THE SPIRIT**

Curator: Rajiv Mehrotra

**Siddhartha** (89 min; 1972; English)

Director: Conrad Rooks

## **APPENDIX VIII**    *Collaborating Institutions*

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Art Konsult

Bell'Italia 88

Bharatiya Sangeet Sadan

Business & Community Foundation

Centre for Escalation of Peace

Cervantes Institute, New Delhi

Climate Change Research Institute

Council for Social Development

Creative Dignity

Dastkar

Delhi Arts Society

Delhi Crafts Council

Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt. of India

Directorate of Film Festivals, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Govt. of India

Federation of Film Societies of India, NR

Foundation for Universal Responsibility of His Holiness the Dalai Lama

Ganga Jamuna Culture Foundation

Goethe Institut/Max Mueller Bhavan, New Delhi

Green Circle of Delhi

Indian Mountaineering Foundation

International Association of Women's Radio and Television, India Chapter

Jan Prasar

JD Centre of Art, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Jiyo Parsi

Living Waters Museum

Maharashtra Sanskritik ani Rannaniti Adhayan Samiti

New Imaginations, Jindal School of Journalism and Communications, O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat

NHK World

Open Health Systems Colloquium

Pallavan Learning Systems

Parzor Foundation



Penguin Random House India  
Public Service Broadcasting Trust  
Rajkamal Prakashan Samuh  
Recentring Afro-Asia Project, University of Cape Town  
Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)  
Ritinjali  
Sangeet Natak Akademi  
Society for Empowerment, Patna  
Sogetsu School of Ikebana, Delhi Chapter  
South Asia Monitor  
Sufi Kathak Foundation  
The Foundation for Independent Artists, Ministry of Cultural and Sport, Israel  
The Japan Foundation  
The Media Foundation  
The Poetry Society, India  
The Raza Foundation  
The University of Lausanne, Switzerland  
Uma Sharma School of Dance and Music  
University of Delhi  
Vikramshila Foundation  
WISCOMP  
Work: No Child's Business (WNCB)  
Working Group on Alternative Strategies

## **Embassies/High Commission**

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Italy  
Japan  
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