

10 - 14 October 2025

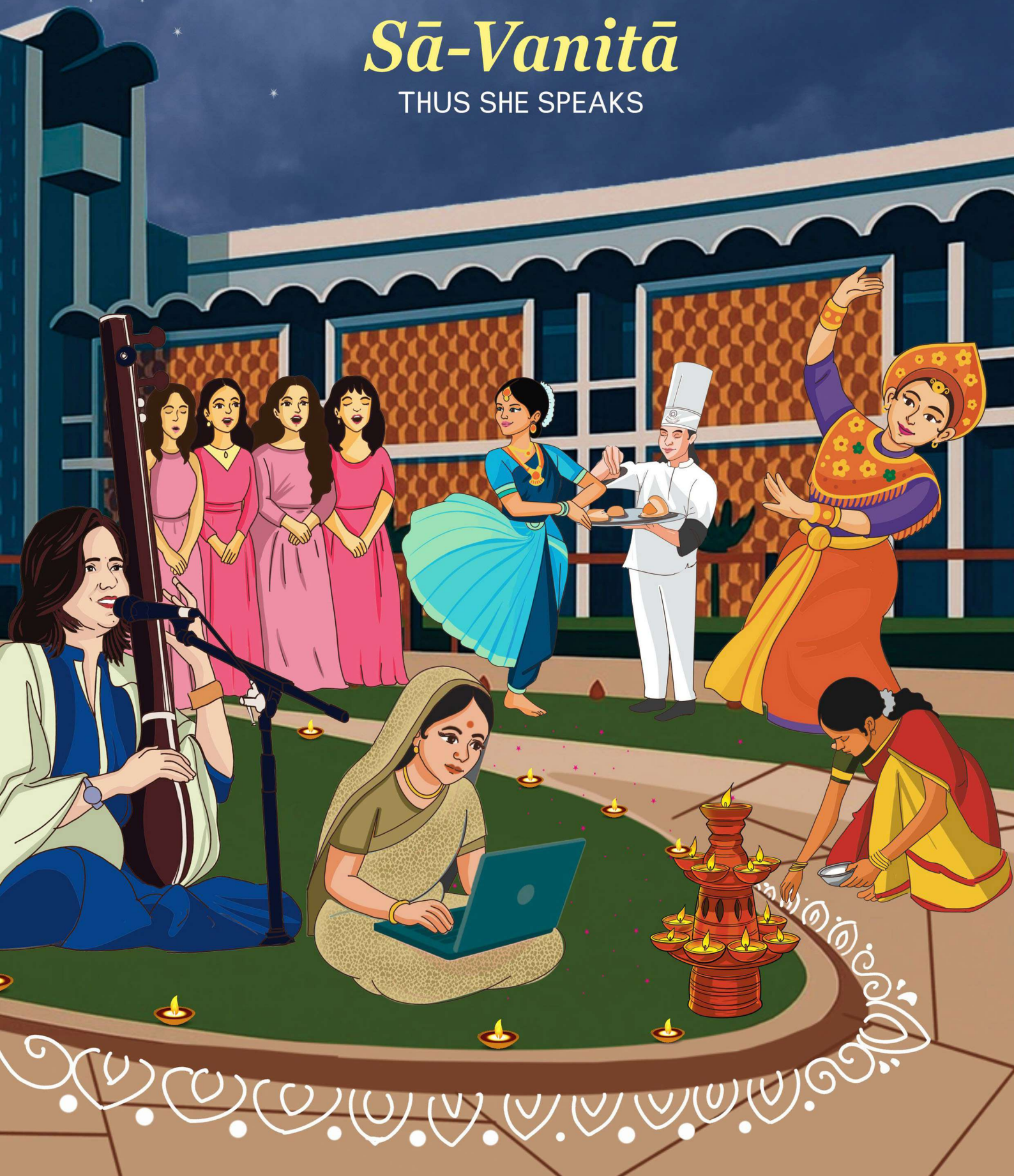
A Festival of The Arts

Exhibitions | Cultural | Talks | Films | Cuisine

THE
IIC
EXPERIENCE

Sā-Vanitā

THUS SHE SPEAKS





A FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

Sā Vanitā: Thus she Speaks **10–14 October 2025**

FESTIVAL CURTAIN RAISER

	THURSDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2025
4:00 PM	<p>SHUNYA– THE POWER OF ZERO</p> <p>An exhibition of Manuscripts</p> <p>Inauguration by Shri Vivek Aggarwal, Secretary, Ministry of Culture on Thursday, 9 October 2025 at 4:00 pm</p> <p>The exhibition will remain on view from 10 to 16 October 2025, 11 am to 7 pm</p> <p>(Organised by the IIC–International Research Division)</p> <p>Venue: Art Gallery, IIC Annexe</p>
6:30 PM	<p>Keynote address</p> <p>DEPTH SOUNDING OUR UNSEEN HISTORIES</p> <p>Address by Smt. Mrinal Pande, eminent writer and journalist, Ex-Chairperson of Prasar Bharati</p> <p>Chair: Shri Shyam Saran, President , IIC</p> <p>Venue: C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium</p>

FRIDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2025

4:00 PM

Ink And Eternity: Priceless Collection Of Darbhanga And Nalanda

An exhibition of collections of books, manuscripts, posters, and rare possessions of Darbhanga and Nalanda.

Inauguration by **Dr Meenakshi Gopinath**, Life Trustee, IIC on **10 October at 4 pm**

*The exhibition will remain on view until **14 October 2025, 11 am to 7 pm***

(Collaboration: Lalit Narayan Mithila University, Darbhanga; Kameshwar Singh Darbhanga Sanskrit University; Nav Nalanda Mahavihara, and Nalanda University)

Venue: Conference Room I

5:30 PM

FORMS IN CONTINUUM: NARRATIVES IN MODERN INDIAN SCULPTURE

From the collection of **DAG**

Inauguration by **Shri Shyam Saran**, President, IIC on **Friday 10 October at 5:30 pm**

*The exhibition will remain on view until **14 October 2025, 11 am to 7 pm***

(Collaboration: DAG)

Venue: Gandhi – King Memorial Plaza

<p>6:30 PM</p>	<p>INAUGURATION OF THE FESTIVAL By Shri Shyam Saran, President, IIC</p> <p>Followed by Bharatnatyam Recital By Malavika Sarukkai</p> <p>Accompanists: Ms. Neela Sukhanya S ; Ms. Krithika Arvind; Mr. Nellai Balaji Azhwar; and Mr. S.Venkata Subramanian</p> <p><i>Venue: Fountain Lawns</i></p>
<p>8:00 PM</p>	<p>FOOD FESTIVAL: CELEBRATING WOMEN CHEFS</p> <p>Spice Route: Coastal Food from Andhra Curated by: Rekha Rigo</p> <p><i>Venue: Rose Garden</i></p>
<p>8:30 PM</p>	<p>FILM FESTIVAL: WOMEN AT THE CENTRE Curator: Shivendra Singh Dungarpur, award-winning filmmaker and Archivist, Director, Film Heritage Foundation</p> <p>Bhumika(India) (142 mins; 1977; Hindi)</p> <p>Director: Shyam Benegal</p> <p>(Remembering Smita Patil on her 70th Birthday)</p> <p><i>Venue: C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium</i></p>

SATURDAY, 11 OCTOBER 2025

10:00 AM

FILM SCREENING AND CONVERSATION

'The Last Migration – Wild Elephant Capture in Sarguja' (49 mins)

Directed by **Mike Pandey**

A Conversation with **Mike Pandey**, *Indian film maker and conservationist*

Moderator: **Madhur Nangia**, wildlife photographer

Venue: C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium

11:30 AM

A STAR NAMED ARUNDHATI

An exhibition on the well-known Bengali actress, director and singer, Arundhati Devi

Curated by **Mrinalini Vasudevan and Tapati Guha-Thakurta**

Inauguration by **Shri Ashwajit Singh**, *Trustee on 11th October 2025 at 11:30 am*

The exhibition will remain on view until 25 October 2025, 11 am to 7 pm

Venue: Art Gallery, Kamaladevi Complex

2:00 PM

FILM FESTIVAL: WOMEN AT THE CENTRE

Kshudhita Pashan (*The Hungry Stones*)
(109 mins; 1960; Bengali with English Subtitles)

Director: Tapan Sinha

National Film Award for 2nd best feature film, 1960.

Venue: C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium

<p>4:00 PM</p>	<p>BREAKING THE FRAME: WOMEN'S SHIFTING ROLES IN MEDIA</p> <p>Panel discussion with Malini Parthasarthy, Palki Sharma, and Neerja Choudhury</p> <p>Chair: Sonia Singh, former Editorial Director, Anchor, NDTV Group</p> <p><i>Venue: Conference Room II</i></p>
<p>6:30 PM</p>	<p>DIVA : THE TRIUMPH OF WOMAN IN OPERA</p> <p>Choral music presented by an all-women's ensemble from the Neemrana Foundation</p> <p>Chief Guest: Dr Shailesh Nayak, Life Trustee, IIC.</p> <p><i>Venue: Fountain Lawns</i></p>
<p>8:00 PM</p>	<p>FOOD FESTIVAL: CELEBRATING THE WOMEN CHEFS</p> <p>Shonar Bangla Bhoj: A Bengali Culinary Tapestry</p> <p>Curated by: Samita Haldar</p> <p><i>Venue: Rose Garden</i></p>
<p>8:30 PM</p>	<p>FILM FESTIVAL: WOMEN AT THE CENTRE</p> <p>Pride and Prejudice (UK) (127 min; 2005; English)</p> <p>Director: Joe Wright</p> <p><i>Nominated for 4 Academy Awards including Best Actress (Keira Knightley). Won BAFTA for Best Costume Design.</i></p> <p><i>Venue: C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium</i></p>

SUNDAY, 12 OCTOBER 2025

11:00 AM

STREE RATNAS- WOMEN COMPOSERS OF BHARAT

Traditional storytelling form from South India, a composite art form including storytelling; poetry; music; drama; and dance

Presented by **Vishakha Hari** who will focus on women composers

Accompanists: **Idappally Ajith Kumar** (violin); **S.J. Arjun Ganesh** (mridangam)

Chief Guest: **Shri. K.N. Shrivastava**, Director, IIC

Venue: C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium

12:30 PM

FOOD FESTIVAL: CELEBRATING THE WOMEN CHEFS

Sunday Brunch: Flavours of Gujarat

Curated by: **The members of SEWA, Gujarat**

(Collaboration: SEWA, Gujarat)

Venue: Rose Garden

12:30 PM

FILM FESTIVAL: WOMEN AT THE CENTRE

Mary Poppins (US)

(1964; 139 min; English)

Director: **Robert Stevenson**

Recipient of 5 Academy Awards including Best Actress (Julie Andrews).

Venue: C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium

<p>3:00 PM</p>	<p>FILM FESTIVAL: WOMEN AT THE CENTRE</p> <p>The Nun's Story (US) (1959; 152 min; English)</p> <p>Director: Fred Zinnemann</p> <p><i>Nominated for 8 Academy Awards including Best Actress (Audrey Hepburn).</i></p> <p>Venue: C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium</p>
<p>4:00 PM</p>	<p>Talk</p> <p>WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURE IN INDIA: CHANGING THE HISTORICAL CANON</p> <p>Illustrated talk by Madhavi Desai, architect, researcher and writer</p> <p>Chair: Mr Abhay Purohit, President, Council of Architecture, Nagpur</p> <p>Venue: Conference Room II</p>
<p>6:30 PM</p>	<p>THE SPLENDOUR OF MALAY DANCE: FROM TRADITION TO CONTEMPORARY DANCE</p> <p>Presented by the dance group from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia – ASK DANCE Company</p> <p>Chief Guest: Dr Mahesh Verma, Trustee, IIC</p> <p>Venue : Fountain Lawns</p>
<p>8:00 PM</p>	<p>FOOD FESTIVAL: CELEBRATING THE WOMEN CHEF</p> <p>Begum-e-Dilli: The Flavours of Old Delhi Curated by: Gunjan Goela</p> <p>Venue: Rose Garden</p>

8:30 PM	FILM FESTIVAL: WOMEN AT THE CENTRE Meghe Dhaka Tara (127min; 1960; Bengali with English subtitles) Director: Ritwik Ghatak A tribute on his 100 th birth anniversary <i>Venue: C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium</i>
	MONDAY, 13 OCTOBER 2025
10:00 AM	FILM FESTIVAL: WOMEN AT THE CENTRE Arth (138 mins; Hindi; 1982) Director: Mahesh Bhatt <i>Venue: C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium</i>
11:30 AM	Panel Discussion ‘WOMEN, WORK, RESILIENCE AND PEACE SEWA’s role in Empowerment of Women in India’s informal economy Keynote Speaker: Reema Nanavaty , Director SEWA Chair: Dr Bina Agarwal , Professor of Development Economics and Environment, Global Development Institute, University of Manchester, UK; former Director, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi Video Screening of “Swacch Aakash” followed by summary Remarks <i>Venue: Conference Room-II</i>

<p>1:00 PM</p>	<p>FILM FESTIVAL: WOMEN AT THE CENTRE</p> <p>All About Eve (US) (1950; 138 min; English)</p> <p>Director: Joseph L. Mankiewicz</p> <p><i>Recipient of 6 Academy Awards including Best Picture.</i></p> <p>Venue: C.D.Deshmukh Auditorium</p>
<p>3:00 PM</p>	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>ROLE OF WOMEN IN POLITICS IN INDIA- THEN AND NOW With Aparajita Sarangi; Bansuri Swaraj, Atishi Marlena, Sudha Ramakrishnan, and Iqra Hasan</p> <p>Chair: Sonia Singh, former Editorial Director, Anchor, NDTV Group</p> <p>Venue: Conference Room II</p>
<p>4:00 PM</p>	<p>FILM FESTIVAL: WOMEN AT THE CENTRE</p> <p>Erin Brockovich (US) (2000; 130 min; English)</p> <p>Director: Steven Soderbergh</p> <p><i>Recipient of Academy Award for Best Actress (Julia Roberts)</i></p> <p>Venue: C.D.Deshmukh Auditorium</p>
<p>5:00 PM</p>	<p>RELEASE OF THE IIC QUARTERLY: AUTUMN 2025 Edited by Omita Goyal, Chief Editor IIC</p> <p>To be released by Shri. N.N. Vohra, Life Trustee, IIC</p> <p>Venue: Gandhi-King Memorial Plaza</p>

<p>6:30 PM</p>	<p>HINDUSTANI VOCAL RECITAL</p> <p>By Sniti Mishra, Hindustani classical singer</p> <p>Accompanists: Shri Ajeet Pathak on tabla; Shri Milind Kulkarni on harmonium; and Shri Hrishikesh Majumdar on flute</p> <p>Chief Guest: Shri N.N. Vohra, Life Trustee, IIC</p> <p><i>Venue: Fountain Lawns</i></p>
<p>8:00 PM</p>	<p>FOOD FESTIVAL: CELEBRATING THE WOMEN CHEF</p> <p>La Table Française</p> <p>Curated by: Vijay, Executive Chef, IIC</p> <p><i>Venue: Rose Garden</i></p>
<p>8:30 PM</p>	<p>FILM FESTIVAL: WOMEN AT THE CENTRE</p> <p>Rudali</p> <p>(128 mins;1993; Hindi)</p> <p>Director: Kalpana Lajmi</p> <p><i>Venue: C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium</i></p>
	<p>TUESDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2025</p>
<p>11:00 AM</p>	<p>FILM FESTIVAL: WOMEN AT THE CENTRE</p> <p>Rear Window (UK)</p> <p>(111 min; 1954; English)</p> <p>Director: Alfred Hitchcock</p> <p><i>Nominated for 4 Academy Awards. Ranked among AFI's 100 Greatest American Films.</i></p> <p><i>Venue: C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium</i></p>

<p>2:00 PM</p>	<p>FILM FESTIVAL: WOMEN AT THE CENTRE</p> <p>Tár (US) (2022; 158 min; 2022; English)</p> <p>Director: Todd Field</p> <p>Nominated for 6 Academy Awards including Best Picture and Best Actress (Cate Blanchett). Won Golden Globe for Best Actress.</p> <p>Venue: C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium</p>
<p>4:00 PM</p>	<p>WORKING FOR AN EQUAL WORLD</p> <p>Panel Discussion by leading Women from Northeast</p> <p>Panelists: Ms Patricia Mukhim, social activist, writer, journalist and Editor of The Shillong Times; Prof Rakhee Kalita Moral, Professor and Head Department of English and Chair, Centre for Women's Studies Cotton University; Dr Stuti Goswami, Associate Professor, Department of English, The Assam Royal Global University, Guwahati; and Dr Purnima Burman, Indian wildlife biologist</p> <p>Moderator: Sanjoy Hazarika, writer, journalist and human rights activist</p> <p>Chair: Rami Chhabra, veteran media person, author and social activist</p> <p>Venue: Conference room II</p>
<p>6:30 PM</p>	<p>NANGIAR KOOTHU</p> <p>Emancipation of Ahalya by Usha Nangiar</p> <p>Accompanists: Rajeev PP; Vineesh; Unnikrishnan PP; and Athira Hariharan</p> <p>Chief Guest: Shri K.N.Shrivastava, Director, IIC</p> <p>Venue: Fountain Lawns</p>

8:00 PM	FOOD FESTIVAL: CELEBRATING THE WOMEN CHEFS Baghar-e-Magadh- Culinary tour of flavourful Bihar Curated by: Shacchi Anand Venue: Rose Garden
8:30 PM	FILM FESTIVAL: WOMEN AT THE CENTRE An Officer and a Gentleman (US) (124 min; 1982; English)) Director: Taylor Hackford <i>Recipient of 2 Academy Awards including Best Supporting Actor (Louis Gossett Jr.) and Best Original Song ('Up Where We Belong').</i> Venue: C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium

Tea/coffee and light snacks will be available on payment in the Gandhi-King Memorial Plaza and Main Verandah from 11 am to 7 pm

Brunch and Dinners on payment

Admission to all the cultural programmes is free of charge. For film screenings, entry will be allowed 30 minutes before each screening.

Venues:

Cultural performances – **Fountain Lawns**

Film screenings – **C.D. Deshmukh Auditorium**

Cuisine – **Rose Garden**

Talks – **Conference Room II**

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