

Living Traditions: Rhythms of the Rann

~ NCPA presents the living heritage and folk music traditions of Kutch

~ March 1 | Experimental Theatre

Mumbai, February 2014: The National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA), India's premiere art and culture institution presents the folk music traditions of Kutch as part of the NCPA Living Traditions: Rhythms of the Rann: Pluralistic musical traditions of Kutch on March 1 2014.

The event will showcase three documentary films on the living heritage of Kutch (ecology, culture, arts etc.) from 10 am onwards and will come to a close with a presentation of the musical traditions of the region.

Kutch, one of the most ecologically and ethnically diverse district of the state is a celebratory land of art, crafts, music, dance, people and nature. The three documentary films bring to screen tales of the ecological conservation issues in Kutch (*Kutch: A Fragile Frontier*), the region's immensely skilled artisans (*Tanko Bole Chhe*) and the music that developed there (*Do Din Ka Mela*).

The festival will also bring to stage a presentation of the syncretic musical traditions of Kutch. The sound of Kutch is vast with 40 different types of Kutchi folk music. From the Sufism influenced musical forms of the maldharis (cattle herders) which traces its origin in Sindh, to the bhajans influenced by saints of Kutch, Saurashtra, and Marwad, and the Dhamal of the Sindhi tribe, the music is alive through varied communities.

Speaking on the occasion, **Dr. Suvarnalata Rao, Head — Programming (Indian Music), NCPA**, says, "*Kutch may be Gujarat's most barren region, but it has given birth to people with the most fertile imagination. Kutch presents an epitome of the larger story of India - constant invasions; of fusion of culture, donning a sense of nationalism. Be it films, music or literature, Kutchis have left their imprint on everything creative. This unique programming will bring Kutch closer to Mumbai and we are confident that Mumbaikars will love this tradition*"

Apart from the music, NCPA will be hosting a photo exhibition titled 'Images of Kutch'. This will be on display in the Experimental Theater Foyer on March 1, from 10am to 9pm.

Highlights

- Living Traditions is a festival that celebrates regional folk traditions of India
- This year the festival focuses on Rhythms of the Rann; the folk traditions of Kutch on March 1 2014
- Three documentary films will be screened, showcasing the living heritage of Kutch; *Kutch: A Fragile Frontier*, *Tanko Bole Chhe*, *Do Din Ka Mela*
- This one day festival will be concluded by a performance of the musical traditions of Kutch
- Taking the rich folk traditions of Kutch to wider audience, NCPA has tied-up with Doordarshan to broadcast the event
- There will be a photo exhibition titled 'Images of Kutch'

SCHEDULE:

Date and time	Event	Venue	Tickets
Saturday, 1 st March – 10 am	Living Traditions Rhythms of the Rann: Documentary Screenings - Kutch: A Fragile Frontier - Tanko Bole Chhe (The Stitches Speak) - Do Din Ka Mela (A Two Day Fair)	Godrej Dance Theatre	Admission is free & open to all
Saturday 1 st March- 7 pm	Living Traditions Rhythms of the Rann Concept & coordination: Survani, Kutch Mahila Vikas Sangthan	Experimental Theatre	Tickets: 300, 200 Members: 270, 180

About NCPA Living Traditions:

India is one of the most musical and musically diverse countries in the world. Each region has its own distinctly rich legacy of artistic and cultural traditions. The regional folk melodies and rhythms, which are vibrant and living among the rural masses of India, have had influence on the evolution of Indian art (classical) music. *NCPA Living Traditions* is an ongoing series showcasing the folk traditions of different regions of India. Started in 2009, the NCPA has presented traditions of Rajasthan, Assam, Bengal, Gujarat and Goa.

Box Office

Tickets: Rs 270 and Rs 180 for members

Tickets: Rs 300 and Rs 200 for public

To use the online booking facility, visit www.ncpamumbai.com/buy-tickets

Facebook: www.facebook.com/NCPAMumbai; Twitter: www.twitter.com/NCPAMumbai

Call **66223724/ 66223754** to book tickets

To use the online booking facility, visit the NCPA official website:

<http://www.ncpamumbai.com/buy-tickets>

Or visit: www.bookmyshow.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/NCPAMumbai

Twitter: www.twitter.com/NCPAMumbai

About the NCPA:

Opening its doors to the world in 1969, the NCPA became the first multi-venue and multi-purpose cultural centre to be built in South Asia. Vibrant and diverse, the NCPA today is recognized by artistes, patrons and media alike as India's premier performing arts institution. The Centre provides a fine showcase for India's rich performing arts traditions, all thanks to the institution's training and research initiatives.

The NCPA presents over 600 events each year across all major art forms, most notably Indian Music, International Music, Theatre and Film, Dance, and Literature, Visual Arts and Photography. There are Heads of Programming for each of these art forms who curate innovative events and festivals; representative of everything

from classical to contemporary throughout the year. The NCPA produces its own programmes as well as collaborates with leading cultural promoters from around the world.

For media queries ONLY please contact:
MSLGROUP

TasneemPedhiwala; Mob: 09833546952; Email: tasneem.pedhiwala@mslgroup.com

Parina Parekh; Mob: 09773518679; Email: parina.parekh@mslgroup.com

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