

NCPA presents the 6th edition

NCPA Sama'a: The Mystic Ecstasy – Festival of Sufi Music

7 – 9 November | NCPA

Highlights of NCPA Sama'a

- A documentary & poetry recitation by Padma Shri Muzaffar Ali
- Dargahi Qawwali by Nasir & Nazir Ahmed Khan Warsi of Hyderabad
- A unique dance performance - *Dervish* by Turkish born Austrian dancer Ziya Azazi
- Sufiana songs by celebrated Bollywood singer Kailash Kher

Mumbai: 30 October, 2014: National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA), India's premiere art and culture institution, presents the sixth edition of its annual three-day Sufi Music Festival - *Sama'a: The Mystic Ecstasy* from Friday, 7th November to Sunday, 9th November, 2014. One of the very few holistic Sufi music festivals in the country, this extraordinary spiritual and musical journey is set to come alive with beautiful performances by Sufi musicians and dancer.

The festival will open with a screening of a documentary by Muzaffar Ali, '**Breathe into Me**', based on the Sufi mystic and poet, Mevlana Rumi and rendering of Rumi's verses by Muzaffar Ali. This would be followed by a **Dargahi Qawwali** performance by the famous Hyderabad based brothers, Nasir & Nazir Ahmed Khan Warsi. The second day of the festival will witness the screening of two **documentaries by Muzaffar Ali** on the journey of Sufism in India and a solo dance performance **DERVISH**, by the Turkish born Austrian dancer & choreographer **Ziya Azazi**, whose dance aims at transforming the usual whirling dervish image and the classical Sufi dance into a spectacular form. The festival will conclude with the soulful rendition of Sufi songs by the famous Bollywood singer **Kailash Kher**.

Dr. Suvarnalata Rao, Research Scientist & Head – Programming (Indian Music), NCPA said, "Sama'a is a festival which allows audiences to experience the mysticism associated with Sufi practices. Over the years, the festival has evolved into a space where Sufi music, dance and poetry form the language of friendship, sharing and brotherhood."

Over thousands of years the Sufi way has provided a gateway for seekers - poets, dancers, and teachers who have broken through the boundaries of tradition, religion and society, as they devote themselves to the direct connection between themselves and divinity in the path of love. Sama'a, an Arabic word for 'to listen', is a word used to describe the Sufi practice which helps attain spiritual ecstasy through song, music and dance

Date/Time	Venue	Details
7/11/2014 (5.30 pm)	Experimental	Breathe into Me - Documentary & Poetry Recitation by Muzaffar Ali
7/11/2014 (7.30 pm)	Experimental	Nasir & Nazir Ahmed Khan Warsi - Qawwali Performance
8/11/2014 (5.30 pm)	Godrej	Two Documentaries by Muzaffar Ali: India, the Garden of Saints & Nisbat
8/11/2014 (7.00 pm)	Tata	DERVISH by Ziya Azazi - Dance Performance
9/11/2014 (6.30 pm)	Tata	Sufiana Songs by Kailash Kher

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.

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