

## Kiran Nadar Museum of Art kick starts the Cultural Season

Echoes/Constellation | Aakash Odedra | The Ultimate Fusion of Past and Future in Dance



**New Delhi, 26 September 2023:** Kiran Nadar Museum of Art is back with another exciting performance as we celebrate the beginning of a new cultural season on **Saturday, October 7, 2023**, at the enchanting Sunder Nursery in New Delhi. Visitors will experience an incredible Double Bill from award-winning dancer and choreographer **Aakash Odedra** featuring two solo performances titled ***Echoes and Constellation***, transcending the boundaries of time and space and uniting the wisdom of the past with the innovation of the future.

The cultural season is a testament to the museum's commitment to nurturing and celebrating the arts, music, dance, and more. As part of this season, visitors can look forward to a diverse array of events and performances in the months ahead.

A mesmerising evening featuring two pieces **choreographed by acclaimed artists Aditi Mangaldas and Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui**. Each work draws on Aakash's traditional background in **Kathak and Bharatanatyam** to create a distinct flavour of contemporary and South Asian Dance. This performance offers a rare opportunity to experience an astonishing evening of dance by one of the most talented British South Asian dancers of this generation.

**Kiran Nadar, Chairperson, Kiran Nadar Museum of Art commented, "We are thrilled to begin this year's cultural season with Aakash Odedra, whose artistic brilliance knows no bounds and captivates audiences worldwide. This performance exemplifies our commitment to celebrating diversity in culture and cultivating a deep love for various art forms, which serves as a powerful tool for connecting people."**

**Aakash Odedra adds, "I am very excited for this long awaited reunion with lots of Delhi art lovers and friends because I am performing after 12 long years in Delhi at the Sunder Nursery. I am very excited to have this honour to perform at the Sunder Nursery and I am super grateful to Kiran Nadar Museum of Art for commissioning this piece and giving me the opportunity to literally share 12 years of long awaited love."**

***Echoes***

**Choreography: Aditi Mangaldas**

Lighting: Fabiana Piccioli

Music: Shubha Mudgal and Aneesh Pradhan

Rehearsal Directors: Dheerendra Tiwari and Amit Khinchi

The resonance of the bells awaken us to the now. A breath and senses awakens. LIFE awakens me. Bells have been a constant companion of every Indian classical dancer. They have aged with one, in a way they have resonated one's life through the process of dance. Should these bells just be a part of a given tradition? Become a ritual and thus in a way be "dead"? Can they not be "alive" in the present? The bells in Echoes become a metaphor of resonance, of freedom, of awakening. Echoes is an exhilarating, high-octane Kathak dance experience which explores our relationships with our ancestors. The piece is choreographed by Kathak icon, Aditi Mangaldas, who is renowned for her artistry, energy and for breaking new ground, adding a contemporary twist to this stunning form of Indian dance.

Credits: Co-produced by Curve Theatre (Leicester), DanceXchange (Birmingham), La Comete (Chalons-en-Champagne) and generously supported using Lottery Funds through Arts Council England.

***Constellation***

**Choreography: Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui**

Lighting: Willy Cessa

Music: Olga Wojciechowska

Rehearsal Directors: Paul Zivkovich and Lewis Major

Lighting & thunder. Light & sound. The illusions of distance and nearness they convey in a sky that deceptively appears as a constant. Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui has been fascinated by the different images these convey, while their source is often one and the same. He seeks to highlight different patterns of sound and different sources of light that come together to create a constellation, a system where things are kept suspended and in movement by each other's gravitational fields & contending forces. By the flow of light and sound emanating from darkness and their return to that state. All this with and through Aakash as the locus, the astral body generating its own rhythms and luminosity.

Credits (CONSTELLATION): Rising was commissioned by AKCT (London), DanceXchange (Birmingham), Sampad (Birmingham), Eastman (Antwerp), The Hat Factory (Luton), Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Dance (Leicester), South East Dance (Brighton), New Art Exchange (Nottingham), The Place (London), Curve Theatre (Leicester), Southbank Centre (London) and funded by Arts Council England and Akademi (London).

This event is open to the public, and tickets are available for purchase online on [insider](https://insider.kiranadar.com).

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**Note to Editors:**

**About Kiran Nadar Museum of Art:**

Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA) opened its doors to the public in January 2010. It is a pioneering private museum of Modern and Contemporary art in South Asia, with two spaces located in New Delhi and Noida. It is a not-for-profit institution with an extensive and creative engagement with exhibition-making, educational and public-focused programs, and publications. Through its rigorous and multiple programs, KNMA emphasises its commitment to institutional collaborations and support-networks for artists and creative communities, while extending its reach to diverse audiences. The Museum houses a growing collection of more than 10,000 artworks from South Asia, with a focus on the historical trajectories of 20th century Indian art, alongside the experimental practices of young contemporaries. KNMA was established through the initiative of art collector and philanthropist Kiran Nadar and is supported by the Shiv Nadar Foundation. KNMA is geared to open its new stand alone museum building in the NCR in 2025.

[www.knma.in](http://www.knma.in)

**Ongoing exhibitions at the Museum:**

**At KNMA, Noida**

***Prussian Blue: A Serendipitous Colour that Altered the Trajectory of Art***

**19 September 2023 - 10 December 2023**

Curated by Dr Arshiya Lokhandwala

**At KNMA, Saket**

***Very Small Feelings***

**4 July 2023 - 10 October 2023**

Curated by Akansha Rastogi and Diana Campbell

**Aakash Odedra**

Aakash Odedra Company was founded in Leicester in 2011 and named after Artistic Director Aakash Odedra. Aakash was born in Birmingham, UK and lives in Leicester. He is a globally recognised and award winning dancer and choreographer. His choreography pushes boundaries, responding to and drawing inspiration from contemporary issues. As a British Asian, AakashOdedra uses his voice to translate ancient and contemporary movement languages to tell new stories.

[aakashodedra.com](http://aakashodedra.com)