

### Things you shouldn't miss at **ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival** 2019

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Described by many as the 'greatest literary show on Earth', the ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival is on its way to its customary grand beginning on 24<sup>th</sup> of January 2019. The five-day event promises to bring together renowned writers, thinkers, humanitarians, politicians, business leaders, sportspeople, and entertainers from across the world to engage in meaningful debate and dialogue. The "Kumbh" of literature will be back with its brand of infectious energy on its twelfth year at its home in the historic Diggi Palace Hotel.

The Festival, a dynamic coming together of ideas, and a literary, musical, artistic, culinary and historic extravaganza, has hosted nearly 2000 speakers and welcomed over a million booklovers in the past decade. For five days, it transforms the ambience of the Pink City infusing it with vibrancy and a plethora of events across key venues. During the Festival days, attendees have a frenetic schedule of being spoilt for choice between insightful sessions, and a surrounding and thronging carnival encapsulating a book store, food stalls, a teeming bazaar, artists at work, and multiple parties hosted on the Festival's fringes.

Here are seven things to look forward to at the upcoming edition.

### The Jaipur Music Stage

The Jaipur Music Stage, which runs in the evenings from Jan 24-Jan 27 parallel to the ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival, is your passport to go on an intense discovery of a world of music in the course of four exciting days. The Music Stage brings together hitherto undiscovered collaborations and unique sounds from Indian folk to international and indie music. Performing artistes include Indian Ocean, L. Subramaniam, DubFX, Jasbir Jassi, Kutle Khan, and the Nooran Sisters, amongst others. There will be performances from across the world; heart-to-heart conversations with artistes; exclusive after parties and a 'night market', as well as a live art installation. There's also Morning Music at the Festival to look forward to, where melodious



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tunes offer the perfect start to a day of literary dialogue. Performing artistes include Barnali Chattopadhyay, Deepa Rasiya, Shruti Vishwanath, Usha Uthup and Vidya Shah.

### The Festival Bazaar

Every year, a part of the Festival is transformed into a heaving, pulsating bazar where artisans, craftsmen, and designers and entrepreneurs display and sell a vast array of hard-to-resist wares: embroidered shawls, exquisite *minakari* jewellery, funky stationery; edgy gifts; chic couture; spiffy footwear; exciting home décor.

### Heritage Evenings

Each year the Festival celebrates Jaipur's built and cultural heritage in a series of breathtaking events supported by Rajasthan Tourism. This year these will be at the Jawahar Kala Kendra and the Amber Fort. On January 25<sup>th</sup> at the Jawahar Kala Kendra will be a vibrant showcase of '**Clothing as Identity**', narrating the diversity and unity of the rich cultural traditions of Kutch through its prevalent fashions coupled with folk music. On January 26<sup>th</sup> in **An Evening of Performance and Music** at the Amber Fort will be performances including **Theyyam**, a ritualistic art form from Kerala, **Sitar Ensemble**: Shakir Khan and Azeem Ahmed Alvi with Ustad Akram Khan and Hafeez Ahmed Alvi, and **3G**: Three Generations of Percussion by Vidwan Vikku Vinayakram and V. Selvaganesh

### Book-signing Sessions and Launches

If you are literary groupie and will do anything to stalk your favourite author and queue up at dawn to buy his/her latest release as soon as it hits the stores, the Festival has special book-signing kiosks at all venues and you can get authors like Anita Nair, Anuradha Roy, Ben Okri, Colson Whitehead, Gulzar, Germaine Greer, Jeffery Archer, Shabana Azmi, Shashi Tharoor, Sohaila Abdulali and many more to sign copies on the sidelines of their sessions. You can also look forward to the launches of the latest works like Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni's *The Forest of Enchantment*, Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd's *From a Shepherd Boy* to an Intellectual, Navin Chawla's *Every Vote Counts: The Story of Elections in India*, Namita Gokhale and Pushpesh Pant's *Raag Pahaadi*.



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### The Delegate Experience

While the Festival is open to all, a special experience can be sought through curated Delegated Packages which give an opportunity for a close-up view of the Festival. As a Festival Delegate, you can access a well-stocked and luxurious Delegate Lounge to take a break, sip *chai*, bite into a *samosa* and recharge your phone; attend exclusive Delegate-only sessions at a dedicated venue, meet interesting people from around the world at the Delegate-only lunches, be invited to a swish Delegate Cocktail, get access to the spectacular Jaipur Music Stage and get invited to attend the magnificent Heritage Evenings These Delegate Packages range from ₹6,000 per day to ₹23,000 for five days.

### A Culinary Treat

The five days of festivities at the Festival also offer a chance to indulge in a delectable culinary affair. A large number of food stalls spring up at the Festival Hub serving a variety of cuisines and beverages ranging from *paranthas*, sandwiches, and pizzas to even *rajma-chawal* and the Diggi family's special *palak-patta chaat* and *khullad-chai*.

### Art at JLF

Whether you're a fan of Marc Quinn, arguably one of the leading contemporary artistes today or have a soft spot for the various traditional art forms of India, or just want a stunning backdrop for that picture perfect moment, there's plenty of art going around at the Festival. Marc Quinn will feature in a session After Bloodhead, exploring what it is to be human in the world today through subjects including the body, genetics, identity, environment and the media. There will be a live public art demonstration by Abhishek Singh who will capture the Festival on canvass over the five days, and another one by Jaipur based artist Sandip Gomay who uses live human models as his canvas and inanimate objects or subjects in a way that collapses depth and make his models appear two dimensional when photographed. The artwork is such that when spectators get their pictures clicked, it'll appear as if they have just entered a painting. Also on display will be tribal "Warli" art presented by the Ojas Art Award, featuring works of the 2019 edition's Master Artist **Rajesh Chaitya Vangad**, and Protégé Artists **Tushar Vayeda** and **Mayur Vayeda**.



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### NOTES TO MEDIA PERSONS

Information on **Registration** for the ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival can be found here: <a href="https://jaipurliteraturefestival.org/registration/">https://jaipurliteraturefestival.org/registration/</a>

For **media enquiries** on the ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival, please contact Edelman India: IndiaJLF@edelman.com

### About the ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival 2019

Described as the 'greatest literary show on Earth', the ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival is a sumptuous feast of ideas.

The past decade has seen it transform into a global literary phenomenon having hosted nearly 2000 speakers and welcoming over a million book lovers from across India and the globe.

The Festival's core values remain unchanged: to serve as a democratic, non-aligned platform offering free and fair access.

Every year, the Festival brings together a diverse mix of the world's greatest writers, thinkers, humanitarians, politicians, business leaders, sports people and entertainers on one stage to champion the freedom to express and engage in thoughtful debate and dialogue.

Writers and Festival Directors Namita Gokhale and William Dalrymple, alongside producers Teamwork Arts, invite speakers to take part in the five-day programme set against the backdrop of Rajasthan's stunning cultural heritage and the Diggi Palace in the state capital Jaipur.



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Past speakers have ranged from Nobel Laureates J.M. Coetzee, Orhan Pamuk and Muhammad Yunus, Man Booker Prize winners Ian McEwan, Margaret Atwood and Paul Beatty, Sahitya Akademi winners Girish Karnad, Gulzar, Javed Akhtar, M.T. Vasudevan Nair as well as the late Mahasweta Devi and U.R. Ananthamurthy along with literary superstars including Amish Tripathi, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie and Vikram Seth. An annual event that goes beyond literature, the Festival has also hosted Amartya Sen, Amitabh Bachchan, the late A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama, Oprah Winfrey, Stephen Fry, Thomas Piketty and former president of Afghanistan, Hamid Karzai.

The ZEE Jaipur Literature Festival is a flagship event of Teamwork Arts, which produces it along with over 25 highly acclaimed performing arts, visual arts and literary festivals across more than 40 cities globally.

Over the years, Teamwork Arts has produced ZEE JLF at The British Library, ZEE JLF at Boulder, JLF at Houston, JLF at New York and JLF in Adelaide.

Website: www.jaipurliteraturefestival.org

### About Teamwork Arts

For over 25 years, Teamwork Arts has taken India to the world and brought the world to India.

In countries such as Australia, Canada, Egypt, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Korea, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, UK and USA, Teamwork produces over 25 highly acclaimed performing arts, visual arts and literary festivals across more than 40 cities.

Teamwork Arts produces one of the world's largest literary gatherings, the annual <u>ZEE Jaipur Literature</u> <u>Festival</u>, the <u>Ishara International Puppet Festival</u> and the annual <u>Mahindra Excellence in Theatre Awards</u> (<u>META</u>) and <u>Festival</u> in New Delhi, international festivals <u>Shared History</u> in South Africa, <u>Eye on India</u> in the United States of America, <u>India by the Bay</u> in Hong Kong, <u>Confluence - Festival of India</u> in Australia, <u>India@70</u> <u>2017: Year of Culture in the United Kingdom</u>, and many more.



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Royal Opera House, Mumbai is widely touted as Mumbai's Cultural Crown Jewel and India's only surviving Opera House. The original idea for the space was conceived of in 1908, inaugurated in 1911 by King George V, and eventually completed in 1916. The design incorporated a blend of European and Indian detailing. The space became a cinema in later years before falling into disrepair and shutting by the 1990s. Fittingly, the space has been owned by the Royal Family of Gondal since 1952 and was eventually restored by conservation architect, Abha Narain Lambah under the leadership of His Highness, Maharaja Shri Jyotendrasinhji of Gondal. The Royal Opera House Mumbai, now one of the last remaining Baroque structures in the city, reopened after 23 years in October 2016. The building was included on the 2012 World Monuments Watch to raise awareness about its history and significance, and support preservation efforts. The building has since been recognized with an Award of Merit in the 2017 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation. The restored facilities feature a 575-seater 3-level auditorium with an orchestra pit and state of the art technological upgradations, including acoustics, stagecraft, lighting and air-conditioning, alongside retaining the old world charm of the proscenium stage, the royal boxes and the magnificent regal chandeliers. Some more enhancements to the venue include a motorized screen, co-axial ceiling speaker system, Four-zone volume control and all round wifi access. Today, it stands as a key performance and creative hub in the city's cultural landscape, while being a premier heritage landmark.

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Avid Learning, a public programming platform and cultural arm of the Essar Group, has conducted over 950 programs and connected with more than 100,000 individuals since its inception in 2009. Driven by the belief that Learning Never Stops, AVID's multiple formats like Workshops, Panel Discussions, Gallery Walkthroughs, and Festival Platforms create a dynamic and interactive atmosphere that stimulates intellectual and creative growth across the fields of Culture & Heritage, Literature, Art and Innovation.

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