



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **INDIAN SUMMER FESTIVAL: 11<sup>th</sup> EDITION LINEUP AND DATES**

**Festival to feature five weeks of online events from June 17<sup>th</sup> to July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**Vancouver, BC (May 19, 2021) – Indian Summer Festival**, Vancouver’s ‘festival for the curious mind,’ marks its 11th anniversary with five weeks of ten events, streamed on digital channels at 7:00 pm PST every Thursday and Saturday from June 17<sup>th</sup> to July 17<sup>th</sup>. For event details, access and ticketing, please visit [indiansummerfest.ca](http://indiansummerfest.ca).

Early bird pricing for the ISF2021 Premium Pass is \$285, including Opening Party including access to afterparty and goodies delivered to Lower Mainland residences. Early bird pricing is valid until May 31st, regular price of \$325. Digital Pass to access the entire festival is \$50. All additional events have a sliding scale of no fee, \$10 or \$20, as the festival understands that this is a difficult time for many.

“For this 11th year for the 2021 Indian Summer Festival, we thought that our theme should be “Shapeshifting,” says Sirish Rao, Indian Summer Festival’s Artistic Director. “It’s something that we’ve all had to do in the last year, and shapeshifters have existed in almost every culture.”

“Through the festival, we have planned ten distinct events for all of us to experience music, performing arts and literary discussions so we can experience the true transformative power of the arts. The arts give us levity, solace and help us make sense of our predicament and imagine our futures.”

“As with most of us working in arts and culture, we’ve become very creative this year with ways that our audience can experience the Indian Summer Festival,” adds Rao, “From premium passes that include door-delivered dinner and wine, to digital passes to access shows, we’ve become our own Shapeshifters to deliver an innovative digital and hybrid experience.”

The festival sees a stunning global cast of talent from beatboxers to tabla maestros, novelists and actors.

### **2021 Indian Summer Festival event schedule includes:**

**Date:** Thursday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
**Event:** Indian Summer Festival Opening Party - Metamorphosis featuring Laydy Jams, Shamik Bilgi, Her Tribal Roots and Kamal Pandya  
**Time:** 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm for general music admission  
8:00 pm - 9:00 pm for premium pass holders

Guests can purchase a Premium Pass for the Opening Party that includes exclusive access to an online afterparty, a special box of goodies delivered to your door (Lower Mainland only) on June 17, featuring a meal for two by Vikram Vij (option of vegan or non-vegetarian), paired with a bottle of wine from Volcanic Hills. Premium Passholders will have exclusive entry into a chatroulette social hour, where they'll be paired with other ISF friends and artists for multiple one-on-one conversations and performances.

**Date:** Saturday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
**Event:** Anoushka Shankar - The Musical Journey of a Shapeshifter  
An evening of music and stories with the sitar virtuoso.  
**Time:** 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm PST

**Date:** Wednesday, June 23rd, 2021  
**Event:** VOX Infold  
This special project is a rare chance to experience the music of powerhouse vocal ensemble Vox Infold in the form of an immersive sound experience. Presented at the groundbreaking Lobe Spatial Sound Studio

and using Lobe's 4DSOUND system, this is music not just as sound but as a profound experience of space and dimension. Consider it a healing sound bath. Advance booking required and experienced as an individual or in a 'household bubble.'

**Time:** TBC

**Date:** Thursday, June 24, 2021

**Event:** **Flames and Portals – Literary discussion with Kamila Shamsie and Mohsin Hamid, moderated by Anna Ling Kaye**

In 2017, two of the most exciting writers of our times – Kamila Shamsie and Mohsin Hamid – published novels that have proved to be uncannily accurate about the direction the world would take. They warned us of the future of nationalism, the tightening of political and social borders, and how our realities can become unrecognizable overnight. We meet them four years later to talk about their prescient works.

**Time:** 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm PST

**Date:** Saturday, June 26, 2021

**Event:** **Zakir Hussain - Alone Together - Zakir Hussain, featuring Mickey Hart and Rakesh Chaurasia**

An intimate evening with the tabla maestro, this online concert features Zakir Hussain performing solo and joined virtually by special guests collaborating in real-time from different parts of the world – Grateful Dead legend Mickey Hart and bansuri virtuoso Rakesh Chaurasia.

**Time:** 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm PST

**Date:** Saturday, July 3, 2021

**Event:** **Walking Tour of Punjabi Market**

Guests are welcome to join a self-guided walking tour of the Punjabi Market. Audio tour available for download at [indiansummerfest.ca](http://indiansummerfest.ca).

**Time:** All day.

#### **Punjabi Market Premium Gift Box**

Specially curated by artists Minahil Bukhari and Mustaali Raj for ISF2021, the Punjabi Market Premium Box features gorgeous items hand-picked from Vancouver's vibrant Punjabi Market. This box will be delivered to your door via Canada Post and available for order here:

<https://www.goevent.com/IndianSummer/e/PunjabiMarketBoxxx>

**Date:** Thursday, July 8, 2021

**Event:** **Ancient Futures - Musical Inheritances - Ruby Singh and Khari Wendell McLelland**

Documentary premiere on the music project Jhalaak, followed by a conversation with some of Canada's most innovative musical voices.

**Time:** 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm PST

**Date:** Saturday, July 10, 2021

**Event:** **Knives and Sugar - Avni Doshi with Souvankam Thammavongsa, moderated by Anna Ling Kaye**

A meeting of two of the most electrifying literary voices of recent times.

**Time:** 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm PST

**Date:** Friday, July 16, 2021

**Event:** **Transcendence by Anosh Irani Anosh Irani, Lois Anderson, Munish Sharma and Laara Sadiq**

From the three-time Governor General's Literary Award finalist and two-time Dora Award-winning playwright comes a new work that sits in the exciting space between theatre and film.

**Time:** 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm PST

**Date:** Saturday, July 17, 2021

**Event:** **Indian Summer Festival Finale - A Night at the Orpheum- musical performance by Naadaleela Ensemble and Mohamed Assani & Friends**

**Time:** 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm PST

#### **About Indian Summer Festival**

Established in 2011, Indian Summer Festival is a multi-disciplinary arts festival produced by Indian Summer Arts Society, a not-for-profit charitable arts organization based in Vancouver, Canada, on the unceded Coast Salish territories of the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), Səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh), and xʷməθkʷəy̍əm (Musqueam) Nations. This year's festival runs

from June 17<sup>th</sup> to July 17, 2021. Its mission is to offer daring, multi-arts events that bring together diverse artists, audiences, and artists in a global dialogue and citizenship spirit.

**For monthly festival highlights, full event lineup and access to events, please visit [indiansummerfest.ca](http://indiansummerfest.ca)**

**Follow us on:**

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