

ISF 2023
ANNUAL
REPORT



INDIAN
SUMMER
FESTIVAL

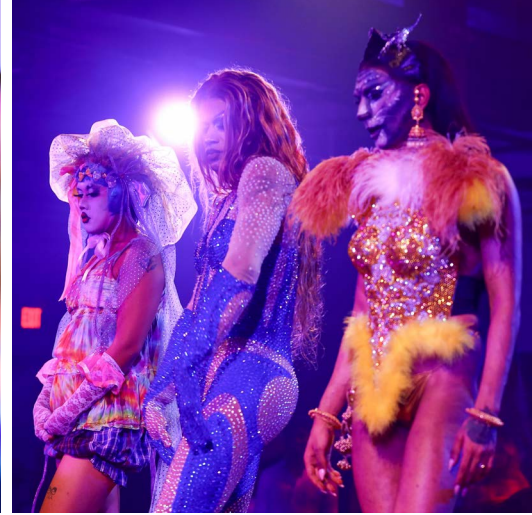
20
23



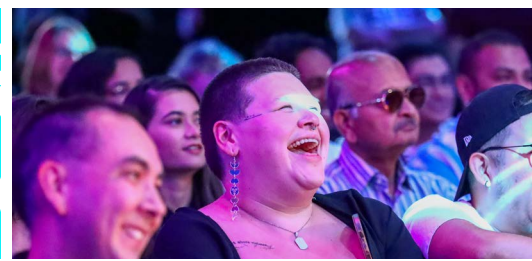
109
artists



from
11
cities



**OUR VISION
IS FOR AN
INCLUSIVE,
DIVERSE, AND
CULTURALLY-
RICH SOCIETY**



11
days

5
art mediums

*music
literature & ideas
dance
visual arts
culinary*



MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE MANAGING DIRECTOR



I look back on ISAS' thirteenth year with tremendous pride at what this organization can make possible amidst transition.

This has been a year of investing into our organizational heartbeat: the relational spaces where systems and people meet.

It was a year of risk mitigation and determining where we are most of service. We celebrated twelve years of leadership by co-founders Sirish Rao and Laura Byspalko, and we built, in community and with inspiration, toward what we might become. With shifting terrain, this is a year to celebrate our accomplishments.

It is widely held that arts organizations cannot reach lifecycle maturity until one to two generations post-founder, due to the risks that founder transitions pose to organizational viability. The confluence of ongoing pandemic economies and founder transition have been the two biggest risks our organization has ever had to navigate.

We rose to the challenge by building infrastructure to steady the course for the organization's future. Our team leaned in with passion and creativity. The board was steadfast and determined. The community of donors and partners showed goodwill and support at every turn. Artists and audiences alike were enthusiastic and generous.

We emerged with a festival that was celebratory, forward-looking, and vibrant, with new and returning audiences. We made space for stumble-upon public art, hilarious and playful performances, and signature stages for over a hundred artists. Our goals throughout have been to build internal capacity to be responsive in the present moment while planting healthy seeds for the future.

Our current position is exciting. This important year shows a significant move toward organizational maturity and presents a unique opportunity to stabilize Indian Summer into a multi-generational pillar in Vancouver's art and culture landscape. With much opportunity for growth, we have a bright future ahead.

A warm thank you from all of us to everyone who has given time, support, collaborations, ideas, and presence to the festival over the past thirteen years. To 2024 and beyond, dear friends!

LAURA JUNE ALBERT, EXECUTIVE MANAGING DIRECTOR

MESSAGE FROM BOARD CHAIR



As 2023 draws to a close, we celebrate the 13th year of the Indian Summer Arts Society, marking a pivotal moment in our journey. This year witnessed a significant shift as we welcomed our new co-Executive Directors, Pawan Deol and Laura June Albert. Infusing the

festival with a new ideas and energy, they are redefining leadership and actively involving new artists. Our enduring gratitude extends to our founders, Sirish Rao and Laura Byspalko, for laying the foundation of our journey.

The festival theme, 'inter/dependence,' underscored the vital role of the arts in our community and highlighted the strength derived from collaborative efforts. Throughout the year, our community members uplifted us, sharing impactful stories that underscore the profound influence of ISAS. The spirit of inter/dependence among the board, staff, patrons, artists, and friends continues to be our guiding force as we adapt and continue to cultivate a sense of belonging and joy. Looking ahead, the future promises fresh ideas, a renewed strategic plan, and exciting opportunities to engage with ISAS. We eagerly anticipate welcoming you in 2024.

ANGIE OSACHOFF, CHAIR



MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING

2023 Rising

It was a year of passionate commitment toward an ever-renewing vision. Amidst tremendous change, from the continued unpredictability of a post-pandemic arts landscape, rising costs of creative production, and bidding farewell to the festival founders, we dug in to create beauty with both celebration and depth.

There is nothing more natural or constant than change. We have embraced new ways of being and doing, and through it all, we are rising.

We presented a series of carefully curated events, delivering a robust lineup of artists speaking to the theme of 'inter/dependence'. Artists were invited to explore shifts from fragmentation to connectedness, from individualism to togetherness, to inspire us all to awaken from our illusion of separateness.

This year's programming spanned live musical performances, a large-scale dance production, art-filled parties, classical and contemporary work, culinary experiences, and the Vancouver debut of one of Canada's foremost visual artists. We focused on celebrating local artists alongside superstars from Toronto, the UK, and Seattle.

We leaned into shared models of creating to maximize collective impact. A shared leadership model and collaborative curatorial voices ensured a breadth of representation in programming throughout South Asian artistic networks and beyond.

The curatorial approach combined research, celebration, and critical thinking to ensure the festival reflected the pulse of the moment and aligned with the festival's values. The result was an engaging, thought-provoking experience that drew from a wide variety of artistic traditions, bringing new artists and expanded audiences to the festival, and reinvigorating inspiration in the wake of a beloved founder team.

My deepest gratitude to our community - our generous artists, dedicated team, steadfast board, and gracious audiences, and to our ecosystem of sponsors, funders, and donors for their continued support. In this inter/dependence, we have a clear and bright path forward.

We believe now more than ever in the power of collaboration, creativity, and innovation to drive creative expression forward.

PAWAN DEOL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING

"I was grateful to have connected with old friends and made new ones. I absolutely loved the Rajni Perera exhibition space - the way it was organized, the thought put into quiet background music that still allowed for conversation, etc. The interview was excellent and really set the tone for an amiable and connective evening. The work itself was also absolutely stunning."

— ISF23 audience member

"Inspired, enlivened, connected. Rhythm Infinitum took me on a journey I was not expecting [...]. I'm so grateful for this evening and the pairing of these two very different musical groups. I had no idea what I was in for, and am so delighted with what I received. The artists were visionary and their visions had impact."

— ISF23 audience member

"I appreciate the curators at ISF. It's incredible to see South Asian culture celebrated this way. I just wish I knew about the festival sooner, I plan to be back every year!"

— ISF23 audience member

CURATORS

Embracing shared leadership and representation, ISF23 was designed through the combined talents of a visionary curatorial team.



Pawan Deol, Executive Director of Programming, was the "curator of curators," overseeing the overall vision with the intention to widen and deepen ISF23's artistic reach.



Anoushka Ratnarajah curated all of ISF23's Granville Island stages: events and presentations across visual arts, music, comedy, literature/ideas, and culinary arts. Previously the Artistic Director at Out On Screen, she has worked as a producer, facilitator and arts organizer with cultural organizations in Vancouver, Montreal, and New York.



Devyani Saltzman, previously the Director of Public Programming at the Art Gallery of Ontario and a founding Curator at Luminato, curated ISF23's marquee visual arts event featuring Rajni Perera (Toronto) for her Vancouver debut exhibit, *The Vessel With Two Mouths*. The accompanying artist talk and reception was a career retrospective of Perera's work.



Jarrett Martineau, longtime ISF Guest Curator, current Curator in Residence at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts, and host of CBC's Reclaimed. He returned to ISF23 with this year's marquee music event; a dazzling exploration of sound worlds called *Rhythm Infinitum with Shabazz Palaces & Sarathy Korwar In Concert*.



Nhyilar/Dimple T & Anya Rawla, two talented artists from the ISF team imagined, proposed, and designed our Closing Cabaret event.

YEAR IN REVIEW

Our offering was spread over eleven days plus a selection of stellar off-season events.

For more information on these and past events please visit:

indiansummerfest.ca/isfevents/



A legendary art-filled party - another smashing festival kickoff! Featuring a phenomenal line-up of chefs, artists and musicians.



Rajni Perera's debut Vancouver exhibit. Embodies Perera's ancestry and linkages to Sri Lankan cultural and spiritual traditions and investigates her fascination with the unseen.



Rajni Perera (Toronto), visionary multimedia artist, in conversation with writer/curator Devyani Saltzman (Toronto). Talk, plus Reception with live music by Roxanne Nesbitt and Parmela Attariwala.



Two powerhouse activists, Harsha Walia and Anjali Appadurai, reflect on what drives them to continue to fight for the things that matter to them and the people they love. Moderated by Anoushka Ratnarajah.



A day of incredible live music in the Public Market Courtyard at the foot of False Creek. Featuring a diverse line-up of musicians and genres, showcasing a roster of fresh talent looking to push boundaries.



A collaboration of South Asian and Western musicians, a metaphoric meeting between rivers. Composed and arranged by Mohamed Assani.



A diverse roster of laughmakers sharing comedic rants, sharp satire, and hilarious reflections.



A transcendent musical journey. Shabazz Palaces (Seattle) and Sarathy Korwar (UK) defy linear time with kaleidoscopic Afrofuturist hip-hop and Indofuturist sonic realms spanning past-present-future.



A celebration of rites and rituals of women in an immersive dance performance by choreographer Nova Bhattacharya (Toronto), uniting diverse dance forms in a vibrant tapestry of life, colour, and shared joy.



An unforgettable night of vibrant young artists featuring animal drag, an epic trio of Indo-Jazz musicians, and a bumping dance floor!



A digital watch party of selected ISF2023 events, fostering an inclusive experience for people who are blind or partially sighted.



Juno Nominee Ruby Singh brings together a powerhouse ensemble of musicians blending genres to create a unique sound.



Anubhava: A Carnatic Flute Fusion Experience: A journey into a mesmerizing melodic world that blends Indian art music and original world-jazz compositions featuring flute virtuoso Raman Kalyan. An offering of Curtis Andrews.

2023 ARTISTS

We act as vital contributors to the arts and culture landscape of Vancouver, positioning the city as a dynamic harbour of international ideas and global perspectives. Our 2023 festival theme of interdependence was an invitation to our artists to unpack the illusion of separateness, to explore shifts in their own work from fragmentation and isolated individualism to constellations of connectedness. It was with this sentiment in our hearts – the power of the collective and the multivalent interdependence that is essential to societies and ecosystems – that we delivered this festival edition.

MUSIC

Hussein Janmohamed
Rachel Viccaji
Sofia Avelino
Russell Wallace
Sam Dabrusin
Sarah Jo Kirsch
Faizal Jiwa
Renee Fajardo
DJ Nea
Roxanne Nesbitt
Parmela Attariwala
Anju Singh
Hoodie Browns
KeAloha
Chris Cuoto
Axel Loitz
Mohamed Assani
Curtis Andrews
Katrina Chitty
Jeanette Bernal Singh
Cristian Markos
JeanSe Le Doujet
Amarjeet Singh
Sarathy Korwar
Tamar Osborn
Al MacSween
Ishmael Butler
Shabazz Palaces
DJ Business Bacha
DJ Vixen Von Flex
Shruti Ramani
Feven Kidane
Harmeet Kaur Virdee

LITERATURE / IDEAS

Nisha Patel
Devyani Saltzman
Harsha Walia
Anjali Appadurai
Anoushka Ratnarajah

LIVE PERFORMANCE / THEATRE

Aden Javed
Tin Lorica
Sasha Mark
Savannah Erasmus
Joanne Tsung
Ra
Batty Banks
Bongganisa

VISUAL ART

Tajliya Jamal
Rajni Perera

DANCE

Body Choir dancers
Core Ensemble dancers
Nova Dance technicians/
supporting artists

CULINARY

Tushar Tondvarkar
Asha Wheeldon
TJ Conwi

ISF+

Ruby Singh
Holly Eccleston
Khari Wendell
McLelland
Gord Grdina
Daniel Ruiz
Paul Finlay
Pete Schmidt
Curtis Andrews
Raman Kalyan
Shruti Ramani
Jared Burrows
Robin Layne

"Everyone that I interacted with that was on staff were amazing!!! The whole process from start to finish went so smoothly and I felt so well taken care of."

— 2023 Artist

109
ARTISTS FROM
11
CITIES

67%
LOCAL
92%
BIPOC ARTISTS

60%
WOMEN
14%
GENDER DIVERSE

VOLUNTEERS

"Volunteering with ISF has been an incredibly rewarding experience, and I am truly grateful to have been a part of such a dedicated and passionate team."

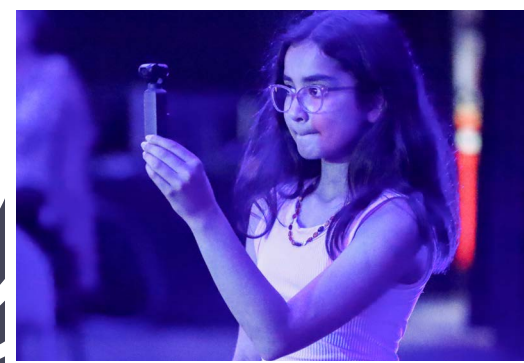
— Volunteer ISF 2023

"I want to express my sincere gratitude for the opportunity to volunteer with ISF. It has been a fulfilling experience, and I'm glad I could contribute my time to support your organization."

— Volunteer ISF 2023

We love our volunteers! In 2023 we were supported by 159 volunteers toward a whopping total volunteer contribution of 3827 hours.

Funding allowed us to meaningfully engage, train and involve numerous volunteers (with a high proportion of students and retirees) in a positive community-building experience. In a volunteer survey, 90% of this year's volunteers responded that they felt their work at the festival made a "very useful" impact on their community. 93% of volunteers found the staff to be "very friendly", and 96% of volunteers felt "very appreciated".



"The one event I look forward to every year is Indian Summer Festival! This year's opening event was not just a reminder of the incredible community at ISF, but also of the time and care put into curating and connecting with meaningful artists."

— Chef Tushar Tondvalkar





ACCESSIBLE INDIAN SUMMER

Our vision is for an inclusive society. We aim to not only remove barriers, but to also celebrate and normalize diverse entry-points to enrich our festival as a space for everyone.

We had several milestones of note in our 2023 year.

- New Digital Live Captioning System: ISAS is the first purchaser of this system in the arts community in Vancouver (to our knowledge). We quickly built out a shared infrastructure program so this resource could be used by the wider arts presenter community. At the time of this writing, beta testing is already complete with VIFF, Writers Fest, and PuSh. Numerous organizations are now considering purchasing their own captioning system and expanding this tool throughout the region.
- Masked Seating Zones: Partitioned seating areas distanced from wider audiences for those attendees who needed to wear masks for personal and health reasons. This provided access to those who may not have been able to attend in-person otherwise.
- Accessible website - major developments toward comprehensive online accessibility.
- Dedicated event in collaboration with our longtime partner VocalEye, centering the experiences of Blind and partially sighted audiences.
- Other accessibility initiatives at ISF23 included: accessibility info for each event, sliding scale ticket prices, free events and exhibits, complimentary companion ticketing, early entry for people with limited mobility, front area reserved seating for people with vision or hearing loss, and a festival-wide ticket distribution strategy for complimentary tickets to social service provider organizations and low-income community.

“Very thoughtful - love the masked audience section.”
— ISF23 audience member

“Excited to be in a space with a lot of positive energy, grateful that there was a universally acknowledged level of acceptance amongst the crowd, artists and hosts.”
— ISF23 audience member

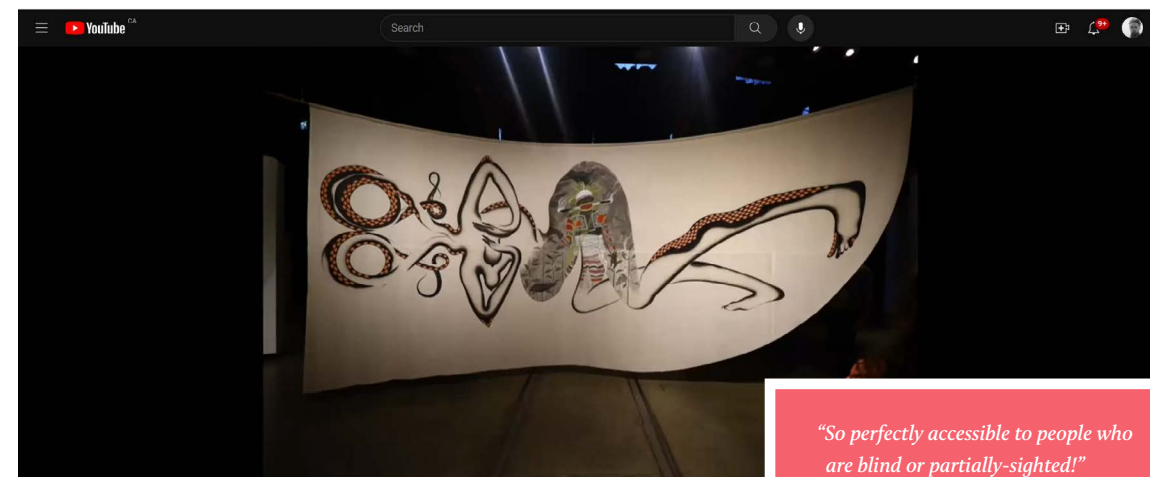
“I felt connected to community and the arts. I appreciated the thought put into accessibility.”
— ISF23 audience member

“I felt seen.”
— ISF23 audience member

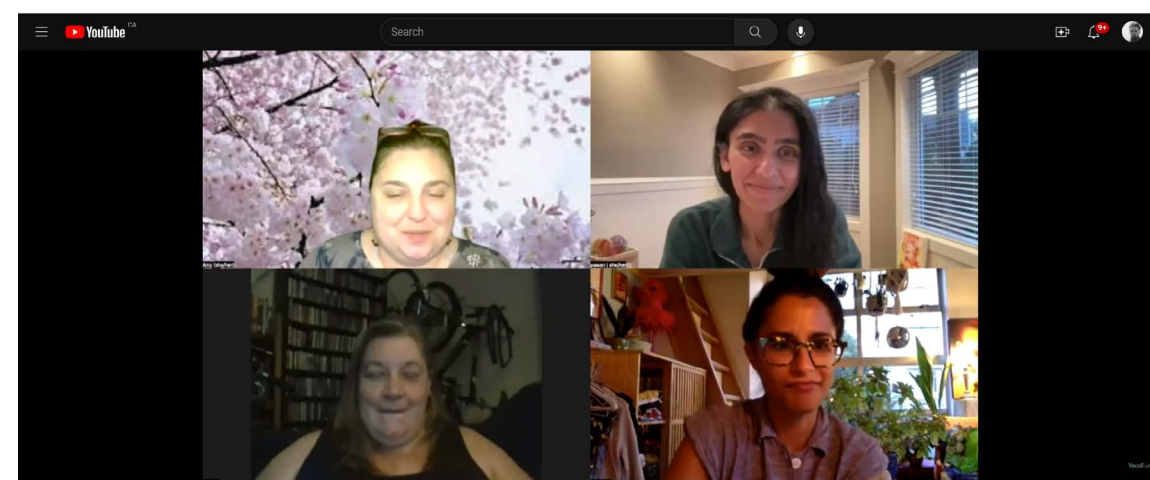
VOCAL EYE PARTNERSHIP



Indian Summer Festival proudly partnered with VocalEye to enhance the accessibility of our programming for audience members who are blind and partially sighted. Our fifth-annual VocalEye/Indian Summer Festival Digital Watch Party was held on Wednesday, July 26th. While the event was open to all audiences, this watch party centred and privileged the experiences of people who were blind and partially sighted. Rajni Perera’s *The Vessel with Two Mouths* artwork was showcased and described, as well as two comedians from *Punch Up*, and a set of musical performances from Mohamed Assani’s *Watersmeet* event. Throughout the event audience members were invited to ask questions and share reflections. This was a successful event by every measure.



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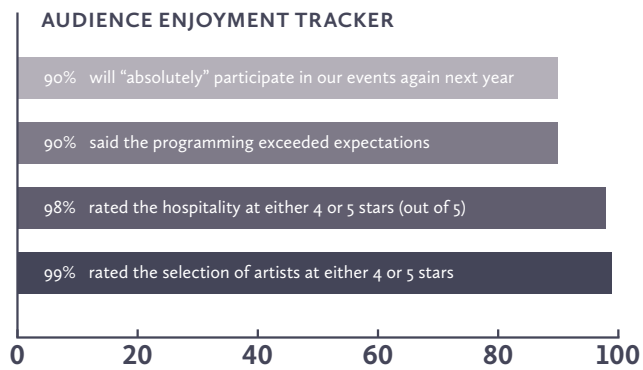


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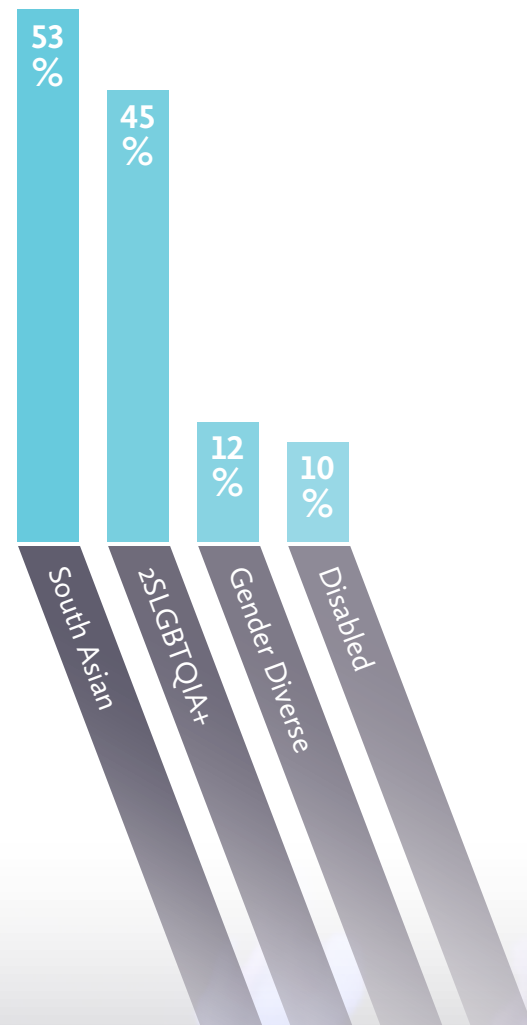
CULTIVATING A DIVERSE AUDIENCE

One of the strengths of the Indian Summer Festival is our ability to bring together an incredibly diverse audience who would not otherwise be in a room together. It is important to us that our audience is multicultural and multi-generational.

90%	of our audience said that they were very satisfied with the festival programming.
96%	of our audience said they would attend ISF next year.
98%	of our audience found our festival inclusive and welcoming as our team set out to provide a textured and nuanced sense of 'home'.



IDENTIFICATION CHART



"ISF is a lovely blend of fun and learning and an absolute treat"
— ISF23 audience member

"Grateful to have these offerings in Vancouver."
— ISF23 audience member

"Creative, thought-provoking, and inspiring."
— ISF23 audience member

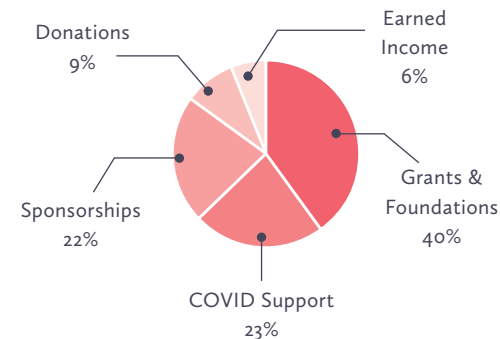
"I always find that I am exposed to new things that I likely would not have attended if not for the festival. I feel the festival brings in all kinds of acts that would not normally come to Vancouver."
— ISF23 audience member

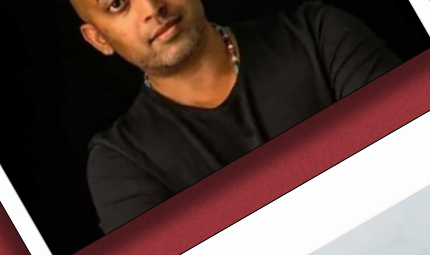
FINANCIAL RESILIENCE

We've historically cultivated four distinct revenue streams: grants, sponsorships, donations and ticket sales. Through pandemic turbulence and the massive hit to live event ticket sales models worldwide, our earned income stream nearly disappeared. Fortunately, Indian Summer has successfully offset these losses with steadfast support from funders and community, which enabled Indian Summer to retain staff, pay artists, engage audiences and carry out our mandate.

Given the state of uncertainty during this period, Indian Summer has fared remarkably well. ISF23 was joyful and triumphant for our community, and we remain committed as ever to nurturing multiple revenue sources. 2023 saw a modest return of sales revenue, and a renewed engagement from our Sponsor, Funder, and Donor communities.

REVENUE SOURCES





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...ening of mind

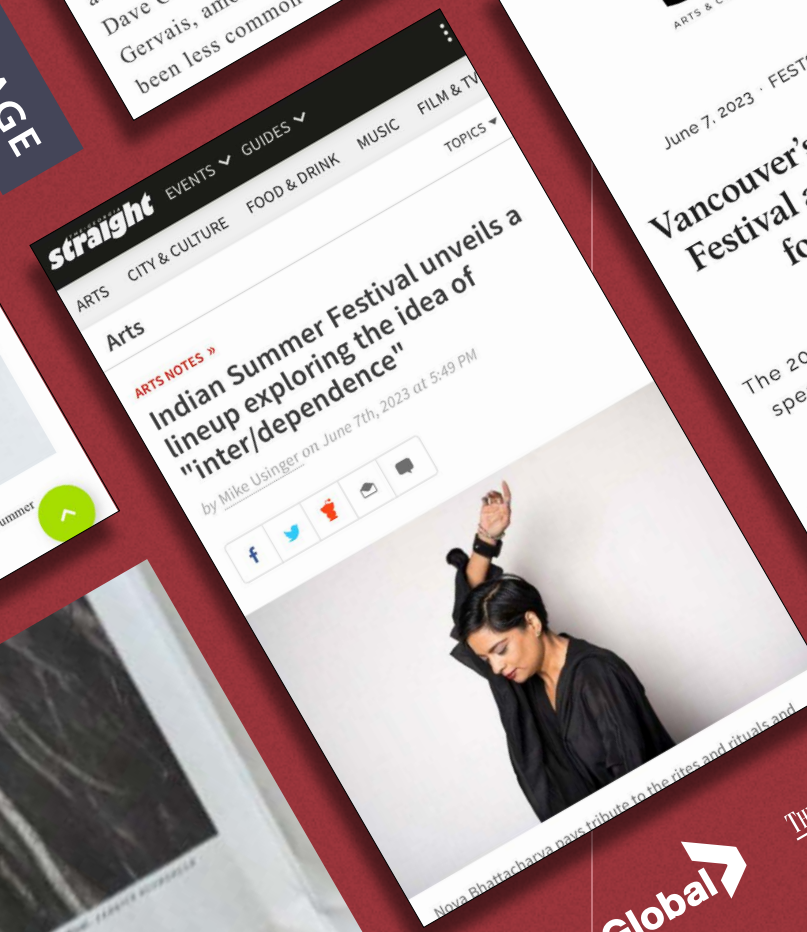


Chef Tushar Tondwalkar creates a special menu at Indian Summer Festival.

46M combined audience across all coverage outlets

MEDIA COVERAGE

Punch Up is the name of the new Indian Summer Festival. Over the decades, many comedians have come under criticism for "punching down" at the marginalized. They've included Dave Chappelle, Bill Maher, and Ricky Gervais, among others. In the past, it's been less common to see standup comics



Nova Bhattarhaya pays tribute to the rites and rituals and



The 2023 "festival for the curious mind" speaks to the theme of "interdependence" BY GAIL JOHNSON



111 pieces of coverage



"The Indian Summer Festival promotes tremendous cross-cultural dialogue and music, bringing together Indigenous, South Asian, and East Asian artists, comedians, and writers in a smorgasbord of events... It's not fusion; it's interculturalism in which artists do not give up their identity. And it's helping to promote an appreciation for other cultures." — Charlie Smith, Georgia Straight



THE VANCOUVER SUN SERIOUSLY WESTCOAST



Vancouver's Indian Summer Festival is a festival featuring music, art, and public speaking events by Canadian, South Asian and Indigenous artists in July. It's a multi-day arts festival that brings artists, writers and thinkers from across Canada and abroad. Some of its events are free, while others are ticketed.



The artist brings together an array of Western and South Asian musicians for an aquatically inspired new suite of music BY ALEXANDER VARTY

10.5M est. social views



Estuaries at boundaries between those susceptible to estuarine sense of possibility and encourage Which is exactly what the Pal... project, Watersmeet, is d... and also for those luck... "For me," Assani e... Vancouver home... And the new...



“As a First gen South Asian I was impressed at how inclusive the event was. It was a great mix of people and its rare to find events like this in the Lower Mainland. I am just an art enthusiast and found this was such a high quality event.”

— ISF23 audience member



SUPPORTERS

FRIENDS

Baljeet Singh
Tanveer Sohal

SUSTAINERS

Arvinder S Bubber
Christine Stoddard
Dave Ratnarajah
Jagjot Sukhija
Jan Whitford & Michael
Stevenson
Khari McClelland
Michael Alexander & Dianna
Waggoner
Norman Armour
Pam Ratner & Joy Johnson
Sujata Gupta

CONTRIBUTORS

Amanda Burrows
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Laura Moore
Mireille St. Pierre
Nicole Rogers
Ninan Abraham
Patsy George
Priya Anand
Reena Taank
Ruhamah Buchanan
Shamim Shivji
Sherill & Larry Osachoff



PATRONS

VISIONARIES

Ravi Sidhoo & Asha Fraser
(Fir Street Properties)

LUMINARIES

Angie & Steven Osachoff
Isha Mapara

BENEFACTOR

Asha Fraser

CHAMPIONS

Ashok & Lynn Katey
James Wright
Laura Byspalko & Sirish Rao

OUR PARTNERS

“As Founding Partner of the Indian Summer Festival, Simon Fraser University is proud of the special relationship we have formed with the festival over the past decade. Congratulations and thanks to the organizers for once again providing SFU the opportunity to demonstrate our commitment to being Canada’s engaged university.”

— SFU President and Vice Chancellor
Joy Johnson



FOUNDING PARTNER



MAJOR PARTNERS



FUNDERS



MUSIC SERIES SPONSOR



FESTIVAL SUPPORTING PARTNERS



EVENT PRESENTING PARTNERS



PREMIER MEDIA PARTNERS



FOUNDING CULTURAL PARTNER



CULTURAL PARTNERS



EVENT SUPPORTING PARTNERS



PROMOTIONAL PARTNERS

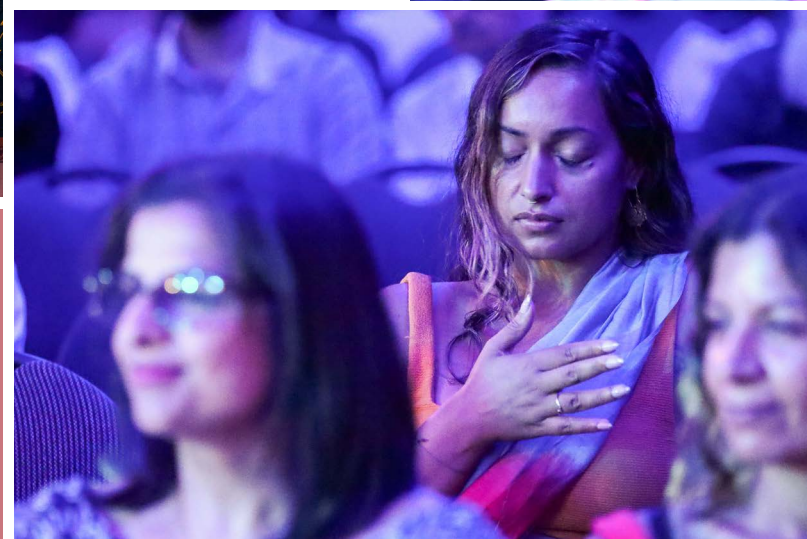


HOSPITALITY PARTNERS





*“I love the respectful collaboration with Indigenous peoples, and the inclusiveness of queer voices”
— Festival Patron*



8,816
attendees

109
total artists



11
days

15
events & exhibit
activations



YOU HELP SHAPE US

For the past thirteen years, Indian Summer has produced our annual festival, modelling the kind of society we'd like to see: A society that is creative, diverse, innovative, and inclusive. A society that believes in curiosity and imagination, and in the strength we can create together.

As we reflect on the last thirteen years and the impact we've had, we know we've made progress, but we also know more work needs to be done.

We need your help.

The world is building more and more walls. Societies are becoming more suspicious and afraid of people who don't look like them and think like them. Our solution is to centre and amplify necessary South Asian voices and to platform BIPOC artists to lead the way. We know we have more in common than what divides us, and we believe that there's nothing more compelling than transformative experiences through the arts to show us what's possible. The truth is – there has never been a more urgent time to bring our communities together.

We are a community-driven non-profit and we believe in the power of our stories to bring us together. We have fought to create a hard-won ecosystem: we need your help to build on this model, to grow our platform for artists dedicated to a more inclusive society.

You can play a direct role in amplifying the voices of diverse artists whose work addresses some of the most pressing issues of our time.

Make a \$25+ donation and become a Supporter of Indian Summer - Join us!



Become a Supporter, for as little as \$25.
<https://indiansummerfest.ca/supportisf/isfsupporters/>



Join our Patron's Circle, with fabulous benefits and engagement.
<https://indiansummerfest.ca/supportisf/isfpatrons/>



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In addition to our incredible artists, partners, funders and sponsors, supporters and patrons, team, board and advisors, the festival has been made possible with the support of many well-wishers whom we acknowledge with deep appreciation.

INDIVIDUALS

- Amy Amantea
- Anika Verweken
- Asha Fraser
- Bobby Gidda
- Brad Van Dam
- Caitlin McKee
- Cameron Killick
- Cathy Greer
- Charlie Smith
- Chloe Riley
- Debra Sparrow
- Duncan Watts-Grant
- Francesca Piscopo
- Gabrielle Martin
- Galia Goodwin
- Georgina Chaplin
- Janice Beley
- Jim Smith
- Jeff Grayston
- Joanne Curry
- Joyce Rosario
- Keltie Forsyth
- Kevin Soo-Locsin
- Kaile Shilling
- Kristen Lawson
- Laura Byspalko
- Laura Moore
- Leo Damian
- Leslie Hurtig
- Lucas Hyatt
- Meenu Deol
- Michael Boucher
- Michael Vidler
- Mike Luniw
- Mimi Abrahams
- Munira Mohamud
- Patrick Carrabré
- Pete Poovanna
- Ravi Sidhu
- Ravi Sidhoo
- Ruby Singh
- Ruhamah Buchanan
- Sabine Rouques
- Sandy Manj
- Sarah Bakke
- Shachi Kurl
- Shahaa Kakar
- Shushma Datt
- Sirish Rao
- Tammi Tsang
- Tara Sidhoo Fraser
- Tom Arthur Davis
- Ura Jones

PRODUCTION

- Andrew McCaw - Cultch Theatre
- Bryan Kenney - Innovation Lights
- Dale Harris
- David Humphrey - Chan Centre for the Performing Arts
- Heather Lamb - Culture Works
- Jeremy Baxter - Roundhouse Arts and Recreation Centre
- Mark Eugster - DanceHouse
- Miles Lavkulich
- Mimi Abrahams
- Natasha Batiste - Pedersen's Event Rentals
- Sharen Deo - Delta Wedding and Party Centre

PHOTOGRAPHERS

- Andre Chan
- Holly Hofmann
- Seenu Yellapu

COMMUNICATIONS & MEDIA RELATIONS

- Fawnz Creative
- MPMG

BOX OFFICE

- Eventbrite

WEBSITE

- Kipling Media

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

- Blip Support

VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers who give so generously of their time and energy to make this festival possible!

ADVISORS

- Amanda Burrows
- Am Johal
- Linda Gorrie
- Urszula Lipsztajn

Norman Armour

We honour Norman Armour who provided tremendous support and care during ISAS' leadership transition. His legacy carries on through our work. He will always be in our hearts.

ABOUT US

Indian Summer Arts Society is a Vancouver-based charitable, not-for-profit secular arts organisation. Our mandate is to offer daring multi-arts events that catalyze and inspire audiences and artists in a spirit of dialogue and global citizenship. To achieve our mandate, in 2011 we founded the annual Indian Summer Festival. Our curatorial practice is to center and amplify South Asian voices in conversation with wider artistic communities. Each year, the festival presents provocative arts events that feature some of the best artists and visionaries from Canada, South Asia and beyond. From novelists to DJs, social entrepreneurs to Bollywood stars, Indian Summer Festival has presented emerging artists as well as Nobel, Booker, Grammy, and Oscar prize nominees on its stages.

"I loved my experience as an artist and also as an attendee in this fest! Brilliant management."
— 2023 Artist

- Pawan Deol** *Executive Director of Programming*
- Laura June Albert** *Executive Managing Director*
- Melissa Ratcliff** *Operations Manager*
- Sakshi Taneja** *Producer*
- Anya Rawla** *Development Coordinator*
- Nhyllar/Dimple Takhtani** *Digital Communications Coordinator*
- Akshara Susan Mathew** *Administrator and Office Coordinator*
- Rob Eccles (@lazbones)** *Communications Designer*
- Manyara Rinomhota** *Payroll Coordinator*
- Ashley Fung** *Volunteer Coordinator*
- Kaylene Chan** *Artist Services*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Angie Osachoff** *Chair*
- Jasmeet Wahid** *Vice Chair*
- Praveen Gupta** *Treasurer*
- Daljit Gill-Badesha** *Director of Records, Privacy and Compliance*
- Alan Creighton-Kelly** *Director*
- Shelly Dhawan** *Director*
- Anna Ling Kaye** *Director*
- Asna Misra** *Director*
- Baljeet Singh** *Director*
- James Wright** *Director*
- Jorge Amigo** *Director*
- Joseph Bardsley** *Director*
- Zahid Makhdoom** *Director*

CURATORS

- Anoushka Ratnarajah**
- Devyani Saltzman**
- Jarrett Martineau**

CO-FOUNDERS

- Sirish Rao**
- & Laura Byspalko**

Indian Summer Festival takes place on the unsundered territories of the x̣ʷməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlílwətał (Tsleil- Waututh) Nations. As a festival amplifying diverse and necessary perspectives, Indian Summer Festival stands in solidarity with Coast Salish peoples and their struggles as they continue to steward and defend these lands and waters.

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