

Bindu Gopal Rao

This weekend, Bangalore is all set to pulse with sur, taal, and everything musical. For those seeking a fresh, out-of-the-box experience, the city promises an eclectic musical journey with three concerts starting today, each offering a unique sonic adventure. Whether you're a lover of thumping percussion, nostalgic melodies, or the intricate beauty of classical ragas, Bangalore's buzzing music scene this weekend guarantees to keep you in tune and on your toes. Wondering what's in store? Get ready, as we reveal the exciting line-up that will have you immersed in rhythm and melody over the next two days!

**Beat Route**

If you're a music enthusiast, the world premiere of Beat Route is an unmissable spectacle. This creative collaboration brings together the rhythm mastery of lead drummer Ranjit Barot and the visionary direction of Roysten Abel, famed for works like The Manganiyar Seduction, The Kitchen, and Weaving Voices.

At the heart of this performance lies the thunderous percussion of Rajasthan and Kerala, featuring instruments such as the dhol, kartaal, morchung, nagada, mizhavu, chanda, and elathaalam. Barot's contemporary arrangements elevate the rich, distinct rhythms of these traditional drums, creating a musical journey that spans centuries, blending ancient traditions with cutting-edge electronic beats for a futuristic soundscape. Rajasthan and Kerala, with their vibrant and distinct cultural histories, form the perfect fusion of percussion styles.

By merging traditional percussion with modern beats and evocative visuals, Beat Route offers an all-encompassing sensory journey, where every beat resonates with both the past and the future. "The idea of uniting percussionists from Rajasthan and Kerala stems from a desire to create a unique musical experience, blending two rich drumming traditions, each with its own powerful sound," adds Krishna. By bringing these diverse traditions together on one stage, Beat Route becomes more than just a musical performance—it becomes a bridge between cultures, showcasing the richness of India's diversity in a contemporary context.

Directed by Abel and captured by Kabir Singh Chowdhry, Beat Route seamlessly integrates stunning visual storytelling. With its striking lights, stage design, and projected visuals, the show breathes life into the stories of the drummers and their cultural roots. These visuals amplify the emotional impact of the music, turning the performance into an immersive sensory experience.

"This show goes beyond music. It tells the stories of the traditional percussionists, their heritage, and their deep connection to the in-

# A MUSICAL FEAST OF RHYTHM & RAGAS

*This weekend, Bangalore's music scene explodes with concerts highlighting classical music, filmy hits and rhythmic beats. Excited much?*

struments they play. The audience is not just listening to rhythms but is also drawn into the human narratives behind them," shares Gayathri Krishna, managing trustee of Bhoomija Trust.

- Where: Chowdiah Memorial Hall, Bangalore
- When: Saturday, October 5, 2024, 5:00 pm and 8:00 pm (two shows)
- Tickets: Available on [www.bookmyshow.com](http://www.bookmyshow.com)

**Offbeat 2024**

VT Entertainers Charitable Trust's Offbeat 2024 is a musical fundraiser celebrating Bollywood's lesser-known themes. With the tagline "Celebrating the less celebrated," the event not only highlights these unique themes but also shines a spotlight on the often-overlooked differently abled members of society.

This year's Offbeat delves into the unsung themes of Hindi cinema, promising a stunning showcase with live dance performances, captivating stage design, stellar vocalists, mesmerizing audio-visual effects, and a talented ensemble of musicians. Blending retro classics with contemporary hits, the event promises to be a memorable journey through Bollywood's more unconventional musical moments.

A tribute to choreography takes center stage this year, a long-overlooked element of Hindi cinema. "Today, we pay homage to the choreographers by featuring songs with unforgettable choreography," shares Dr. Vasudha Theertharam, Founder of VT Entertainers. "We've carefully curated a variety of dance styles, from classical to disco to modern forms."

With a lineup of seasoned performers alongside fresh talents, the event not only promises top-tier entertainment but also supports a noble cause—all proceeds will benefit Vishwashantinetana, a residential home for the

differently abled in Arasinakunte.

- Where: Chowdiah Memorial Hall, Vyalikaval, Bangalore
- When: Sunday October 6, 2024, 6:00 pm
- For Donor passes contact: 9886019151/9845049796
- Tickets: <https://in.bookmyshow.com/events/offbeat-2024/ET00410423>

**Nada Sambhrama**

Music and Navratri create a divine symphony, and this concert series beautifully bridges these two, celebrating and promoting India's classical music traditions. Kicking off the event is a special Navratri concert by Vidwan Sikkil Gurucharan, a leading Carnatic musician and youth ambassador for the art form. He will be joined by an illustrious ensemble—Vidwan Mathur Srinidhi on the violin, Vidwan Jayachandra Rao on the mridangam, and Vidwan Vazhappally R. Krishnakumar on the ghatam—promising an evening steeped in musical grandeur.

Conceptualised by Jamuna Raghavan and N.S. Raghavan, Directors of the Nadathur Foundation, the concert series reflects their

passion for music and their dedication to sharing this love with the wider community. Their vision for this initiative goes beyond performance, aiming to nurture talent and deepen the appreciation for India's rich cultural heritage. "This initiative aims to showcase exceptional talent, fostering cultural appreciation and providing a platform for both established

**NADA SAMBHRAMA**

Vidwan Mathur Srinidhi, Vidwan Vazhappally R Krishnakumar, Vidwan Jayachandra Rao and Vidwan Sikkil Gurucharan



**OFFBEAT 2024**



Dr. Vasudha Theertharam, Samanvita Sharma & Shruti Bhide



**BEAT ROUTE**



Ranjit Barot



Gayathri Krishna, Kabir Singh Chowdhry & Roysten Abel

and emerging artists," shares Raksha Sriram, Events Curator for Nadathur Foundation.

The accompanying artists, each a master in their field, bring with them a wealth of experience and acclaim. Renowned for their contributions to Carnatic music, these performers have graced stages both in India and internationally, collaborating with dis-

tinguished musicians. Together, their expertise promises to create a truly enriching and soul-stirring musical experience.

- Where: JSS Auditorium, 8th block, Jayanagar, Bangalore
- When: Saturday, October 5, 2024, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- For Event info contact: 9740002383
- Entry free