

# South Asian Heritage Month

## International Programme

To celebrate South Asian Heritage Month, the **British Council**, **Manchester Museum** and **young people aged 18-25** have curated a programme of activity involving artists and speakers from the UK and South Asia.

Programme themes have been selected by young people and include language, diaspora and identity, alongside a focus on music, literature and fashion. Through a series of discussions, workshops and performances, South Asian Heritage Month is connecting speakers, artists and young people across the UK and South Asia - in particular in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh.

The programme is ordered by artform and themes. For the full programme and more events celebrating South Asian Heritage Month, [visit the Manchester Museum website](#).

# Literature

## #HeritageInk Challenge

For South Asian Heritage Month we are running the Heritage Ink Challenge. An opportunity for you to respond to the theme of heritage by posting your own illustrations and/or poems. Keep an eye out every Saturday as we release a new theme! Use the hashtags #HeritageInk and #SouthAsianHeritageMonth to share your illustrations, doodles, poetry and Instapoems.

Throughout the month on Twitter and Instagram [@McrMuseum](#)

## Lunchtime Ink Spills

A week-long series of live illustrations by Architect Athiba Balasubramanian from Inklight.

Join us on Instagram [@McrMuseum](#) at 1pm on 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th August

## Exploring Queer South Asian Heritage Through Zine-Making by Gaysi Family

Through a zine-making workshop, illustrator Priya Dali and educator, artist, gender activist Anushka Jadhav will explore the various aspects of queer cultural heritage in South Asia, be it art, music, literature or routines from everyday life. Learn how to make your own zine as we discuss the history and role of zines in dissent, resistance and asserting one's identity and voice. Produced in partnership with The Queer Muslim Project.

8th August 11am - 2pm. [Sign up via Eventbrite](#)

## Spoken Stage Workshop

This workshop is being run by Mariam Paracha and will be exploring the power of performance, storytelling and spoken word poetry. By tapping into personal experiences and various writing and performance exercises we will explore a poet's unique voice and style. A blank page can be quite daunting but through certain exercises we can warm up our creative writing skills and hope to make a poem out of anything. The session will be 2 hours and there will be an opportunity for attendees to perform a poem in the MultiLingual Mushaira the following week.

9th August, 12.30 - 2.30pm. [Sign up via Eventbrite](#)

## MultiLingual Mushaira

Featuring poets from the UK, Pakistan and Bangladesh, Nasima Bee, Tashfeen Sarah Ahmed, Orooj-e-Zafar, this multilingual poetry evening moves across the continent in multiple languages. There will be an open mic section at the end where young budding poets will be able to share their poems too.

16th August, 5pm. [Visit the Manchester Museum website](#) to sign up via Eventbrite

## Exploring Dhaka through the Eyes of an Artist

An illustrative tour to discover one of the most iconic British-era landmark in Bangladesh; the Curzon Hall through the eye of an illustrator. Learn more about this British-Mughal themed architectural beauty!

17th August, 1pm on Instagram story, [@McrMuseum](#) [@osch.youngpeople](#)

# Representation and Body Image

## Golden Tones

Join Pakistani make-up artist Bina Khan as she unpacks myths around colour tones and shares tips on how to celebrate South Asian skin. Through this hour-long make-up tutorial we will celebrate a variety of skin tones and celebrate beauty in every shade.

16th August, 1pm Instagram [@McrMuseum](#)

## I am ME!

I am ME! is an online puppet making workshop designed by Pakistani Actress and Puppeteer, Yamina Peerzada. The workshop is developed for young women and men (14+). Participants will create mini rod puppets of themselves, focusing on the theme of Body Image - celebrating the uniqueness of our bodies and of accepting and loving oneself.

8th August, 1pm. Sign up via [Eventbrite](#)

## Fashion

### Everyday Drapes

For South Asian Heritage Month join us for 14 days of draping, embracing the sari as an everyday garment. Curated by Malika Verma, Founder of Border&Fall and creator of The Sari Series: A Digital Anthology of Drape. Learn about new drapes each day!

Launches on 3rd August, hosted on [Manchester Museum's YouTube](#)

### Street Culture and the Sari

Join journalist and influencer Simran Randhawa and Emilia Bergmans of VegnonVeg, India's leading sneaker shop as they discuss self expression, street culture and the sari. Moderated by Malika Verma Kayshap, Founder of Border&Fall.

7th August, 1.30pm. [Sign up via Eventbrite](#)

### The Future Present: Dispelling notions of draping

Can we dispel our notions around draping saris? Join Poter Bibi, Bangladeshi sari designer and Natasha Thasan, sari enthusiast and influencer, as they explore notions of draping, traditions and contemporary culture. Moderated by Malika Verma Kayshap, Founder of Border&Fall.

12 August, 1.30pm to 2.30pm. [Sign up via Eventbrite](#)

# Discussion with artists

## **Recipes for Resistance: What are we inheriting?**

Curated and edited by Raju Rage, Recipes for Resistance is a multimedia creative project which explores the politics of food and its relationship to migration, belonging, memory, culture, coloniality, gender, resilience, adaptability and resistance. Join the conversation with special guests Rajyashri Goody (artist), Navi Kaur (artist and arts educator) and Tameen Faridi (published author and life coach).

13th August, 4pm. [Sign up via Eventbrite](#)

## **Mil Ke Chai: In conversation with Shehzil Malik**

Mil Ke Chai is an artist led cafe which aims to serve chai and create spaces that nurture friendship and enterprise across class, caste and religion. Artist Sofia Niazi will introduce Mil Ke Chai, after which illustrator and printmaker Aleesha Nandhra will interview Pakistani artist and collaborator, Shehzil Malik.

11th August, 2pm. Sign up via [Eventbrite](#).

# Music and Radio

## **South Asian Heritage Month collaborative playlist**

Share your favourite music on the collaborative [#SouthAsianHeritageMonth Spotify playlist](#)

## **South Asian Heritage Month Mixtapes: Nabihah Iqbal**

Musician, producer, DJ and broadcaster Nabihah Iqbal takes us on a journey of music from Pakistan spanning the traditional to the contemporary.

15 minute music section from the playlist will air on Selector After Dark, 12 noon on 7th August on [Selector Radio](#)

Full playlist: Released 8th August on [Mixcloud @OurSharedCulturalHeritage](#)

## **South Asian Heritage Month Mixtapes: Tenma** **On the heritage and culture of protest music**

This mixtape is curated and presented by Tenma, co-founder of the revolutionary band The Casteless Collective. Tune in for inspiration on the rich heritage of protest music and to hear music by artists who are tirelessly asserting their culture and identity.

Released 10th August on [Mixcloud @OurSharedCulturalHeritage](#)

## **Podcasting our Heritage**

Podcasting for good! Join us for an introduction to becoming a socially engaged podcaster in conversation with Aquí Thami from Sister Library and Iqra Choudhry from Brown Girls Do It.

10th August, 3pm on [Mixcloud @OurSharedCulturalHeritage](#)

## **South Asian Heritage Month Mixtapes: Natasha Noorani (Part 1)**

### **From the archives: sonic memories from Pakistan**

From the reels and records of the Peshkash audio library, this mix presents a melange of traditional & offbeat music from Pakistan that has not remained a headliner in mainstream sonic memory. From ghazals to regional folk to surf-rock to filmy music, prepare to traverse through the colorful musical palette(s) Pakistan concocted in the 20th century.

Released 12th August on [Mixcloud @OurSharedCulturalHeritage](#)

### **An audio-visual experience with The Casteless Collective**

The Casteless Collective is a protest music band based in Chennai, South India. As part of their struggle towards a casteless society, they sing songs of assertion and the everyday lives of the oppressed. In this audio-visual experience, The Casteless Collective will discuss the lives of the artists in the band, the various musical traditions they each come from, and their assertion towards equality and freedom.

12th August, 4pm UK time on [Manchester Museum Youtube](#)

## **South Asian Heritage Month Mixtapes: Natasha Noorani (Part 2)**

### **Naya Maal: contemporary music of Pakistan**

Explore the sounds of contemporary Pakistani music with this mix featuring young, fresh voices from around the country. Adding to the already colourful musical spectrum of Pakistan, indie-folk, regional rap, electronica, Urdu synth-pop are just a few genres that have surfaced amidst a fragmented music ecosystem in the past decade.

Released 13th August on [Mixcloud @OurSharedCulturalHeritage](#)

### **Folk and beyond – a contemporary approach to the roots of Bangladeshi folk music and beyond with Labik Kamal Gaurob**

Labik Kamal Gaurob is a renowned Bangladeshi musician, known for his soulful renditions of Baul music both in traditional and contemporary arrangements. In this session, he discusses different aspects of Bangladeshi folk and folk fusion music, western approaches to eastern melodies, and how music connects us to bigger philosophical ideas.

14th August, 4pm. [Visit the Manchester Museum website for the stream link](#)

## **South Asian Heritage Month Mixtapes: Coven Code DJ Collective**

### **Reflections on Electronic Music in India**

In this mixtape, six members from the New Delhi based femme collective, which aspires to build an inclusive culture around sound, share their experiences as DJs and Producers in India. Tune in for musical selections and anecdotes by Priyum, E, Pia Collada, Lush Lata, Shireen and Vijeyata as they reflect on the electronic musical landscape of India.

Released 15th August on [Mixcloud @OurSharedCulturalHeritage](#)

# Dance

## Storytelling through the Body - Kathak

Nayantara Parpia introduces Kathak, a traditional classical dance form from India used to tell stories. She will take you through some of the history, the context and some basic moves. Nayantara is a young and upcoming Kathak dancer with a vibrant and energetic stage presence that leaves a striking impression on her audiences.

13th August, 5pm on Instagram [@McrMuseum](#) and [Manchester Museum's YouTube](#)

## Kushti and the healing powers of mud

Hrishikesh Pawar introduces Kushti, a traditional form of wrestling. Hrishikesh is a choreographer who has trained in the classical Indian dance form, Kathak and takes inspiration from interesting movement practices such as Kushti to inform contemporary dance.

14th August, 5pm and 7pm on Instagram [@McrMuseum](#)

## Panel event: Moving through Kushti and Kathak, a merging of traditional and contemporary movement

Hrishikesh Pawar and Nayantara Parpia introduce two traditional movement practices from India: Kushti, an ancient form of mud wrestling and Kathak, a classical dance often used as storytelling.

14th August, 7pm on Instagram [@McrMuseum](#) and [Manchester Museum's YouTube](#)

## Women Defenders of the Earth - Silambam

This tutorial by Aishwarya Manivannan shows you the history and evolution of Silambam, a 3000 year old ancient traditional Indian martial art form. Since the primary weapon of this martial art is a staff, it will be easy for people across the world to find an object in their household such as a pipe, stick, pole, etc and try out some of the basic movements.

16th August, 1pm on Instagram [@McrMuseum](#) and [Manchester Museum's YouTube](#)

### Twitter

#SouthAsianHeritageMonth, #KickTheDust, #OSCH  
@OSCH\_Mcr  
@BritishArts  
@McrMuseum  
@HeritageFundUK

### Instagram

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@McrMuseum  
@HeritageFundUK