



Hornbill Music Festival

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INDIA'S BIGGEST MUSIC FESTIVAL

1ST -10TH DECEMBER, 2024

NAGA HERITAGE VILLAGE, KISAMA
KOHIMA - INDIA

25TH EDITION



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FOREWORD

The 25th edition of the Hornbill Music Festival in 2024 was a celebration like no other – a landmark moment that brought together the past, present, and future of music in a glorious symphony of sounds, stories, and shared dreams. For ten unforgettable days, the hills of Nagaland echoed with the energy of artists from across the globe, a testament to how far this festival has come and the extraordinary journey it continues to chart.

This celebration would not have been possible without the visionary leadership of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. Neiphiu Rio, whose unwavering support and belief in the power of music and the arts have made the Hornbill Music Festival a proud cultural legacy of Nagaland. His commitment to creating opportunities for young talents has laid the foundation for an ecosystem where creativity, excellence, and ambition can thrive.

We were honoured to welcome our country partners – Japan, America, Wales, and Peru – whose cultural collaborations added incredible richness and depth to this milestone edition. Their participation reinforced our belief that music is a universal language – one that connects hearts, cultures, and communities.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Shri Abu Metha, Advisor to the honble chief minister and chairman IDAN, for his relentless passion, dynamic leadership, and clear vision. His guidance has been a driving force behind the growth and strength of TaFMA and the festival's success story.

A very special thank you to Toyota India and Okusa Toyota, our presenting partners, for their generous and consistent support. Their partnership has helped us dream bigger and do better – elevating the production, reach, and impact of the festival in ways that continue to inspire us. We are also deeply grateful to Harman, whose state-of-the-art sound technology and commitment to quality gave our performers the best stage to shine.

To every artist, band, technician, crew member, sponsor, and supporter, and to the entire music and arts fraternity – thank you. This festival belongs to you. Your passion and dedication are the beating heart of Hornbill, and it is because of you that this platform continues to grow in stature and spirit.

As we move forward, let us carry the momentum of the 25th edition with pride and purpose – to keep building, keep dreaming, and keep making music that uplifts, unites, and celebrates the best of who we are.



THEJA MERU

**Chairman
Task Force for Music and Arts**



A word from the
CHIEF MINISTER OF NAGALAND

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to all the participating countries, dignitaries, and music lovers from across the world who made the 25th Edition of the Hornbill Festival a truly memorable celebration. We were honoured by the presence of our friends from Japan, Peru, Wales and the United States of America, along with esteemed Embassy officials and the legendary Dr. A. R. Rahman, whose presence added immense value to the occasion.

The Hornbill Music Festival, under the stewardship of the Task Force for Music and Arts (TaFMA), Government of Nagaland, has grown into one of the most dynamic and defining platforms within the Hornbill Festival. It has become much more than a musical event—it is a celebration of our people's creativity, resilience, and cultural identity. From its humble beginnings, the festival has evolved into a powerful avenue for showcasing local talent, fostering cross-cultural friendships, and uniting audiences through the universal language of music.

Marking the Silver Jubilee of the Hornbill Festival was a moment of deep pride and reflection. The music festival stood out as a symbol of how music can break down barriers and bring together people and nations in the spirit of shared humanity.

As we look back on this milestone edition, I pay tribute to the spirit of our youth, the richness of our traditions, and the collaborative energy that continues to drive the festival's success. The Hornbill Music Festival is a testament to 25 years of unity, expression, and vision for the future.

I thank TaFMA, sponsors, all the artistes, partners, and supporters who have shaped this incredible journey. May the Hornbill Music Festival continue to grow in strength and inspire generations to come.



Dr. NEIPHIU RIO
Chief Minister of Nagaland



A word from

TEMJEN IMNA ALONG

Minister for Tourism and Higher Education
Government of Nagaland

It brings me immense pride and joy to witness the continued growth of the Hornbill Music Festival—an iconic celebration of our vibrant culture, boundless creativity, and the unifying power of music. As a proud Naga and as Minister for Tourism and Higher Education, I see in this festival not just an annual event, but a living expression of our identity—one that resonates deeply with our youth, artists, and communities across the state and the World.

The Task Force for Music and Arts (TAFMA), Government of Nagaland has been instrumental in nurturing local talent and creating avenues for growth and exposure. The Hornbill Music Festival brings together musicians from our state and beyond, fostering collaboration, exchange, and mutual inspiration. It has become a powerful platform where many musicians have found their voices, pursued their dreams, and elevated their art to greater heights.

Last year, in 2024, we had the honour of celebrating the 25th edition of the Hornbill Festival and the Hornbill Music Festival—a remarkable milestone that reflects the dedication, passion, and collective spirit of everyone who has contributed to its legacy. This silver jubilee not only marked a moment of pride, but also reaffirmed our commitment to sustaining and growing this cultural movement for generations to come.

This coffee table book is more than a visual journey; it is a tribute to the countless artists, organizers, and dreamers who have kept the fire of this festival burning bright. May it serve as a source of inspiration and a reminder of the incredible creative force that lives within Nagaland.

Let us continue to celebrate, create, and dream together—through music, art, and the indomitable spirit of our people.



TEMJEN IMNA ALONG

Minister for Tourism and Higher Education
Government of Nagaland



A word from

SHRI ABU MEHTA

Advisor to Chief Minister

& Chairman, Investment & Development Authority of Nagaland (IDAN)

Where Culture Unites, and Friendships Endure

The 25th Edition of the Hornbill Festival marked more than just a milestone for this legendary event—it represented a defining chapter in the journey of Nagaland.

With over two hundred thousand visitors and an economic impact exceeding ₹190 crores, the festival generated thousands of jobs and became a dynamic catalyst for progress. At its core, the Hornbill Festival continues to celebrate the rich cultural heritage, vibrant traditions, and timeless customs of the Naga people. Yet, it has evolved into much more—with verticals encompassing investment summits, business roundtables, collaborative exchanges, and entrepreneurship opportunities. It stands as a living expression of the energy and vibrancy of our youth, and a reflection of the growing confidence with which we present Brand Nagaland to the global stage.

This grand success belongs to everyone. Every contributor and every community played a role in bringing this vision to life. We welcomed a record number of guests from across the country and around the world, all joining in hundreds of events across dozens of venues throughout Nagaland. The greatest strength of the Hornbill Festival lies in its people. The local communities are not just participants—they are the soul and spirit of this Festival of Festivals.

There is no other festival in the world quite like it. The Hornbill Festival unites all Naga tribes, strengthens bonds within the Northeast, and draws the Indian mainland closer to this vibrant region. It is a bridge that connects people and nations across continents—celebrating culture, music, art, and heritage in a spirit of shared humanity. It forges friendships that last across generations.

A cornerstone of the festival is the Hornbill Music Festival—India's largest and most diverse musical gathering. With dozens of bands and hundreds of musicians performing over ten days across multiple districts, it has drawn global attention to Nagaland while taking Indian music to international audiences. It is not just a celebration of talent, but a powerful symbol of our cultural uniqueness and national diversity.

As we celebrate 25 years of the Hornbill Festival, we look to the future with vision and ambition—while honouring the journey that brought us here. We pay tribute to the pioneers who laid the foundation, and salute the stewards who transformed it into one of our most valuable cultural legacies.

May the Hornbill continue to soar.

May the voices of the Naga hills echo far and wide.

And may the spirit of unity, creativity, and humanity continue to define us—as we honour the legacy of our ancestors and the boundless promise of our youth.

KUKNALIM !

ABU METHA

Advisor to Chief Minister

& Chairman, Investment & Development Authority of Nagaland (IDAN)





A word from the
MANAGING DIRECTOR, OKUSA TOYOTA

Toyota extends its heartfelt congratulations on the grand success of the 25th edition of the Hornbill Festival. It is with great pride and gratitude that we celebrate our third consecutive year as the Presenter of the Hornbill Music Festival—a platform that continues to uplift, inspire, and unite through the power of music and culture.

We are truly honoured to partner with the Government of Nagaland, especially the Tourism Department and the Task Force for Music and Arts (TaFMA), Government of Nagaland, in championing this extraordinary celebration of Naga heritage. The Hornbill Festival is more than an event—it is a living tapestry of traditions, creativity, and the resilient spirit of the people.

As presenters of the Hornbill Music Festival, we at Toyota are proud to support a stage that not only showcases exceptional talent but also fosters cultural pride and global connection. To witness the diverse voices, electrifying performances, and enthusiastic participation from across the world is a reminder of the festival's powerful impact.

We extend our sincere appreciation to the organizers, artistes, and everyone involved in making this silver jubilee edition a resounding success. Toyota remains deeply committed to supporting initiatives that empower youth, nurture communities, and celebrate cultural diversity.

We look forward to many more years of meaningful collaboration and celebration together.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Vikheho Swu", with a horizontal line underneath.

SHRI Y. VIKHEHO SWU

Managing Director

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NAGALAND THE LAND OF FESTIVALS

In the far northeastern corner of India lies Nagaland—a land where mist rolls over emerald hills, traditions run deep, and the rhythm of life echoes through every village and valley. Often called the Land of Festivals, this enchanting state offers a stunning mosaic of vibrant tribal culture, unspoiled landscapes, and resilient community life.

Nagaland became the 16th state of the Indian Union on 1st December, 1963, with Kohima as its capital. Spread across 16,579 square kilometers, it shares borders with Arunachal Pradesh to the northeast, Assam to the west and north, Manipur to the south, and Myanmar to the east. The terrain is rugged and hilly, with Mount Saramati (3,841 m) in Kiphire standing as the state's highest peak.

With a population of just under 2 million (Census 2011), Nagaland is home to 17 officially recognized tribes, each with its own language, attire, folklore, and festivals. While Indian English serves as the official language, Nagamese—a creole—acts as the common tongue across communities.

Life in Nagaland is closely tied to nature and tradition. Each tribe celebrates its own unique festivals, most of which follow agricultural cycles—marking sowing, harvest, purification, and ancestral rites. Among them, the Hornbill Festival, held every December, has gained global attention. Hosted at the Naga Heritage Village in Kisama, just outside Kohima, it's a cultural spectacle of music, dance, crafts, cuisine, and indigenous sports. Often dubbed the "Festival of Festivals," Hornbill is a window into the spirit of Nagaland.

The state's ecological richness is just as captivating as its cultural depth. Over 75% of Nagaland is forested, home to a dazzling array of flora and fauna. Wild orchids and rhododendrons burst into color across the hillsides. The elusive Blyth's Tragopan, the state bird, and the celebrated conservation of Amur Falcons—migratory raptors that rest here on their journey to Africa—highlight Nagaland's deepening environmental awareness.

Agriculture is the backbone of the economy, with jhum (shifting) cultivation still practiced widely. But there's a growing shift toward horticulture and organic farming. Nagaland is known for its aromatic pineapples, kiwis, and the legendary Bhut Jolokia or Raja Mircha—one of the world's spiciest chillies. Around Dimapur, farmers are also experimenting with crops like dragon fruit and passion fruit, paving the way for agri-tourism.

Bamboo, often called the "green gold" of Nagaland, is woven into every aspect of life—from musical instruments and traditional homes to Asia's largest Bamboo Pavilion in Kisama. It reflects not just resourcefulness, but also a commitment to sustainable living and indigenous craftsmanship.





Today, Nagaland finds itself at the intersection of tradition and modernity. Young people are embracing contemporary expressions through music, fashion, and entrepreneurship—but the soul of the community, heritage, and identity remains deeply rooted. Whether it's the sound of hilltop churches, the rhythm of bustling markets, or the silence of forest trails, Nagaland invites you not just to explore—but to listen.

To the beat of log drums, the rustle of bamboo, and the stories that ride the wind across ancient hills—Nagaland speaks. All you have to do is arrive, and listen.

ICONIC KOHIMA

Kohima, situated in the south at an altitude of 1444m above sea level, occupies pride of place as the capital city of Nagaland. When Nagaland became a full fledged state on the 1st of December, 1963, Kohima was christened as the capital of the state.

Kohima district has many villages that tourists can visit. All these villages are 'communitised' i.e. managed by village communities under the state's Village Tourism Board. Although originally an Angami Naga homeland, Kohima is now a tapestry of all the Naga tribes because of its administrative status.



1. JAPFÜ PEAK

Rising to 3,048 meters, Japfü Peak is the second-highest in Nagaland and the tallest in the Barail Range. Just south of Kohima, it offers sweeping views of the breathtaking Dzüko Valley—especially stunning during May and June when rhododendrons burst into bloom. One such tree here holds a Guinness World Record, standing over 20 meters tall.

The surrounding forests are rich with orchids, medicinal plants, and diverse birdlife, making it a paradise for nature lovers. For the Angami tribe, Japfü is more than a mountain—it is sacred ground, deeply woven into their cultural identity.



photo credit : Kekhrielhulie Nakhro

2. MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CATHEDRAL

Located on Aradura Hill in Kohima, the Mary Help of Christians Cathedral is one of the city's most striking landmarks. Its architecture is inspired by the traditional Naga house, beautifully blending local culture with faith.

One of its most impressive features is the 16-foot-high carved wooden crucifix—one of the largest crosses in Asia—which stands as a powerful symbol of devotion. Beyond its stunning design, the cathedral is the heart of the Catholic Church in Nagaland, serving as a spiritual home for many.



3. KOHIMA WAR CEMETERY - A TRIBUTE ON THE HILL

Kohima War Cemetery honors over 1,400 Allied soldiers who fell during the pivotal Battle of Kohima in 1944. Maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, it stands on the very grounds where fierce fighting took place, including near the historic tennis court of the British Deputy Commissioner's bungalow.

Rows of white headstones and the iconic memorial bearing the epitaph—

“When You Go Home, Tell Them Of Us And Say, For Your Tomorrow, We Gave Our Today.”

—remind visitors of the courage and sacrifice that changed the course of World War II in the East. Kohima War Cemetery is a timeless symbol of peace, sacrifice, and remembrance.



4. KHONOMA GREEN VILLAGE

Khonoma is a village near Kohima known for its strong community values, rich traditions, and deep respect for nature. Once a warrior village, it has now become a model for conservation and sustainable living. The people of Khonoma have worked together to protect their forests and wildlife, leading to the creation of a community-managed sanctuary. With its beautiful terraced fields, green hills, and warm hospitality, Khonoma is a place where tradition and nature come together in harmony.



Photo credit - Apen Tanujang



photo credit : Meguo Dolie

5. DZÜKOU VALLEY

Perched at an altitude of 2,452 meters on the border of Nagaland and Manipur, Dzükou Valley is a sanctuary of peace, seclusion, and raw natural beauty. Famous for its sweeping meadows, seasonal wildflowers, and the rare Dzükou lily, the valley offers a soul-stirring experience to all who venture here.

Trekking to Dzükou is both a challenge and a reward—steep climbs, rocky paths, and panoramic mountain views define the journey. Rock climbing and bird watching are popular activities, making it a favourite among adventure seekers and nature lovers alike. With basic accommodation available near the valley, visitors can soak in the serene atmosphere, explore the diverse flora and fauna, and reconnect with nature in a setting untouched by time.



6. DZÜLEKE

Tucked amidst the forested hills about 40 kilometers from Kohima, Dzüleke is a hidden gem that offers an intimate glimpse into rural life in Nagaland. This quiet Angami village, named after the river that flows gently through it, remains untouched by the pace of modernity. With its cobbled pathways, terraced fields, and traditional wooden houses, Dzüleke is as much a cultural experience as it is a nature retreat.

Surrounded by semi-evergreen forests and rich biodiversity, the village is home to the revered Mithun and the endangered Blyth's Tragopan. Conservation is central to life here—visitors contribute a small fee that supports community-led efforts to preserve both the environment and local traditions. From weaving and bamboo craft to traditional games and Angami cuisine, the village invites visitors to engage with a way of life rooted deeply in nature.

Whether you're walking its forest trails, observing butterflies and birds, or simply soaking in the serene rhythm of village life, Dzüleke offers a rare and authentic experience—one where people and nature thrive in quiet harmony.



Photo credit - Khovi Punyü

7. PULIE BADZE WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Located just a few kilometers from Kohima, in Jotsoma Village, Pulie Badze is a mountain peak standing at 2,296 meters (7,533 feet) and forms the mystical heart of the Pulie Badze Wildlife Sanctuary. Steeped in legend and natural beauty, the sanctuary is named after Pulie, a heroic ancestor of Jotsoma, who is said to have turned into a spirit after a legendary encounter with a serpent.

Covering an area of 9.23 sq. km, this sanctuary is home to a wide variety of flora and fauna, including over 250 plant species, medicinal herbs, bamboo groves, and striking rhododendrons that bloom in vibrant red. Bird lovers may spot rare species such as the endangered Blyth's Tragopan and the White-naped Yuhina.

The approach road from Kohima Science College junction, via Sazolie College, winds through forested hills and leads to a rest stop—perfect for picnics and panoramic views of the Japfü range. From here, the walking trail to the peak takes about 30 to 60 minutes. The scenic trek is enriched by the lush forest, orchids, and the serene calls of birds, making Pulie Badze a perfect escape into nature for both locals and travelers seeking peace, adventure, and a touch of folklore.

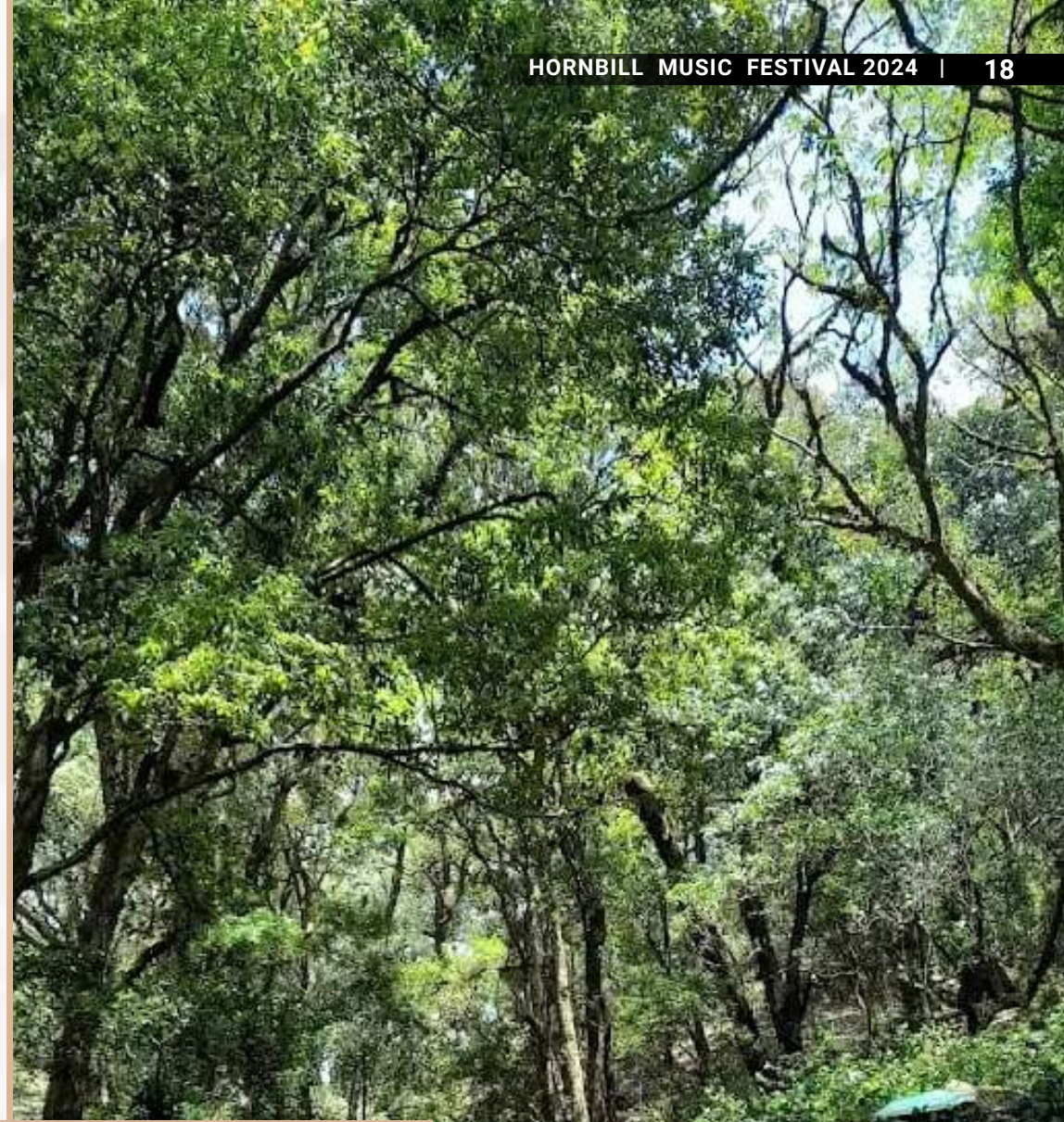


photo credit : Kekhrielhulie Nakhro

KISAMA - NAGA HERITAGE VILLAGE

Located on the gentle slopes between Kigwema and Phesama villages, about 12 kilometers south of Kohima along National Highway 39, Kisama Heritage Village is the cultural heart of Nagaland and the iconic venue of the annual Hornbill Festival. More than just a picturesque setting, Kisama is a vibrant cultural landmark that reflects the history, identity, and traditions of the Nagas.

The name “ Kisama ” is a portmanteau from Kigwema and Phesama, symbolizing unity and shared heritage. Established in 2003 by the Government of Nagaland, the village was envisioned as a platform to promote tourism through the celebration of Naga culture. It was inaugurated on the 1st of December which is also the Nagaland Statehood Day. Which then became the permanent site for the Hornbill Festival.

Designed in the shape of the Nagaland state map, Kisama features a cluster of traditional morungs — tribal houses representing each of the 17 major Naga tribes. These morungs are constructed in authentic indigenous styles, displaying the distinct craftsmanship, architecture, and cultural identity of each tribe. Historically, morungs served as communal learning spaces where young men were trained in social values, oral history, crafts, and warfare. Today, they stand as symbols of continuity and pride, offering visitors a glimpse into the traditional life of the Nagas.



Kisama functions as a dynamic site for cultural preservation and celebration. It brings together artists, musicians, craftsmen, performers, vendors, and local communities in a collective effort to preserve and promote Naga culture and heritage through responsible tourism. It also provides economic opportunities while fostering deeper understanding and pride in indigenous knowledge systems.

Though many traditional practices gradually receded following the advent of Christianity in Nagaland, Kisama reflects a conscious and coordinated effort by the people and the state to preserve and revive these ancient customs and traditions. The Hornbill Festival, held here annually, has grown into one of India's most prominent cultural festivals, attracting visitors from across the world.

Over the years, Kisama has become a beautiful and meaningful space not just for showcasing tradition, but for bringing people together. For many Nagas, it is a place to reconnect with their roots; for visitors, it offers a rare opportunity to experience the diversity and depth of Naga culture in one setting. With each passing year, the village continues to evolve while staying true to its purpose: to honour the past, celebrate the present, and keep the stories of the Naga people alive for the future.



OTHER ATTRACTION AT KISAMA HERITAGE VILLAGE

INTERNATIONAL MORUNG

Inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland last year — a space that celebrates global cultures while rooted in Naga tradition.



WORLD WAR II MUSEUM

This museum offers visitors a glimpse into the historic Battle of Kohima, one of the turning points of World War II. It serves as a poignant reminder of Nagaland's role in global history and provides educational insight through wartime artefacts, photographs, and documents.



HANDLOOM & CRAFT PAVILION MARKETING COMPLEX

Inaugurated by Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio on November 26, the Handloom & Craft Pavilion is a dedicated space to promote traditional craftsmanship and support local artisans. The pavilion consists of 132 stalls across two floors and Facilities such as Handloom Museum, VIP lounge, administrative offices, conference hall, cafeteria, and accessible amenities for PWDs.

This complex has become a vibrant space for economic growth and cultural promotion, helping artisans connect with broader markets while preserving traditional skills.



HORTISCAPE AND AGRI PAVILION AT KISAMA

The Hortiscape and Agri Pavilion at Kisama, inaugurated during the Hornbill Festival 2021, has become a thriving space that celebrates the region's rich biodiversity and horticultural talent. Featuring a vivid array of greens, succulents, orchids, cacti, flowering plants, and pine saplings, the pavilion showcases the work of floriculturists from Nagaland and beyond, including Sikkim. Alongside the live displays is a State-level flower show-cum-competition that draws participation across diverse categories, reflecting the creativity and dedication of local growers. The pavilion also hosts a vibrant agri-market, offering a variety of fresh fruits, vegetables, mushrooms, and spices from districts across the state, presented by local entrepreneurs and SHGs. This initiative not only promotes sustainable agriculture and floriculture but also provides a platform for farmers and artisans to engage with a wider audience during the Hornbill Festival.



IMAGILAND AT KISAMA+

Imagi.LAND – A Happy Place for Happy People Tucked away within the culturally rich and scenic Kisama Heritage Village, imagi.LAND – formerly known as Kisama Children’s Park—has been reimagined and brought to life with a renewed purpose. Officially reopening its doors on November 26th, 2022, the space has been lovingly reconstructed to offer a fresh, vibrant experience that caters to people of all ages.

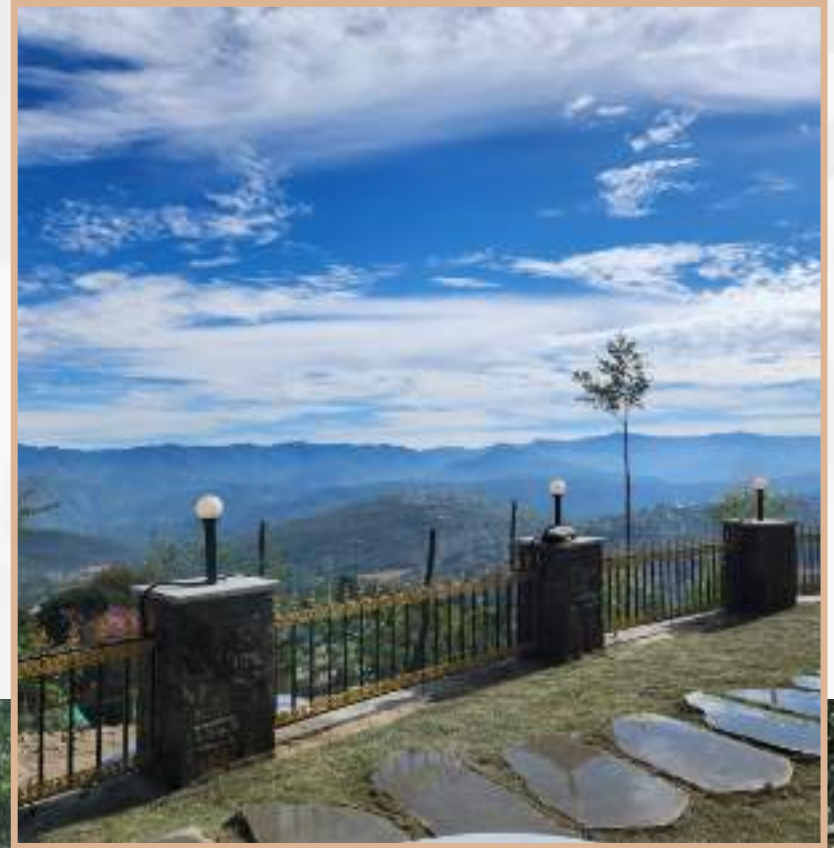
This transformation is more than just a physical upgrade. imagi.LAND has been thoughtfully designed to be a space of joy, exploration, and meaningful connection—a true sanctuary away from the noise and demands of urban life. With its tagline, "a happy place for happy people," imagi.LAND invites you to pause, breathe, and embrace a slower, more fulfilling pace.

Whether you're a local resident or a visiting traveler, it offers something for everyone, a warm cup of tea at the cozy on-site café overlooking the park, a dedicated park zone, the book corner, the art space, designed to inspire both kids and adults alike and engage in community moments at the Open-Air Theatre (OAT) area or unwind in the treehouse. But imagi.LAND isn't just a recreational spot—it's also a versatile venue for gatherings and small events, making it ideal for school picnics, birthday parties, workshops, or casual get-togethers, events. With wide-open green spaces, interactive corners, and family-friendly amenities, it's a location that effortlessly blends fun, learning, and serenity. At its core, imagi.LAND aims to become one of Kohima's most beloved destinations—a place where both children and adults can disconnect from the hustle, reconnect with nature, and experience unforgettable moments together. As we continue to grow and add more to the space, our mission remains the same: to create a space full of heart, laughter, and creativity.



LEGISLATORS' PARK

The Legislators' Park at Kisama stands as a dignified tribute to the democratic journey of Nagaland. At its heart is the Roll of Honour, which commemorates all Members of the Nagaland Legislative Assembly (NLA) from 1964 to the present day. This permanent installation serves as a mark of respect to the elected leaders who have shaped the state's political landscape, celebrating their service and the trust bestowed upon them by the people of Nagaland. The park offers visitors a moment of reflection on the state's democratic legacy amidst the cultural vibrance of Kisama.



KISAMA MAIN ARENA

The Prefab Kisama Main Arena is the centrepiece of the Hornbill Festival, accommodating around 7,000 audience members with a professionally equipped performance stage and artist amenities. During the day, the Department of Art and Culture presents vibrant showcases of traditional Naga dance, music, and indigenous games, celebrating the rich cultural heritage of the tribes. As night falls, the arena transforms into the main concert venue of the Hornbill Music Festival, hosting electrifying performances by local and international artists, making it a dynamic space that bridges tradition and contemporary entertainment.





ABOUT HORNBILL FESTIVAL

The Hornbill Festival, held annually from December 1st to 10th, is a modern-day cultural extravaganza that celebrates the rich and diverse heritage of all Naga tribes. Conceptualized as a platform to showcase both traditional and contemporary facets of Naga life, the festival embodies the spirit of unity in diversity, bringing together various tribes in a vibrant display of their unique customs, arts, and traditions.

Hosted at the Naga Heritage Village in Kisama, located approximately 12 kilometers from Kohima, the capital of Nagaland, the Hornbill Festival is one of India's most remarkable cultural events. The Heritage Village was established with the vision of preserving and promoting the ethnic legacy of the Naga people through a shared space that enables cultural documentation, community engagement, and tourism development.





Since its inception in 2000, the festival has transformed Nagaland's image from a land cloaked in mystery to a globally recognized cultural destination. It plays a pivotal role in promoting tourism, encouraging cultural exchange, and fostering pride among the indigenous communities.

One of the most distinctive features of the festival is the cluster of seventeen traditional Morungs (tribal youth dormitories) at Kisama, each representing one of the major Naga tribes. These structures are carefully crafted to reflect the unique architectural style, symbolism, and cultural elements of the respective tribes, offering visitors a rare opportunity to experience the diversity of Naga heritage in one place.

Throughout the ten days, the village comes alive with traditional music, energetic dance performances, indigenous sports, storytelling sessions, and tribal rituals that provide a deeper understanding of the Naga way of life. Visitors can witness the war dance of the Konyaks, the Zeliang's bamboo dance, or the Sümi warriors' spear displays, each echoing centuries-old traditions passed down through generations.

The Hornbill Festival is also a haven for local artisans and craftsmen, who showcase and sell their intricate handwoven textiles, wood carvings, beadwork, pottery, and bamboo products. The vibrant marketplace becomes a melting pot of cultural expression and entrepreneurship, giving traditional skills a modern platform and encouraging sustainable livelihoods.

Adding to the cultural tapestry are rock concerts, fashion shows, film screenings, art exhibitions, and food fairs, blending the traditional with the contemporary. The festival is named after the Great Indian Hornbill, a bird highly revered in Naga folklore for its grandeur and symbolism of honor and courage—traits that mirror the spirit of the Naga people.

Over the years, the Hornbill Festival has become a symbol of cultural resurgence and unity, drawing not just the tribes of Nagaland but also visitors from across India and abroad. It is a time when barriers dissolve and identities shine, making it a truly inclusive event that celebrates the resilience, beauty, and vibrancy of Naga culture.



Whether you're a cultural enthusiast, an explorer, or simply a traveler in search of meaning, the Hornbill Festival offers an unforgettable experience—where heritage breathes, stories live, and the mountains echo with celebration.



ABOUT TaFMA

The Task Force for Music & Arts (TaFMA), under the Department of Youth Resources & Sports, Government of Nagaland, is a groundbreaking initiative dedicated to nurturing and promoting the creative potential of the youth. Since its inception, TaFMA has played a transformative role in the state's music and cultural landscape—empowering artistes, building infrastructure, and positioning music and the arts as viable industries.



TaFMA's roots trace back to the establishment of the Music Task Force (MTF) on 6th August 2004—the first government-led initiative in India to formally recognize music as an industry. MTF was envisioned as a platform to harness the immense musical talent of the Naga youth and to support them through training, exposure, and employment opportunities. Through festivals, workshops, and artist support programs, MTF laid the foundation for a thriving music culture that gained recognition across the region and the country.

In 2019, with a growing awareness of the need for a more inclusive and multidisciplinary platform, the Government of Nagaland restructured MTF into the Task Force for Music & Arts (TaFMA). This transition marked a significant evolution—broadening the mandate to encompass the full spectrum of the arts, including visual, performing, literary, digital, and traditional art forms. TaFMA emerged as a comprehensive cultural body committed to the growth of creative industries and the holistic development of artists across the state.





Since then, TaFMA has become a catalyst of cultural empowerment. It has enabled countless musicians and artists to pursue their crafts professionally, created employment opportunities, and fostered an environment where creativity is celebrated and supported. From grassroots initiatives to international collaborations, TaFMA continues to raise the bar for what is possible in the music and arts sector.

With this structured approach, the industry is now moving forward in a planned and cohesive manner—encouraging maximum participation from every corner of the state. Importantly, the welfare of stakeholders is placed at the centre of TaFMA's vision. Artistes, musicians, sound and light vendors, event managers, thespians, music institutes, production houses, performing arts institutions, and other cultural practitioners all find representation, support, and opportunity within this dynamic ecosystem.

Nagaland has distinguished itself as the first state in India to officially recognize music and the arts as an industry. Through TaFMA, this recognition is not just symbolic—it is being actively translated into policy, action, and impact. TaFMA stands as a movement rooted in creativity, driven by vision, and sustained by the talent and aspirations of the people.



TaFMA TEAM



SHRI THEJA MERU
Chairman



DR. HOVITHAL N. SOTHU
Project Director



MR. MENGUZELIE MARCUS GEISUO
Sound Engineer



MR. ADU KEDITSU
Manager (Electronics & Power)



MR. VITOI JOHN
LDA Cum Computer Assistant



MR. RÜÜKHOLIE PESEYIE
MTS



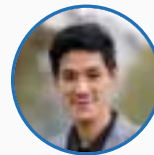
MR. MIAZIETUOLIE PESEYIE
MTS



MS. ALENO SALE
Media Officer (db)



MR. IMCHA IMCHEN
Music Producer (db)



MR. MERENSUBA SANGTAM
Sound Assistant (db)



MS. MENOVINO NAKHRO
Office Assistant (db)



MR. BHIM THAPA
Tech. Attendant (db)



MR. TEJONGOL
Tech. Attendant (db)

TAFMA INFRASTRUCTURES

At the heart of TaFMA's vision lies a series of thoughtfully designed spaces, each one crafted to foster creativity, collaboration, and excellence in music and arts. These spaces are more than just buildings; they are incubators for innovation, gathering places for artists and musicians, and cultural landmarks that reflect the unique spirit of Nagaland.

1. Regional Centre of Excellence for Music and Performing Arts (RCEMPA), Jotsoma, Kohima

Nestled at the foot of the iconic Pulie Badze, a beloved hilltop destination for trekkers, RCEMPA is the heart of TaFMA'S Initiatives. It is here that TaFMA's main office resides, serving as the central hub for all our projects and initiatives. This inspiring location is home to several key spaces:





Main Hall (Capacity: 463)

A grand venue for indoor performances, concerts, cultural events, and festivals, providing an immersive experience for both performers and audiences.



Conference Hall

A versatile space for meetings, workshops, seminars and conclaves.

Caf e Dazzle



Cafeteria

A gathering spot where creatives can relax, recharge, and exchange ideas.



Creative Connection (Art Space)

A dedicated space for fine Arts, workshops, exhibitions, and artistic events, designed to foster creativity and collaboration across different art forms.



GOCA

GALLERY OF CONTEMPORARY ART



Gallery of Contemporary Arts (GOCA)

A space that celebrates the rich diversity of contemporary art, showcasing both local and global talent.



Mini Open Amphitheatre

A more intimate venue for outdoor performances, meetings, smaller shows and private events.



Musify (Recording Studio)

A state-of-the-art facility for music production, offering artists the tools they need to create, record, and refine their sound.



2. Centre of Excellence for Music and Arts (CEMA), New Minister's Hill, Kohima

CEMA serves as the city office for TaFMA, facilitating ongoing programs and initiatives in the heart of Kohima. It provides a hub for local artists and the public to access resources, mentorship, and training, strengthening the connection between the arts community and the wider population.



3. TaFMA Lounge, Toyota Ki, Kisama

Located within the vibrant Hornbill Festival village, the TaFMA Lounge, operated by Dcafé, is a perfect space for musicians and creative minds to relax, connect, and unwind. More than just a café, this lounge provides a welcoming environment for small gigs, impromptu performances, and casual jam sessions. With its cozy, laid-back vibe, it serves as an ideal space for artists to meet, collaborate, and showcase their talents in an intimate setting. The Lounge is functional the whole year round from Tuesday to Sunday. During the festival season, the lounge becomes a cultural hub where the community can enjoy live music, creative discussions, and good company.



Testimonials

Visiting Nagaland and the legendary Hornbill Festival was very meaningful for me and my fellow Colombian colleagues.

The celebration of the richness in diversity, multiculturalism and love for music, nature and cultural roots is something we both share and which is amazing.

From Bogotá, Colombia to Kohima, Nagaland we lived a unique musical experience at the Hornbill Festival.

Thanks to Nagaland for showcasing the Colombian music as a bridge to get together India and Colombia.

His Excellency

VICTOR ECHEVERRI
Ambassador of Colombia to India

Victor E.



Shri KIREN RIJJU

Minister of Parliamentary Affairs & Minister of Minority Affairs, INDIA.
MP of Arunachal Pradesh.

"I have visited thousands of festivals across the globe, in India and abroad.. But I have never seen any festival organised in so composite, such varieties of events and everything in one show. Hornbill Festival is really the festival of festivals, it's such an amazing feeling."

Testimonials

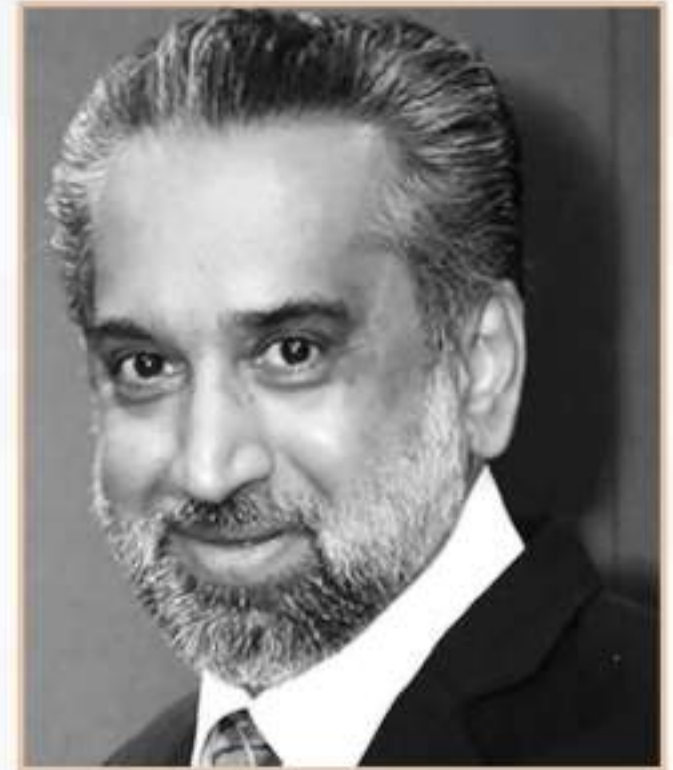
RADHAKHRISHNAN NAIR

Editor & Publisher
RollingStone India

"Hornbill festival is easily among the best state festivals in the country. The range of Naga culture, cuisine and music it showcases was a pleasant revelation to me when I was there few years ago. Combined with the natural beauty of the state, and the great weather makes Hornbill festival a Festival that everyone should experience.

Also commendable are the excellent organisational skills of the TaFMA, which not only conducts the annual music event but also works through the year to develop musical talent in Nagaland through programmes like Thinkfest, Open Mic Nights, and association with organisations like A R Rahman's Music conservatory. Rolling Stone India has over the years worked closely with TaFMA in a variety of initiatives including the Ticket to Hornbill musical concert series organised in other cities around the country.

And I can say that it is an organisation that does Nagaland proud.."



UDAY BENEAL

Vocalist
Indus Creed

"Performing at the Hornbill Music Festival had been on Indus Creed's wish list for a while. When we finally made it there in 2019 we felt as if we'd returned home. Nagaland has felt like home to us since we first played in Kohima in 1989 and we are always thrilled to return. Thank you, Nagaland and the fabulous Hornbill Festival for bringing us back. See you soon."

Testimonials

MS. MELINDA PAVEK U.S Consul General

"I have visited thousands of festivals across the globe, in India and abroad.. But I have never seen any festival organised in so composite, such varieties of events and everything in one show. Hornbill Festival is really the festival of festivals, it's such an amazing feeling."

*Inauguration of Hornbill Music Festival
2nd December, 2021*



testimonials

A.R. RAHMAN
Grammy & Academy Award Winner

"I have been in love with the North East for many years, and this, my first trip to Nagaland, has captured my heart even more."



HORNBILL FESTIVAL 2024

COUNTRY PARTNERS:
PERU, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, JAPAN, WALES



**HORNBILL FESTIVAL
2024**

COUNTRY PARTNER



PERU

1-10 DECEMBER, 2024



**HORNBILL FESTIVAL
2024**

COUNTRY PARTNER



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1-10 DECEMBER, 2024



**HORNBILL FESTIVAL
2024**

COUNTRY PARTNER



JAPAN

1-10 DECEMBER, 2024



**HORNBILL FESTIVAL
2024**

COUNTRY PARTNER



WALES

1-10 DECEMBER, 2024

The Hornbill Music Festival is proud to celebrate the spirit of global friendship and cultural exchange through its international partnerships. In the 25th edition, the festival has been honoured to welcome Peru, the United States of America, Japan, and Wales as esteemed partner countries.

Their participation has enriched the festival with diverse sounds, artistic expressions, and enduring connections between communities across continents. These partnerships reaffirm Hornbill's place as a global platform for music, dialogue, and creative collaboration.



TOYOTA
PRESENTS

1-10 DECEMBER, 2024
THE NAGA HERITAGE VILLAGE, KISAMA, KOHIMA

Instagram: @nagaland, @hornbill_music, @hornbillmusicfestival.com

TOYOTA
Hornbill
Music Festival
2024
NAGA HERITAGE VILLAGE FESTIVAL
1-10 DECEMBER, 2024
NAGA HERITAGE VILLAGE, KISAMA, KOHIMA - INDIA

**BIG MOUNTAIN • RICKY KEJ
DJOLLY ESSE**

1-10 DECEMBER, 2024
NAGA HERITAGE VILLAGE, KISAMA, KOHIMA - INDIA

**INDUS CREED • PANKAJAM
GRESH AND THE CHRONICLES • MOTHER JANE
AOCRA • PXP • NCHANTER • SAMRUAD
SHEREYA JAIN**

DRUM TAO (JAPAN - Country Partner) • MARI MATHIPO (USA - Country Partner)
YOSUKE IRIE (JAPAN - Country Partner) • ESTAMPAS DEL PERU (PERU - Country Partner)
CARETH BONELLO (USA - Country Partner) • NIQ (USA - Country Partner)
TRANCE EFFECT • PROJECT ANONYMOUS • ALODO NAGA
RUN MONDAY RUN • EDG • THE ELECTRIC COOL KID • VERSION2 • 2 INDUS
AROGYA • RAIN IN SAHARA • DJ SHUGI BORN • FIFTHNOTE • THE PROPHETS
BLUE TEMPTATION • KL PAMEI • THE NAGALAND MADRIGAL SINGERS
NOHPA SINGERS • KITHAGHA UNION BAPTIST CHURCH CHOIR
THE CELESTIAL VOICES, BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH TSEMNYU • ERENE CHOIR
AODON MECH • KMITO • JONATHAN YHOME • AVORA RECORDS
THE GLUTTONS • TETSED SISTERS • NAGALAND COLLECTIVE
DJINA • NAGALAND FOLKLORE



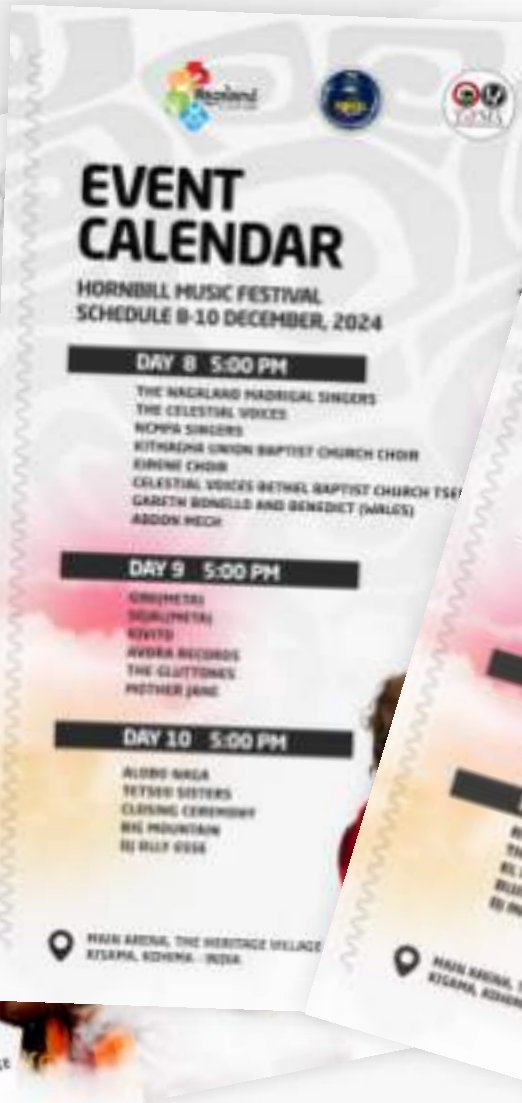
EVENT CALENDAR
HORNBILL MUSIC FESTIVAL
SCHEDULE 1-3 DECEMBER, 2024

DAY 1 5:00 PM
OPENING CEREMONY
DRUM TAO (JAPAN)
YOSHIE SUE (JAPANESE FLUTIST)
MARI MATSUDA (MALES COUNTRY PARTNER)
HIGHLAND COLLECTIVE
FRANCE EFFECT

DAY 2 5:00 PM
DRUHYND
MARI MATSUDA (JAPANESE)
ESTAMPES DEL PERU (PERU)
MEXICAN BAND
HIGH HOLIDAY BLU

DAY 3 5:00 PM
J ENKAI
MUSKING
JANISIAN THONG
ESTAMPES DEL PERU
ERI
NEMANTER
THE ELECTRIC COOL KID

MAJALAKSA, THE HERITAGE VILLAGE
KUSUMBA, BOMBAY - INDIA



EVENT CALENDAR
HORNBILL MUSIC FESTIVAL
SCHEDULE 8-10 DECEMBER, 2024

DAY 8 5:00 PM
THE NAGALAND MADRICAL SINGERS
THE CELESTIAL VOICES
NOMPA SINGERS
KITHAHO UNION BAPTIST CHURCH CHOR
KIRINI CHOR
CELESTIAL VOICES (WETHAL BAPTIST CHURCH TSO)
GARSTH BONGILO AND BENSIDIET (MILCS)
ADDON WICK

DAY 9 5:00 PM
GIM(MEHA)
SOM(PHETA)
KIVVO
AVORA RECORDS
THE GLUTTONS
MOTHER JANE

DAY 10 5:00 PM
ALORDI NAGA
TETSUO SISTERS
CLOSING CEREMONY
BIG MOUNTAIN
BU BILP KUSA

MAJALAKSA, THE HERITAGE VILLAGE
KUSUMBA, BOMBAY - INDIA



EVENT CALENDAR
HORNBILL MUSIC FESTIVAL
SCHEDULE 4-7 DECEMBER, 2024

DAY 4 5:00 PM
AROSTA
SODORUZ
BAIN IN SAKHAK

DAY 5 5:00 PM
PRODUCE BROTHERHOODS
PXP
ACORA
SARAYE SAN
BU STALUP

DAY 6 5:00 PM
FELICEMORE
PADERHAKA
MILLO CREED
GIRISH AND THE CHORUSKELLED

DAY 7 5:00 PM
RHYTHMS OF THE EARTH (SANGHAR)
THE PROPAGETS
BL PAPER
BLISS TEMPERATION
BU DHA

Hornbill Music Festival
IN BORN IN
MAJALAKSA, THE HERITAGE VILLAGE



MAJALAKSA, THE HERITAGE VILLAGE
KUSUMBA, BOMBAY - INDIA

OPENING CEREMONY

The Hornbill Festival opens with a grand celebration that brings together the vibrant cultural mosaic of Nagaland. Held at the Naga Heritage Village, Kisama, the opening ceremony is a stirring display of tradition and unity, featuring colourful performances by cultural troupes from across the state's tribes, alongside special guests and dignitaries.

More than just a ceremony, it is a symbolic moment that marks the beginning of ten days of music, art, dance, dialogue, and discovery. With the beating of the log drum and the rhythm of ancestral songs, the spirit of Hornbill comes alive—welcoming the world to experience the heart of Naga heritage.



1. Most Rev. Dr. James Thoppil DD Bishop of Kohima | 2. Shri Temjen Imna Along Hon'ble Minister, Tourism & Higher Education
 3. Keretsu Head G.B, Kohima Village | 4. Ms. Alison Barrett MBE, Country Director, IndiaBritish Council Division and Minister Educational and Cultural Affairs.
 5. H. E. Mr. Keiichi Ono, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to India. 6. Shri. La Ganesan Hon'ble Governor, Nagaland
 7. Dr. Neiphiu Rio Hon'ble Chief Minister, Nagaland | 8. Dr. A. R. Rahman, Padma Bhushan, Grammy & Oscar winner.
 9. Ms. Lindy Cameron, CB OBE, British High Commissioner to India | 10. H.E. Mr. Javier Manuel Paulinich Velarde, Ambassador of the Republic of Peru to India.
 11. Dr. Y. Kiran Kumar, Chairman, Suchirindia Group of Companies & Suchirindia Foundation and Hon. Consul, Republic of Bulgaria
 12. Jorgan Andrews, Deputy Chief of Mission, United States Embassy. | 13. Mr. Andrew Gwatkin, Director of International Relations & Trade, Welsh Government.





LAUNCH OF TOYOTA HORNBILL MUSIC FESTIVAL

On the second day of the Hornbill Festival, the much-anticipated Toyota Hornbill Music Festival was officially launched at Kisama. The launch event was graced by dignitaries from Toyota, Shri Theja Meru, Chairman of TaFMA, and Shri Abu Metha, Advisor to the Chief Minister and Chairman of IDAN.



Theja Meru | Takayuki Ueda | Ryusuke Miyake | Nobuaki Yahiro | Vikheho Swu | Abu Metha | Manasi Tata
Tadashi Asazuma | Takahiro Jitoshu | Keitaro Asano | Shinya Watanabe



A celebration of sound, talent, and creative spirit, the festival brought together artists from across India and beyond. With Toyota as the title sponsor, the partnership marked a significant milestone in strengthening the platform for music and youth engagement in Nagaland.





DRUM TAO

DAY 1



The Drum Tao, Japan was established in 1993, with a dream of creating the best show in the world using Taiko drums (Japanese drums)

Their performance had been witnessed by 9 Million+ spectators world wide. They are also the recipients of Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications Award from the Japanese Government and The 6th Japan Tourism Agency Commissioner Award.



YOSUKE IRIE

DAY 1

Yosuke Irie is a Japanese Flutist who plays "The shakuhachi", a traditional Japanese bamboo flute, a central instrument in both classical and modern music. Irie's remarkable achievements include winning the 1st Prize and Gold Prize in the Traditional Japanese Music Competition in Japan, as well as receiving testimonial letters from the Consulate-General in the USA and the President of Tahiti. He holds a Shakuhachi Master License, "Sihan," from the Tozan-Ryu School and graduated from the Japanese Music Department of Toho Gakuen College of Music and Drama in Tokyo.

YOSUKE IRIE



MARI MATHIAS



MARI MATHIAS

DAY 1

Mari Mathias, a 24-year-old Welsh artist, blends nature, tradition, and contemporary influences to create mystical, folk-inspired music. Singing in her native Welsh, she reimagines traditional melodies from West Wales and Pembrokeshire, bringing a surge of energy and delicate, melodic vocals to the stage. Growing up in the rural village of Talgarreg near the Ceredigion coastline, Mari's debut album *Annwn* (2022) is deeply personal, framed around samples of her great-grandfather's cassette tapes, offering a window into a place that no longer exists but holds deep significance. Described as alternative folk, her sound captures the essence of a nation redefining itself.



NAGALAND COLLECTIVE

DAY 1



TRANCE EFFECT

DAY 1

Trance Effect, one of Nagaland's most electrifying and dynamic bands, is ready to amplify their impact on the music scene with their signature sound and unwavering passion. The band, known for its genre-blending melodies and soul-stirring lyrics, has been making waves in the regional and national music circuits, earning a loyal fanbase and critical acclaim.

Formed in the heart of Nagaland, Trance Effect brings together a group of talented artists who share a common vision of redefining contemporary music. Their sound is an eclectic mix of alternative rock, indie vibes, and experimental elements that resonate deeply with listeners. With their unique approach, the band has not only set themselves apart but has also contributed to putting Nagaland's rich musical heritage on the map.



They recently went to the Gwangju Busking World Cup in South Korea. They also composed the Theme song for the 25th edition of the Hornbill Music Festival.



RICARDO DELGADO & ESTAMPAS DEL PERU

DAY 2

The Cultural Association, “**ESTAMPAS DEL PERU**” has been dedicated to the promotion and dissemination of Peruvian culture abroad for over 25 years, bringing the vibrancy of traditional Peruvian music and dance to international audiences.

The association is spearheaded by Ricardo Delgado, a renowned artist born in Arequipa, Peru. Ricardo is a multifaceted musician—an accomplished singer, author, composer, and instrumentalist. He studied music at the National University of San Agustín (UNSA) in Arequipa and gained early experience as a flute player in various Latin American music groups.

In the 1990s, he expanded his musical expertise by traveling to Europe, where he pursued further studies at the conservatories of Bois-Colombes and Levallois-Perret in France, all while showcasing Peruvian music in concerts throughout Europe. His dedication to promoting Peruvian culture earned him a Diploma and Medal of Honor in Arequipa, acknowledging him as an ambassador of Peruvian music abroad. Ricardo Delgado now resides in Paris, France, where he continues his mission of cultural advocacy.



RICARDO DELGADO
& ESTAMPAS DEL PERU



NJQ (AMERICAN BAND)

DAY 2

NJQ(USA) is a jazz quartet consisting of Michael Glynn, Delbert Anderson, Reuel Lubag, and Ed Littlefield. They represent powerful and diverse musical traditions and cultural identities, enriching the jazz world with their distinctive contributions.

Michael Glynn, a seasoned bassist born in Seattle, has collaborated with jazz legends such as Eric Alexander, Dave Grusin, and Louis Hayes, while also exploring classical, calypso, and Arab/European music. His versatile

performances have spanned the Pacific Northwest, New Mexico, and the Bay Area.

Delbert Anderson, a Diné jazz trumpet artist and educator, blends Navajo “spinning songs” with jazz, funk, and hip-hop, while using his music to preserve and share Diné history. Anderson’s work, including projects like “The Long Walk: 1,674 Days,” reflects on historical narratives and his community’s resilience.

Reuel Lubag, a multi-talented musician and educator based in

the Pacific Northwest, is known for his work with the Native Jazz Quartet and his involvement in programs like the US Department of State’s American Music Abroad. Lubag’s vast performance history includes collaborations with jazz greats such as Dizzy Gillespie and Joe Williams, and he continues to perform regularly at local jazz venues.

Ed Littlefield, a percussionist and composer of Lingít heritage, brings indigenous traditions into the jazz realm through the Native

Jazz Quartet and his acclaimed solo projects. As a cultural ambassador, Littlefield has composed for film, theater, and the stage, including groundbreaking work on a Lingít opera.

Together, these four musicians embody a fusion of heritage, jazz, and innovation, using their craft to educate, inspire, and connect audiences across generations.

RUN MONDAY RUN DAY 2




RUN MONDAY RUN

2 I N D I A S

2 I N D I A S

DAY 3



 [sahil.vasudeva](https://www.instagram.com/sahil.vasudeva)



JONATHAN YHOME

DAY 3



JONATHAN YHOME

EXI

DAY 3



EXI

NCHANTER

DAY 3



NCHANTER

DAY 3
**THE ELECTRIC
COOL KID**



THE ELECTRIC COOL KID



DAY 4
AROGYA



AROGYA

DAY 4

VERSION2

A Dimapur based metal band VERSION2 is an offshoot of two different bands which incepted coinciding World Music Day 2019. We Call ourselves the version 2 of the other bands involved with different genres as Metal, mostly influenced by System of a Down, Disturbed, Pantera & Megadeth.



VERSION2

DAY 4
**RAIN
IN SAHARA**



DAY 5
**PROJECT
ANONYMOUS**



PROJECT ANONYMOUS

DAY 5

PXP

PXP a sibling duo from Mumbai, India, with singer, rapper, and multi-talented artist Pratika, and music producer and sound engineer PrabhuNeigh.



DAY 5 AORA

Renowned for his versatility, Aora has sung in multiple languages, including Hindi, Assamese, Malayalam, Punjabi, Korean, etc. He is known for his fusion of Indian music together with Korean music. He has showcased his musical prowess in tourism and culture festivals by Uttar Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, and Arts & Culture Department further solidifying his connection with India.

With a dedicated fan base spanning India, USA, Indonesia, Brazil, Thailand, and South Korea, Aora's performances are always a captivating experience.

A O O R A





SHREYA JAIN

DAY 5

SHREYA JAIN

Shreya Jain is a distinguished singer-songwriter and music producer from Nagpur, Maharashtra, India. Immersed in music from the age of 5 under the mentorship of her father, the esteemed Hindustani Classical Vocalist Shyam Jain, Shreya has developed her craft with dedication and passion. Though she holds a degree in Interior Design, Shreya chose to follow her true calling, relocating to Mumbai to pursue a full-time career in music.

Her unwavering commitment to her art has earned her an extraordinary fan base that transcends geographical borders, with over 2 million followers on social media. Shreya's original compositions have received widespread recognition, frequently featured on Spotify's top playlists. In April 2024, she was spotlighted as a 'Spotify Radar India' Artist and has been showcased on the covers of Spotify's Indie India and Hindies playlists. She was also named one of Amazon Music's Breakthrough Artists to Watch in 2024.

DAY 5
DJ STULIP
(ISRAEL)



DJ STULIP

FIFTH NOTE

DAY 6

Experimental Progressive Rock Band from Nagaland
Winner Of 'Ticket To Hornbill', 2024 -
India's Biggest Band Battle'



FIFTH NOTE



INDUS CREED

DAY 6

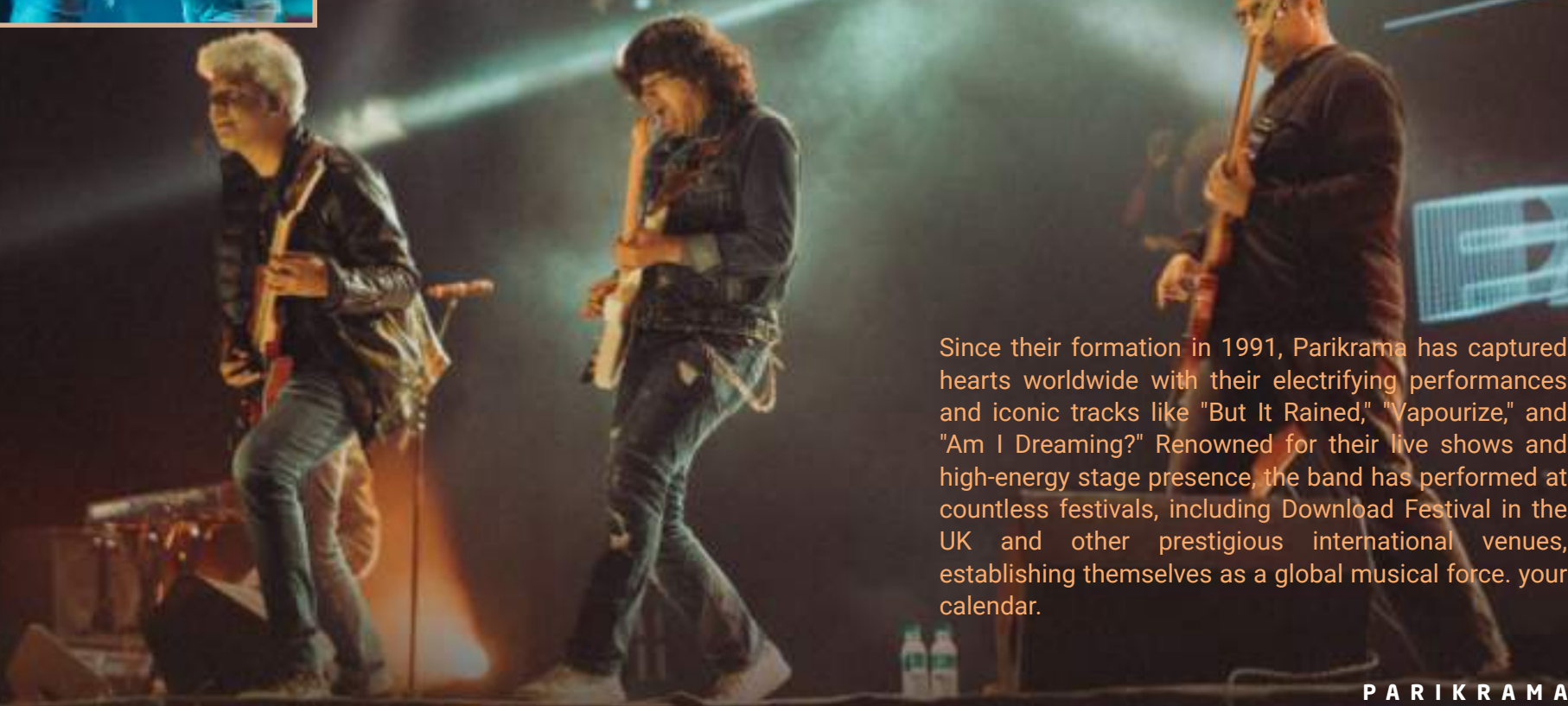


Originally formed in 1984 as Rock Machine before rebranding to Indus Creed in 1993, the band has been at the forefront of India's rock revolution. Their groundbreaking fusion of Western rock influences with Indian sensibilities helped redefine the country's music scene, earning them critical acclaim and a dedicated fan base.

INDUS CREED

PARIKRAMA

DAY 6



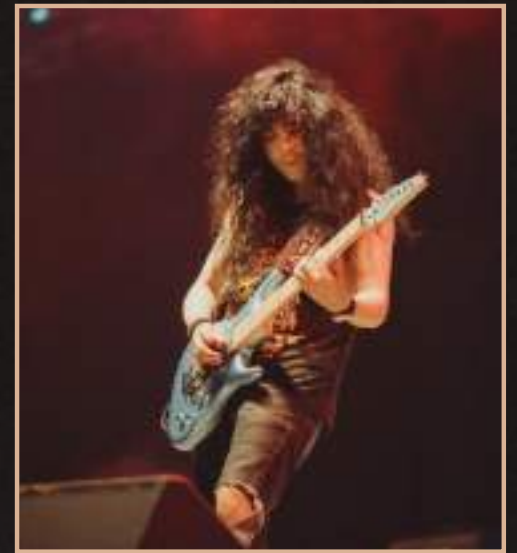
Since their formation in 1991, Parikrama has captured hearts worldwide with their electrifying performances and iconic tracks like "But It Rained," "Vapourize," and "Am I Dreaming?" Renowned for their live shows and high-energy stage presence, the band has performed at countless festivals, including Download Festival in the UK and other prestigious international venues, establishing themselves as a global musical force. your calendar.

PARIKRAMA

GIRISH AND THE CHRONICLES

DAY 6

Founded in 2009 by vocalist and frontman Girish Pradhan, GATC is celebrated for their powerful anthems, soaring vocals, and a raw, energetic sound that combines 80s-style hard rock with contemporary metal influences. The band has carved a name for itself both domestically and internationally, earning critical acclaim for their studio albums and high-octane live performances.





RYTHMS OF THE EARTH (SAMVAAD)

DAY 7



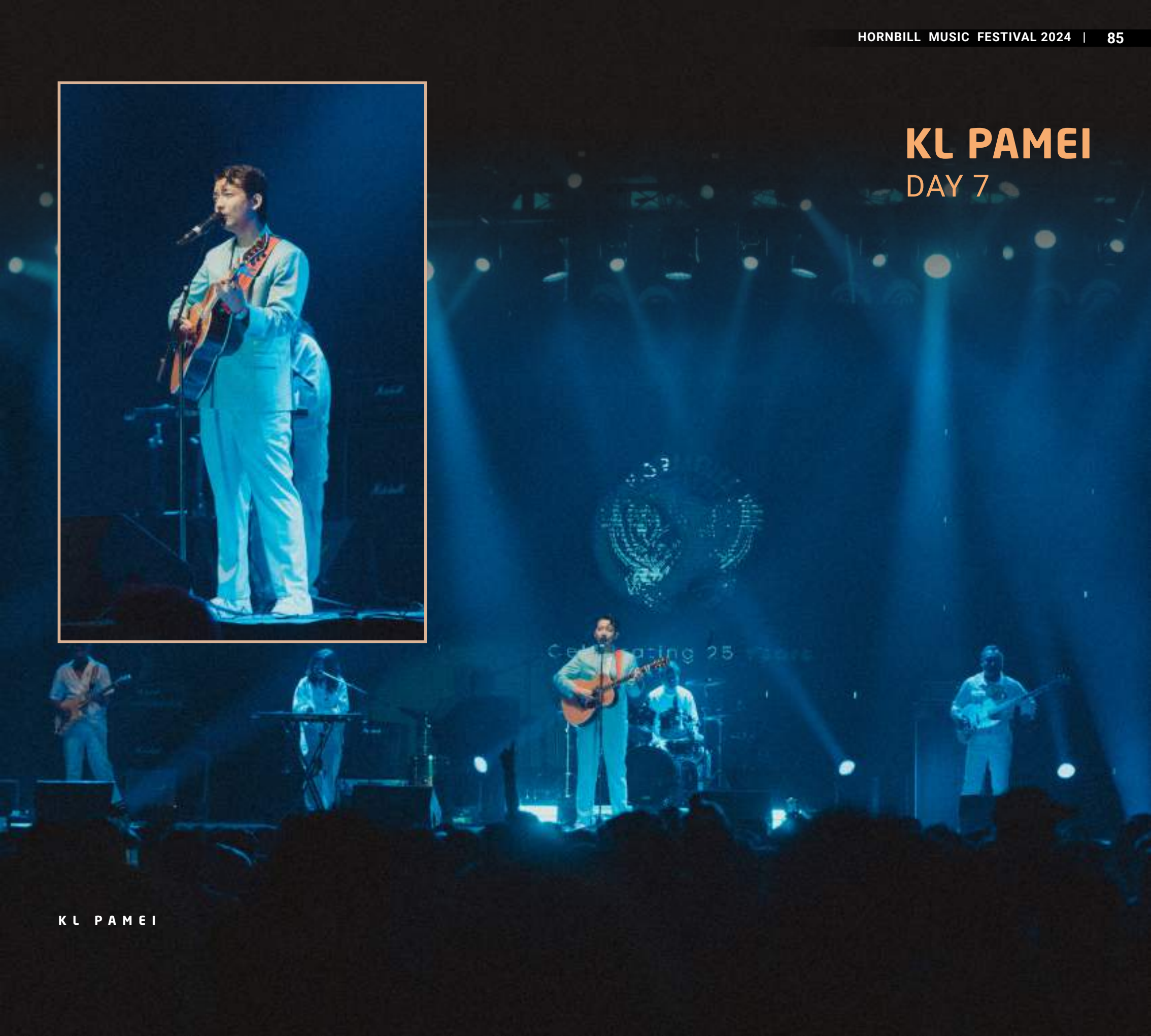
THE PROPHETS

DAY 7



THE PROPHETS

KL PAMEI DAY 7





BLUE TEMPTATION

DAY 7



BLUE TEMPTATION

DJ INA

DAY 7



D J I N A

DAY 8

THE NAGALAND MADRIGAL SINGERS



DAY 8
**THE CELESTIAL
VOICES
THEL
BAPTIST CHURCH
TSEMINYU**



DAY 8
**KITHAGHA
UNION BAPTIST
CHURCH CHOIR**



DAY 8
**THE CELESTIAL
VOICES**



DAY 8
NCMFA SINGERS





TOYOTA
Hornbill
Music Festival

© 2024

INDIA'S BEST MUSIC FESTIVAL



DAY 8
EIRENE CHOIR



DAY 8

GARETH BONELLO AND BENEDICT



GARETH BONELLO AND BENEDICT

Welsh musician Gareth Bonello, known for blending folk traditions with modern storytelling, will take the stage. His music, deeply rooted in the beauty of nature and human connection, will offer an emotional and immersive experience.

DAY 8

RICKY KEJ

Ricky Kej is an Indian music composer, environmentalist, a three-time Grammy Award winner and a four-time Grammy nominee. Kej was conferred with a Padma Shri award in 2025 by the President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu for his contributions to the Arts. He has performed at venues in over 35 countries including at the United Nations headquarters in New York and Geneva. In October 2023, Kej was announced as a UN "Goodwill Ambassador" (UNCCD) at the United Nations General Assembly by then President, Csaba Körösi.



DAY 8

ABDON MECH

Abdon Mech, a rising star from Nagaland, will captivate audiences with his heartfelt lyrics and smooth melodies. His performance will highlight the vibrant talent emerging from the Northeast of India

A B D O N M E C H



GINI

META ARTISTE
DAY 9



GINI

SEJAL

META ARTISTE
DAY 9



SEJAL



KIVITO

DAY 9



AVORA RECORDS

DAY 9



THE GLUTTONES

DAY 9



THE GLUTTONES



MOTHER JANE

DAY 9

Motherjane, one of India's most celebrated progressive rock bands, known for their groundbreaking fusion of progressive rock with Indian classical elements, is set to enthrall audiences once again with their distinctive sound and captivating performances at the 25th Edition of the Hornbill Music Festival.

Formed in 1996, Motherjane has carved a niche in the global music landscape, delivering soul-stirring tracks that blend intricate rock instrumentation with Indian cultural influences. Over the years, their music has transcended boundaries, making them a household name for fans of experimental and progressive rock.



**ALOBO
NAGA**
DAY 10



ALOBO NAGA





TETSEO SISTERS

DAY 10



TETSEO SISTERS



BIG MOUNTAIN

(USA)
DAY 10

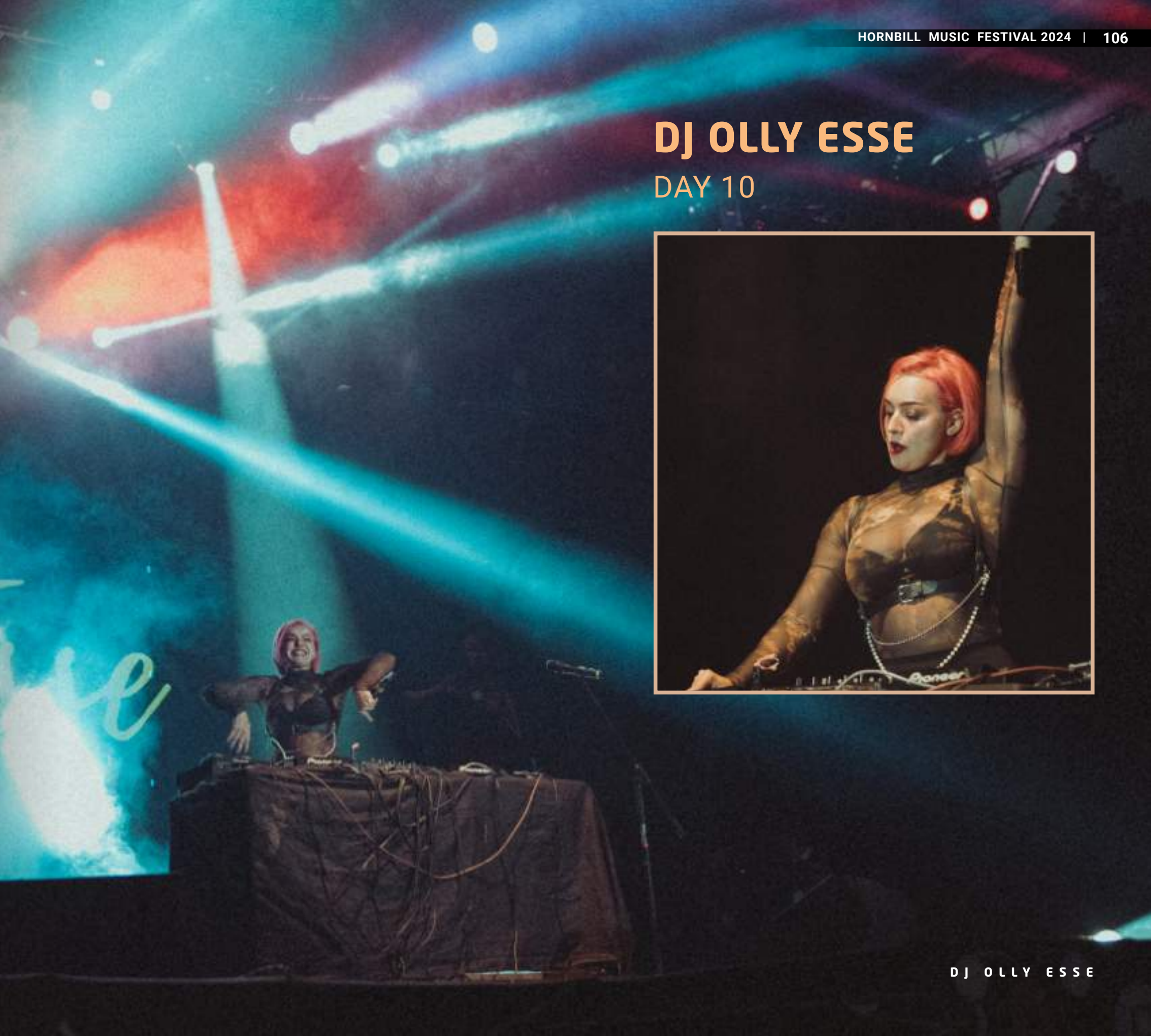
Big Mountain, hailing from San Diego, California, has enthralled audiences worldwide with their fusion of reggae, pop, and rock. Their soulful melodies, socially conscious lyrics, and electrifying performances have made them a beloved name in global music. The band's performance at the Hornbill Music Festival is expected to be a mesmerizing blend of their classic hits and fresh tunes, offering fans an unforgettable experience.



BIG MOUNTAIN

DJ OLLY ESSE

DAY 10



CLOSING CEREMONY

The Hornbill Festival concluded with a heartfelt closing ceremony at the Naga Heritage Village, Kisama, bringing ten days of culture, music, and celebration to a powerful close. The ceremony was marked by the presence of dignitaries, performances by cultural troupes and musicians, and expressions of gratitude to all partners, participants, and visitors.

The evening captured the essence of the festival—unity in diversity, pride in tradition, and a forward-looking vision for the arts. As the final notes echoed through Kisama, the spirit of the Hornbill soared—leaving behind memories, friendships, and a renewed celebration of identity.





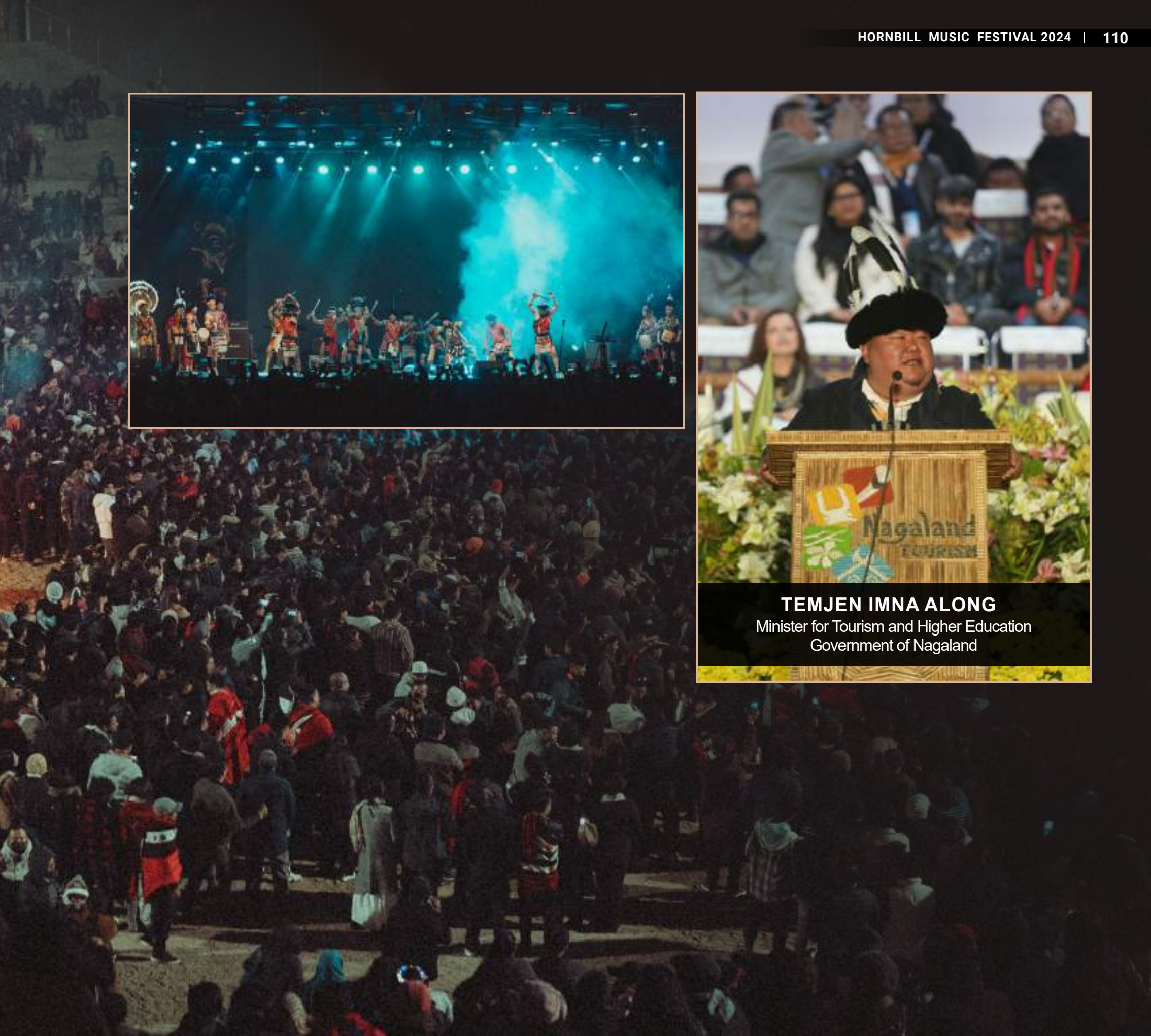
CLOSING CEREMONY





TEMJEN IMNA ALONG

Minister for Tourism and Higher Education
Government of Nagaland



HONRBILL MUSIC MAGIC

AT DIMAPUR
3RD TO 5TH DEC 2024



Hornbill Music Magic lit up Dimapur from 3rd to 5th December at Town Hall, featuring dynamic performances curated by MusiKa and N.E.R.D Management. The event brought together local talent and music lovers, extending the spirit of the Hornbill Festival to the heart of the city.



COKE AT THE HORNBILL MUSIC FESTIVAL

Coca-Cola brought its signature energy to the Hornbill Music Festival with engaging activations and a vibrant presence, celebrating music, youth, and shared moments throughout the event.





MR. MOHIT NARRU

Regional Director East - Coca Cola addressing the crowd at the Hornbill Music Festival

Coca-Cola

COKE ARENA



MISS RUOPFUZHANO WHISO
Miss Universe 4th Runner Up 2024



GRAB A
Coca-Cola
TURN UP THE MUSIC



ALOBO NAGA AND THE BAND

JBL BUSKING ZONE

The JBL Busking Zone brought music to the streets of the Hornbill Festival, featuring emerging talents from across Nagaland. Powered by crisp JBL sound, the zone showcased artists from various districts through TaFMA's District Partner network, creating an inclusive and vibrant space for raw, live performances that connected directly with festival-goers.



SL. NO.	ARTIST	DISTRICT	DATE
1	Shalin Khawng Kei Lyak	MOH	2 nd December
2	Lantilo Sangdon	KIPHIRE	2 nd December
3	Wellei J. Iokang	TUENENYI	3 rd December
4	Akhi and Ayu (A Duo Folk Duo in Artiste)	SUMATRA	3 rd December
5	Kulirpoo Khimo	PHUK	4 th December
6	Janghoo Phoo	SONGLANG	4 th December
7	Moomerella Zami	MORONG-LUNG	5 th December
8	Yendurgho Chong	TUENENYI	5 th December
9	Mdauhano Vathuk	WOKHA	5 th December
10	Jhoo Kally	MELUR	6 th December
11	Janghoo C.	NOGLAK	7 th December
12	Melkhoruo Sodi	CHUMUKEDIMA	7 th December
13	Mimo Bembie	DIAPHER	8 th December
14	Majhahel Y. Noutthel	ZUNHEBOBO	8 th December
15	Kapchihoo Pim	PEM	9 th December
16	Janer Sang	KOCHIMA	9 th December
17	Difen S. Jank	NIULAND	9 th December





HORNBILL BUSKING AT THE KOHIMA NIGHT BAZAAR

As the city came alive after sundown, the Kohima Hornbill Night Bazaar turned into a vibrant street stage. Amidst rows of food stalls and local crafts, artists took to the pavements—sharing music, poetry, and performance in their rawest, most intimate form. Hornbill Busking added a soulful rhythm to the night, drawing passersby into spontaneous moments of connection and celebration.




HORNBILL BUSKING

📍 Kohima, Night Bazaar
1-10 DEC, 2024

5:00 PM ONWARDS

📞 +91 89746 24943





NAGALAND
A joint undertaking Govt. Of India, Govt. Of Nagaland
Kohima Main Branch

IDBI BANK

आईडीबी बैंक

K. MOBILE S

CUBE

BRITISH COUNCIL AT THE HORNBILL FESTIVAL, ARTISTES COLLABORATION & ONGOING PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMMES



Theja Meru, Chairman TaFMA, **Ms. Alison MBE**, Director of the British Council in India, **Dr. Debanjan Chakrabarti** Director British Council - East and Northeast India, and Project Director **Dr. Hovithal N Sothu**



**Ms. Bethel Tsuzu with
The First Minister of Scotland
the Honourable Mr. John Swinney
at the Celtic Connections in Scotland**



**Welsh Artiste perform at
the Hornbill Music Festival 2024**



Seyievino Chuzho and Welsh artiste **Mari Mathias** to perform in UK in June. The artistes collab project is an initiative of the British Council's - Culture Connects Global programme in India and supported by the Government of Nagaland.

- 📍 11 JUNE / The Nehru Centre - London, UK
- 📍 13 JUNE / Bluestone Brewery - Newport, UK
- 📍 15 JUNE / TAFWYL Festival - Cardiff, UK



Shri Abu Metha, Advisor to Chief Minister, Chairman IDAN with Ms. Alison Barrett MBE, Director of the British Council in India, Dr. Debanjan Chakrabarti Director British Council - East and Northeast India and Artistes

META AT THE HORNBILL MUSIC FESTIVAL

Meta at Hornbill Music Festival - enhancing the festival's vibrant atmosphere and celebrating music, friendship and innovation





DR. AR RAHMAN WITH THE SUNSHINE ORCHESTRA - NAGALAND CHAPTER





**DR. RAHMAN
DISTRIBUTING GIFTS
TO CHILDREN AT
KOHIMA ORPHANAGE
AND DESTITUTE HOME
(KODH)**

8TH RAJ BHAVAN EDITION - HANDSHAKE CONCERT

Hosted at Dr. Imkongliba Ao Hall, Raj Bhavan, Kohima, on 3rd December 2023, the 8th Raj Bhavan Edition of the Handshake Concert was organised by the Rattle and Hum Music Society in collaboration with British Council of India and Government of Nagaland as part of the 25th Anniversary celebrations of the Hornbill Festival. The evening featured soul-stirring performances and concluded with a banquet, celebrating music, diplomacy, and cultural unity.

THE RATTLE AND HUM MUSIC SOCIETY
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO THE

**HANDSHAKE
CONCERT**

8TH RAJ BHAVAN EDITION
25TH ANNIVERSARY HORNBILL FESTIVAL

ON THE 3RD DECEMBER 2023 AT 06:30 PM
DR. IMKONGLIBA AO HALL, RAJ BHAVAN, KOHIMA

DINNER FOLLOWS AT BANQUET HALL

BY INVITATION ONLY

THE HANDSHAKE JOURNEY

Government of Nagaland
BRITISH COUNCIL
RATTLE & HUM MUSIC SOCIETY

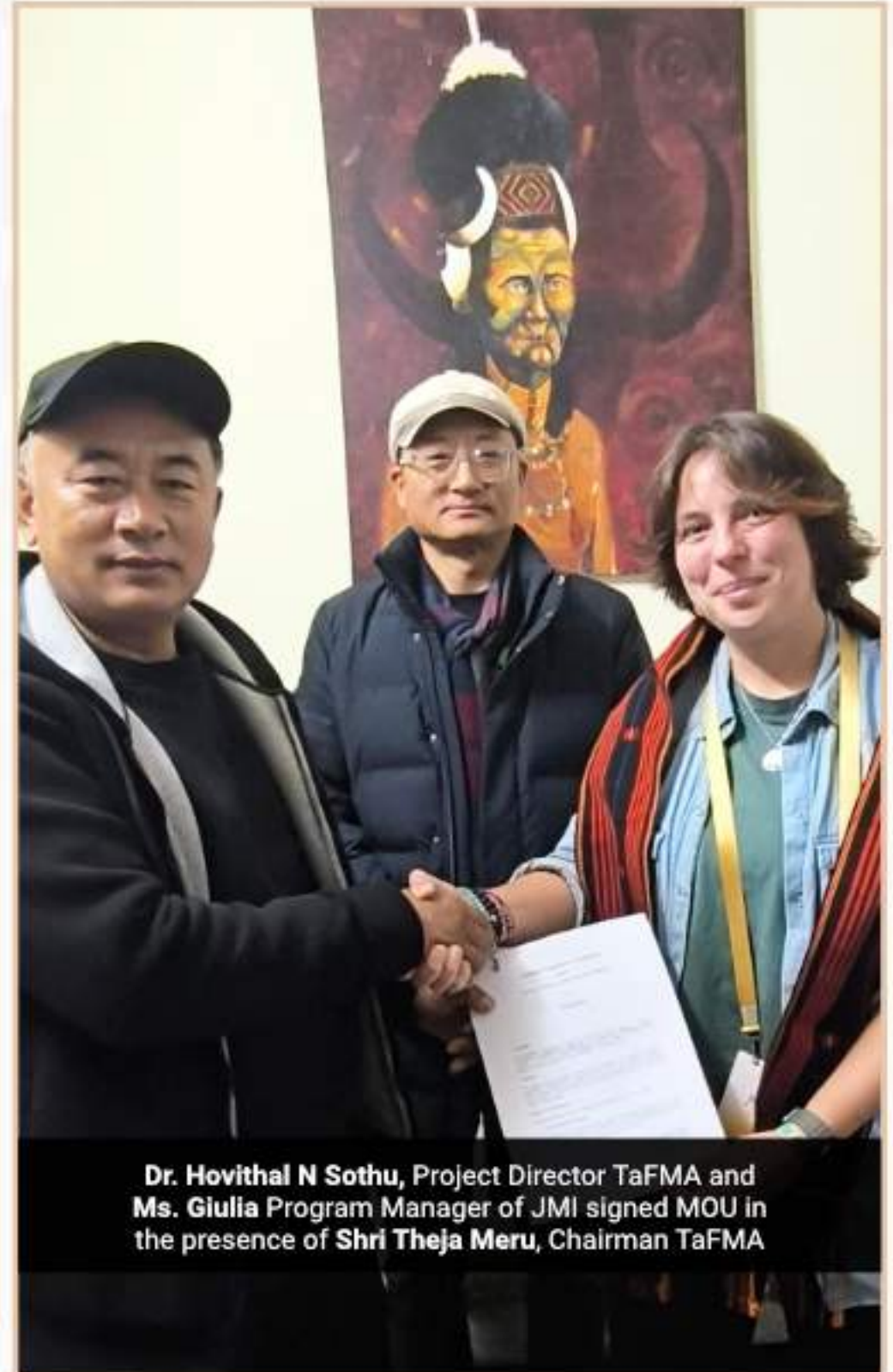




MOU SIGNING - TAFMA & JM INTERNATIONAL, BRUSSELS

During the Hornbill Music Festival, the Task Force for Music & Arts (TaFMA) signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with JM International, Brussels. The agreement enables TaFMA to nominate and send artists from Nagaland to participate in international music residencies, festivals, and cultural platforms abroad.

This collaboration marks a significant step in promoting local talent on the global stage, building bridges through music and artistic exchange.



Dr. Hovithal N Sothu, Project Director TaFMA and **Ms. Giulia** Program Manager of JMI signed MOU in the presence of **Shri Theja Meru**, Chairman TaFMA



JM International



THE MAKING OF TOYOTA KI AND TaFMA LOUNGE AT KISAMA , NAGA HERITAGE VILLAGE






TOYOTA

Hornbill
Music Festival

INAUGURATION OF TOYOTA KI

A proud moment as Chief Minister Dr. Neiphiu Rio and Shri Y. Vikheho Swu, Managing Director of Okusa Toyota, inaugurate Toyota Ki at Kisama – a symbol of partnership and progress, witnessed by dignitaries and state officials amidst the rich cultural landscape of Nagaland.



INAUGURATION OF THE TAFMA LOUNGE AT TOYOTA KI, KISAMA

In a vibrant celebration of art, culture, and creative collaboration, the TaFMA Lounge at Toyota Ki, Kisama, was officially inaugurated by Shri Abu Metha, Advisor to the Chief Minister of Nagaland and Chairman of IDAN. The event witnessed the gracious presence of Shri Y. Vikheho Swu, Managing Director of Okusa Toyota.

Set against the cultural backdrop of the Hornbill Festival grounds, the lounge serves as a dynamic space for artists, musicians, and visitors alike.

The Lounge will be operated by D.Café. This new initiative marks another step forward in TaFMA's vision to build sustainable platforms for the music and arts ecosystem in Nagaland.





INAUGURATION OF CEMA HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER DR. NEIPHIU RIO AND DR. A.R. RAHMAN

The Centre of Excellence for Music and Arts (CEMA), located at New Ministers' Hill, Kohima, was officially inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland, Dr. Neiphiu Rio and internationally acclaimed singer and composer, Dr. A.R. Rahman. The inaugural ceremony was graced by the presence of Ministers, Advisors, and other dignitaries.

The establishment of CEMA marks a significant milestone in Nagaland's unwavering commitment to nurturing artistic talent and promoting cultural excellence. This visionary initiative stands as a beacon for aspiring artists and musicians across the region, providing a dedicated space for creative growth and







**HORNBILL
MUSIC FESTIVAL
OFFICIAL VEHICLE**



Hornbill Music Festival 2025 At a Glance

2,00,000 + Visitors

50+ bands

1000+ musicians and Artists

40 showcase concerts

5+ venues

25 Million

SOCIAL MEDIA TRACTION ON MULTIPLE HANDLES
(Instagram, Facebook, Youtube and Twitter)

SNIPPETS OF THE PAST





SNIPPETS OF THE PAST



**PT. VISHWA MOHAN BHATT
(PADMA BHUSHAN
& GRAMMY AWARD WINNER)**



ELM TREE CIRCLE (GERMANY)



LOS ROLLING RUANAS, (COLOMBIA)



ANANYA BIRLA



THE TUTELARY GOLMAEGI (KOREA)

SNIPPETS OF THE PAST



**NATIVE AMERICAN DANCER,
CHOKASH NANAIYA
(USA)**



Samvaad (Rhythm of the Earth)





Meta Creator Meetup



SNIPPETS OF THE PAST



Yanthungo Patton Deputy (Chief minister of Nagaland),
Dr. AR Rahman , Dr. Neiphiu Rlo (Chief Minister Nagaland)





TOYOTA
Hornbill
 Music Festival
 © 2023 ©
 INDIA'S BIGGEST MUSIC FESTIVAL



SNIPPETS OF THE PAST



Mont , K-pop (Korea)



Kailash Kher





SNIPPETS OF THE PAST



Los Rolling Ruanas from Colombia at Khonoma village



Victor Echeverri Ambassador of Colombia to India with **Abu Metha** Advisor to Chief Minister, Nagaland, and Chairman (IDAN) at **Khonoma Village**

TRADITIONAL SPORTS

"Rooted in traditional, Driven by strength."

Traditional sports like Naga wrestling, shot put, and indigenous games showcase the physical prowess and cultural heritage passed down through generations.





CULTURAL EVENTS

Whether it's the rhythmic chants of a traditional song competition or the collective strength of a stone-pulling ceremony, these cultural events are living testaments to community, identity, and pride passed down through generations.





WORLD WAR II PEACE RALLY COMMEMORATING THE BATTLE OF KOHIMA

The World War II Peace Rally, held during the Hornbill Festival, brings history to life through vintage vehicles, commemorative spirit, and cultural solidarity. Against the backdrop of Kisama, this rally honors sacrifice, fosters unity, and reminds us that even in remembrance, there is rhythm, story, and hope.





SHRI ABU METHA WELCOMING DIGNITARIES TO THE HORNBILL FESTIVAL





Shri Abu Metha, Advisor to Chief Minister & Chairman IDAN presenting a Naga Shawl to **Shri Pema Khandu**, Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh



THE HORNBILL PARADE







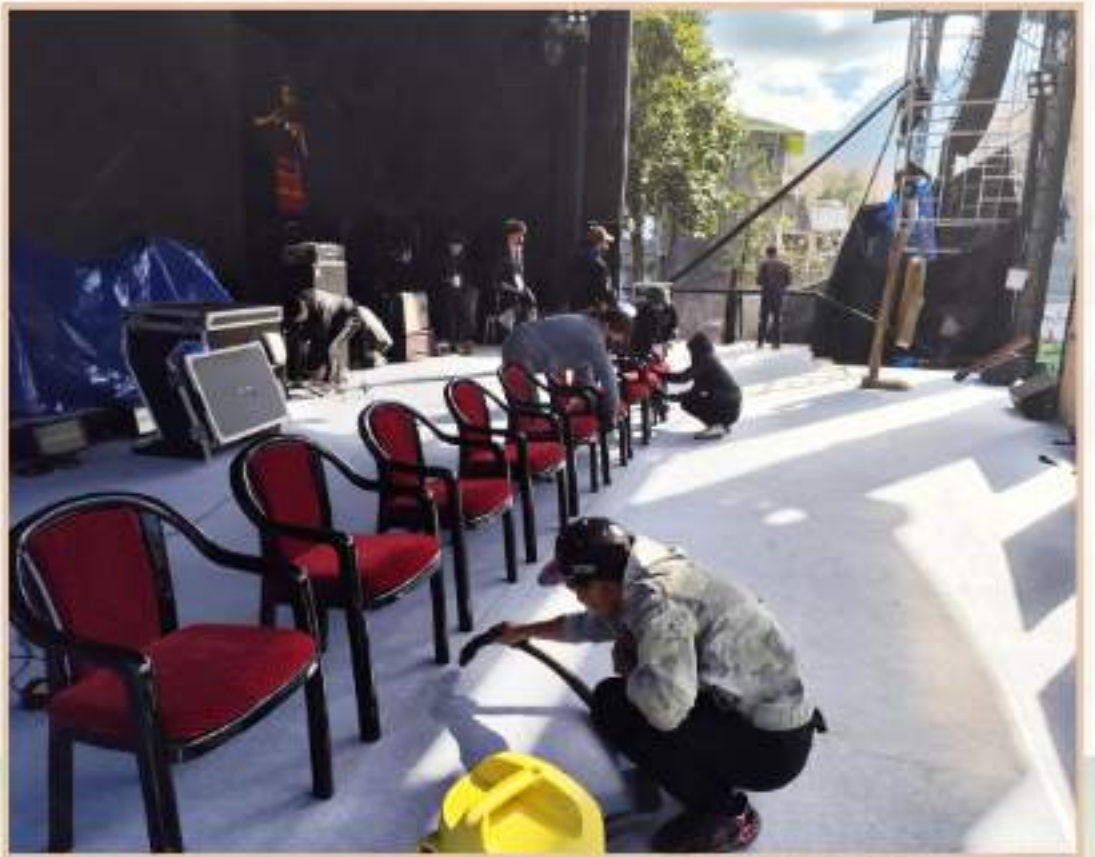


The Hornbill Parade , organised by Kohima Village Youth Organisation (KVYO)




BEHIND THE SCENES

A glimpse into the dedication, collaboration, and creative journey that drive TaFMA's vision forward.





PRESS AND MEDIA

< Eastern Mirror S...   

Toyota Hornbill Music Festival continues to draw large crowd Pinnacle distribut



Samward performing at Toyota Hornbill Music Festival 2024 at Khasi on Saturday.

Sadassu, Dec 7 (IANS): The seventh day of Toyota Hornbill Music Festival 2024 at Khasi featured Samward, a tribal musician (enabled by Tata Steel Foundation), Mythes of the South, The Prophets, K1 Pains, and Khasi Heritage Village.

An evening celebration of music, culture, and unity, the festival drew a large crowd of enthusiasts. Music lovers and cultural enthusiasts would be pleased to see a vibrant mix of performances featuring both international and local talent.

The evening would open with a musical performance by a local artist, showcasing Nagaland's rich musical traditions. It would be joined by Khasi folk singers, the Nagaland Heritage Singers, Khasi Heritage Village, and Khasi Heritage Village. These performances would set the tone for an evening celebrating diversity and unity through music.

Following this, well-known Khasi musician Greshh Bhandari, known for blending folk traditions with modern storytelling, would take the stage. His music, deeply rooted in the history of Khasi and Jaintia communities, would offer an emotional and immersive experience.

Up next would be the celebrated singer-songwriter Akshay Mishra, a rising star from Nagaland, who would captivate audiences with his soulful folk and modern

melodies. His performance would highlight the vibrant storytelling from the heart of Khasi.

The grand finale would feature Khasi Arts, Khasi Heritage Village, and Khasi Heritage Village, showcasing a vibrant mix of traditional and contemporary Khasi music.

Khasi Heritage Village

of interpretations and global collaborations. We would appreciate the audience with its inspiring compositions that promote harmony and sustainability.

The event would start from 5 pm onwards at Khasi Arts, Khasi Heritage Village, Khasi.

Samward (enabled by Tata Steel Foundation) will perform at 7 pm. The evening will open with a musical performance by a local artist, showcasing Nagaland's rich musical traditions. It would be joined by Khasi folk singers, the Nagaland Heritage Singers, Khasi Heritage Village, and Khasi Heritage Village. These performances would set the tone for an evening celebrating diversity and unity through music.

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Admission Notice 2025

Applications are invited for Registration in Civil Services MPhil Course.

This flow of seat matrix is for the Candidates of North, Eastern, Eastern Region where seats are 1000 and included in the 5% reservation of India Government and meant to get for MPhil in a compulsory paper in the Civil Services Examination.

For detailed information please log on to www.cbse.nic.in

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- Culturally healthy and child-friendly environment
- Small class size to ensure individual attention
- Special emphasis on moral values and character building
- Qualified and dedicated teachers and staff
- Transportation facilities

ADMISSION OPEN FOR PLAY TO CLASS-III

• Khasi Heritage Village, Khasi, India  +91 978412150  thesylvanschool@gmail.com

< Moring Express...   

Toyota Hornbill Music Festival 2024

The Hornbill
 Khasi, December 7

The seventh day of Toyota Hornbill Music Festival 2024 at Khasi on Saturday, December 7, as part of the 20th Hornbill Music Festival 2024 (organized by Tata Steel Foundation) will feature a vibrant mix of international and local talent.

The evening will open with a musical performance by a local artist, showcasing Nagaland's rich musical traditions. It would be joined by Khasi folk singers, the Nagaland Heritage Singers, Khasi Heritage Village, and Khasi Heritage Village. These performances would set the tone for an evening celebrating diversity and unity through music.

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Samward performing on Day 7 of Toyota Hornbill Music Festival 2024 at Khasi on Saturday.



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Hornbill Fest day 7: A night of music, culture, and unity



Samward performing on Day 7 of Toyota Hornbill Music Festival 2024 at Khasi on Saturday.



The Prophets performing on Day 7 of Toyota Hornbill Music Festival 2024 at Khasi on Saturday.

The Toyota Hornbill Music Festival 2024 continued its vibrant celebration of music and culture on Saturday, December 7, as part of the 20th Hornbill Music Festival at Khasi. The evening featured a mix of international and local talent, showcasing Nagaland's rich musical traditions.

The evening will open with a musical performance by a local artist, showcasing Nagaland's rich musical traditions. It would be joined by Khasi folk singers, the Nagaland Heritage Singers, Khasi Heritage Village, and Khasi Heritage Village. These performances would set the tone for an evening celebrating diversity and unity through music.

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- Transportation facilities

ADMISSION OPEN FOR PLAY TO CLASS-III

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< Nagaland Post 0...

Hornbill fest Day 8 captivates Kohima with Stellar performances



Artists perform on Day 8 of Toyota Hornbill Music Festival 2024 on December 8 at Kohima.

The eighth day of the Toyota Hornbill Music Festival 2024 at Kohima, part of the 25th Hornbill Festival, showcased a diverse array of musical performances on December 8. Highlights included the PCHRA singers, the Nagaland Village Band, Kothaga Union, Baper Cherkh Chak, E. Isaac, U. Chero, and Colonel Vijaya from North Bagan Cherkh, Jockhata. The evening showcased stellar musicians Garth Brooks, Akshay Mishra, and Bucks Ra, providing an unforgettable musical experience. Looking ahead to Day 9 (December 9), the festival will feature performances by Glen (Marty), Sujat (Mita), Katero, Anura Navroze, The Glitters, and Myster! Lane. The concert will begin at 5:00 PM at the Main Arena, Naga Heritage Village, Kohima.

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Indus Creed performs at Day 6 of Toyota Hornbill Music Festival 2024 on December 6 at Kohima. The sixth day of Toyota Hornbill Music Festival 2024 at Kohima on December 6 as part of 25th Hornbill Festival 2024, featured performances by Parikrama, Indus Creed, Girish and The Chronicles and Fifth Note. Day 7 (December 7) event will feature Samvaad, The Prophets, KL Pamei, Blue Temptation and DJ Ina. The concert will start from 5:00 PM onwards at Main Arena, Naga Heritage Village Kohima.

< Eastern Mirror 0...

10 ENTERTAIN Day-6 HMF: Parikrama's 13-year-old lead vocal sets stage on fire

Today's event to feature Samvaad, The Prophets, KL Pamei, Blue Temptation and DJ Ina



The sixth day of the Toyota Hornbill Music Festival 2024 at Kohima, part of the 25th Hornbill Festival, showcased a diverse array of musical performances on December 6. Highlights included the PCHRA singers, the Nagaland Village Band, Kothaga Union, Baper Cherkh Chak, E. Isaac, U. Chero, and Colonel Vijaya from North Bagan Cherkh, Jockhata. The evening showcased stellar musicians Garth Brooks, Akshay Mishra, and Bucks Ra, providing an unforgettable musical experience. Looking ahead to Day 7 (December 7), the festival will feature performances by Glen (Marty), Sujat (Mita), Katero, Anura Navroze, The Glitters, and Myster! Lane. The concert will begin at 5:00 PM at the Main Arena, Naga Heritage Village, Kohima.

Dance Off 3.0 grand finale held a

< Eastern Mirror 0...

Artistes enralls crowd at Kisama



Several artists, including 2 Indias, Indus Creed, Samvaad, The Prophets, Samraiz, and The Electric Tact, enralls the crowd at the Toyota Hornbill Music Festival 2024. The musical extravaganza was held at the Naga Heritage Village in Kohima on Day-7 of the 25th Hornbill Festival 2024. Meanwhile, an update shared that bands like Indus Creed and Blue Indus will perform on Day-8 of the festival onwards from 5:00 pm onwards (2024).

Maroon 5 arrives in India for their debut concert

The American pop rock band Maroon 5 arrived in India ahead of their debut concert in Mumbai. The band is expected to perform at the Naga Heritage Village, Kohima.

COUNTRY PARTNERS



PERU



U.S. Consulate General
Kolkata

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IMPACT OF MUSIC AND ARTS IN THE CREATIVE ECONOMY OF NAGALAND

THE TaFMA MODEL

Nagaland, a land woven with melody and memory, has always held music, oral traditions, dance, visual arts, and craftsmanship at the heart of its cultural identity. In a state where the arts are inseparable from daily life, the recognition of their economic and social value has long been part of its development vision. The journey began with the Music Task Force (MTF)—a pioneering initiative by the Government of Nagaland that sought to provide a dedicated platform for musicians and artists to thrive. Building upon this early foundation, the government restructured MTF in 2019 into what is now known as the Task Force for Music & Arts (TaFMA). This move signified more than just a name change; it was a transformative step toward cultivating a dynamic and structured creative sector. Since then, TaFMA has become a powerful catalyst—enabling opportunity, encouraging professionalism, and elevating cultural empowerment across the state.

Rooted in community resilience and inspired by decades of local ingenuity, TaFMA does not replace the traditions that came before it; rather, it brings strategic focus and national and international visibility to them. The model it adopts is inherently collaborative, enabling rather than centralizing, empowering rather than overshadowing. With this approach, music and the arts have become not only viable but respected career paths in Nagaland.

Today, artists and performers from the state are earning their livelihoods through concerts and festivals across India and beyond. Through platforms and partnerships facilitated by TaFMA, Naga artists have represented the state on stages in Korea, Italy, Romania, Thailand, Indonesia, Bhutan, Vietnam, and the United Kingdom. These performances have brought not only global visibility but also created tangible income and career opportunities.

One of the cornerstones of TaFMA's vision has been to create avenues for education and skill-building. The Chief Minister's Scholarship, launched in collaboration with KM Music Conservatory, has supported selected individuals to train professionally, giving them access to global institutions and mentorships that were once out of reach. While TaFMA does not function as a direct training body, it plays a vital role in connecting aspiring musicians and educators with the platforms and institutions that can nurture their growth.

Efforts such as "Skilling Nagaland," a state-wide capacity-building initiative, have trained audio technicians and sound professionals across various districts. Specialized workshops in audio engineering, live sound management, and event production have helped nurture a new class of professionals equipped to meet the demands of the growing entertainment sector.

TaFMA has also pioneered partnerships that offer real-time employment for musicians. In collaboration with the hospitality group Espire, the Musician Incubation Program has placed young talents in five-star hotel circuits across India, turning passion into sustainable employment. These musicians gain invaluable experience, not only in performance but also in the larger entertainment and service ecosystems. Beyond the music and hospitality industries, many musicians are also finding employment opportunities in other sectors such as banking, education, and administration. Their academic qualifications, often in fields like business, law, and the humanities, combined with the discipline and creativity nurtured through music, have enhanced their employability across diverse professional domains. This convergence of talent and training reflects the broader shift toward recognizing musicians not only as artists but as well-rounded professionals equipped to contribute meaningfully in multiple industries.

To ensure equitable access, TaFMA has empanelled music schools, bands, individual musicians, and vendors across Nagaland. This system allows them to receive preference for workshops, residencies, and capacity-building sessions—making professional development more inclusive and geographically accessible. Initiatives like the Spotify and IPRS workshops, artist residencies, and influencer-networking events like the Facebook Meta Meet have helped create an ecosystem of continuous learning, collaboration, and innovation.

One of the most meaningful initiatives under TaFMA is the Sunshine Orchestra – Nagaland Chapter, created in partnership with KM Music Conservatory. This program offers structured violin training to underprivileged children at Kohima Orphanage and Destitute Home, showcasing how music can be a tool of empowerment and inclusion, especially for marginalized communities.



The emergence of the Nagaland Collective—an incubated platform under TaFMA—has enabled upcoming artists to access performance opportunities, including international showcases like the Northeast International Festival in Vietnam and Thailand. Early-stage artists, through such platforms, find not only visibility but also the confidence and experience to pursue music as a serious profession.

The creative economy under TaFMA's guidance extends far beyond performers. Local businesses—from music stores and audio equipment suppliers to food vendors and lighting technicians—have benefitted from a growing demand for professionalism and quality. Whether it is the Hornbill Music Festival or a smaller workshop, concerts, and other events, local vendors are engaged at every level, strengthening the state's event economy and creating a multiplier effect for employment.

TaFMA's vision also encompasses the wider creative sector. From fashion shows and beauty pageants to literature and film festivals, it lends strategic support and sponsorship to a range of initiatives. In doing so, it creates pathways for stylists, designers, filmmakers, photographers, writers, and other creative professionals—helping to shape an integrated and thriving cultural industry.

In 2024, TaFMA made history by hosting the Asia Music Summit for the first time in India. This landmark event brought together festival directors and curators from multiple countries and resulted in new international opportunities for Naga artists, from prestigious competitions to high-profile performances. Representation at national and global stages, including the G20 Cultural Showcase and Northeast Games, has further cemented Nagaland's image as a culturally rich and artistically ambitious state.



Theatre has also found a nurturing space under TaFMA's umbrella. Collaborations with international groups such as Instabili Vaganti (Italy) and national partners like Culture Monks (India) have expanded the performing arts landscape, bringing world-class training and exposure to local actors, directors, and playwrights.

Among the many success stories, the journey of guitarist Imnainla Jamir stands out. From early mentorship under TaFMA to her rise as a globally recognized performer and social ambassador, her path exemplifies the transformative potential of TaFMA's vision. She now stands as a cultural icon and a role model, blending Naga traditions with contemporary expression on international platforms.

To support this growing ecosystem, TaFMA has invested in creative infrastructure that is both functional and visionary. The Regional Centre of Excellence for Music & Performing Arts (RCEMPA) in Jotsoma houses a professional recording studio, open-air and indoor performance spaces, a contemporary arts gallery, and a conference hall—serving as a vital node for training, curation, and performance. The Creative Connection space functions as a flexible venue for workshops and networking, while the TaFMA Lounge, located at TOYOTA Ki, Kisama, serves as an informal meeting ground for artists and audiences during major festivals.

In a major milestone, TaFMA recently launched the Centre of Excellence for Music and Arts (CEMA) at New Ministers' Hill, Kohima. This institution is envisioned as a hub for education, innovation, and research in the creative fields, pushing the boundaries of what Nagaland's youth can aspire to.

Throughout its journey, TaFMA has maintained a decentralized and inclusive approach. By appointing District TaFMA Partners in every district, it ensures that mentorship, access to resources, and opportunities reach even the most remote parts of the state. From college festivals to village-level competitions, every event becomes part of a larger cultural movement—fostering pride, participation, and purpose.

At its core, TaFMA's vision is about empowering a generation. It seeks to position the youth of Nagaland at the forefront of the entertainment industry, creative entrepreneurship, and artistic excellence. By enabling access to platforms, facilitating skills, and nurturing ambition, it transforms talent into tangible opportunity.

Nagaland's creative economy today is a reflection of its enduring traditions and evolving dreams. It is a shared journey—where indigenous wisdom meets global aspirations, and where creativity is recognized as both a cultural treasure and a professional pursuit. Through thoughtful infrastructure, inclusive programs, and a collaborative spirit, TaFMA stands as a model of how government can play a transformative role in building a resilient, equitable, and artistically rich future.



Note: This write-up does not aim to provide an exhaustive account of all TaFMA-led or supported initiatives. While it highlights selected programs, partnerships, and milestones to illustrate the evolving role of music and the arts in Nagaland's creative economy, numerous other events, concerts, and efforts which are significant in its own rights may not be mentioned here. The intention is to offer a broad understanding of the TaFMA model and its transformative impact on the state's cultural and economic landscape.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This book came to life, thanks to the incredible individuals who worked tirelessly behind the scenes. From planning and production to the contributions of the artistes and everyone who helped bring it all together — your dedication touched every detail. Thank you for being an integral part of this journey.

Production Team

PRODUCED BY Abu Metha | **DIRECTED BY** Theja Meru

TaFMA Team

Dr.Hovithal N. Sothu | Mr.Menguzelie Marcus Geisuo | Mr. Adu Keditso | Ms. Aleno Sale | Arpito Gope
Mr. Imchanochet Imchen | Mr. Miazietuolie Peseyie | Ms. Neithono Peseyie | Ms. Menovino Nakhro | Meren

Logistics & Support Staffs

SUPPORT STAFF

Khrieser Khezhe | Menonizo Nagi | Rokuobeizo Kire | Kevisa Nagi | Thejase Nagi | Keneizono Nagi | Tia
Vilalienyu Khezhe | Thejanguto Nakhro | Diethosilie Metsieo | Ruoviseto | Atino | Sasa | Kevilekhono

DIGITAL CREATIVES

Hangji Lam | Aling Langu

TakeOne Video Production

Intiakang Imsong | Keduokhrietuo Sachü | Megotsolie Dolie | Neithonuo Tungoe | Sesino Yhoshü | Vikepe Yhokha

SOUND CREW

Marcus Geisuo | Merensuba | Reben Sarkey | Longkhai N | Pangmei Aalim | Khunyu Khamniungan | Thungdemo L. Mozhui Teayang
Phom | Hamfrang | Toshi | Sojan | Tamsu | Pangsen Ongbou

LED VISUALS

Imcha | Azzer | Hangji Lam | Seyie

VIDEO STREAM

Phoukuo Zatsu | Awe Kromi | Moalong Jamir | Viphre Khezhe
Noune Khezhe | Ruopfü Seyie | Jembu Sangma

LED CREW

Hiranyal kalita | Schindra das | Bimal das | Rupam dakua | Pulak das | Gopal das | Pinku das | Hannan ali

LIGHTS CREW

Amar Sutradhar | Aotoshi | Amongkhumba | Kichu | Ranjit Mallik | Kaushik Das | Sanjeev Kalita
Deep Das | Jayantu Hira | Pinkesh Patel | Temsusenla Jamir

GENSET

Majibur Rahama | Kamal kalita | Rabha

STAGE MANAGEMENT TEAM

LC Sekhose | Moko KOZA | Rovi Metha | T My | Villi Swu | Bendang | Kekhrie | Kevileto | Tialiba | Kali | Alice

HORNBILL STAGE SECURITY

Khriekethozo Gugu Sekhose | Kekhrieselie Rutsa | Keduolhoukho Khro | Dziesesatuo Denis Sekhose | Vitseituo Talie
kevisetuo zhotso | Neiseselie Theinuo | Avikuo Phewhuo | Medozelie Sekhose | Diezechituo Sekhose

KAKI MARKETING

Kakivi Chishi | Wako Tsuhah | Süngtironng Imchen | Tokivi Swu | Megozekho Meyase | Sentilong Jamir | Keduosielie Keretsü
Both Chirhah | Ajungla Ozukum | Khakhuli Chishi | Neivekou Doulo

LIAISON OFFICERS

Imlisenla | Rutsani yantgan | Pangerkumzuk longkumer | Kevi sothu | Imsutemjen | Imjungben
Ngaicheipie zimik | Kayepu sumi | Kevino

Artistes

NAGALAND FOLKLORIC

Mengu Suokhrie | Mhasivolie Suokhrie | Venevolyi Tetseo | Sangbolong Jamir | Kongkhao Shiu
Razouvito Tsükrü | Vibe Mechülho | Phangmei yanlem | Hanlong Knyak | Maongtemsü | Tokwang Arenchenla Walling
Azi Rudy | Arola Jinger | Himping T | Tosovi | Ruokuose-ü Sanchu | Mhasheseno N Hibo

Popoi k | Anung | Akeheto | Thetsa | Ethel | Kerimong | Tenjong | Puchong | Kewesha | Arwar Avonuo
Vila | Rick | Akhrilie | Zuben | Viphrezonuo | Mughakali | Loimei Yajong

Vikhothu peter | Kethoseto Itu | Chemang | Menuovilie | Kevi metha | Neitho seyie | Esther | Ashka Keheimagumle
Imnati Imsong | Rampaukupeule | Vilaseno | Tsasula | Kiuthsangla Linovi | Lunthula
Teoia shiu | Thongmong

Petekhrietuo | Amaris | Monglong | Khrolo | Jessline | Vino | Tongtong | Kethovishie | Thejavor Akiezo
Aviso | Vibeilie | Langshen Shiu | Diethozo | Kereivilie | John tep

CANTAMUS CHOIR

Neikerhezo Metha | Vituozolie Suohu | Jonathan Yhome | Tutu Terhuja | Chete Losou | Welly M Baruah | Aroko Nagi
Awalo Lorin | Bendang T Ao | Renjanpeni Lotha | Mhasivino Nakhro | Peteneinuo Kimho | Kalino V Kinimi
Opang Chubatsur Jamir | Asebi Khate | Kevingumeno Yhor

ELATEFUSION

(TIKHIR GROUP)

Lemrimong T Tikhir | Bajong KJ | Apong R Tikhir | Sükhianthong R | Khiungtsükiu | Yantsüthong | Ramtsüthong
Limito Thongliu | Khiantimong | Tsüsuthong | Toju KN | Tansumong Issac | Timong S | Limtala | Khiungsushe
Resu S | Tsuchim k Margaret | Repanshe | Iren livi T | Easter | Tsusushe TL | T Vichimshe Tikhir

BEAT BOXING, GUITAR, HIP HOP

Zayie | Coffee | Atseibou | VK keshou | Atiro

THE NAGALAND MADRIGAL SINGERS

Visenuo Rio | Lovikali Yepthomi | Vilivi | Singsabeni Ngullie | Rumbeni Ophyopvui | Nourhevinuo Kuotsu
T Tumchobeni Mozhui | Wetsote | Rhonbeni | Puloka | Ngavapmi Raikhan | Nungsangmanen | Atsunlir
Abeka H Achumi | Posezo Neikha | Zanjilung Panmei | Zolankima | Vimelizo Richa
Zhoto Vero | Keviketso | Hito Kiho.

PETROS PERFORMING ATRS.

Afang Director | Joicy Lorin Assist | Vincent Golmei | Assist

PETROS TROUPE

Bendangsungla | Medovizo | Diwa wanth | Atongjungla Walling | Dzüpane | Rhonbeni Ezung | Sojano
Tahasi Thurr | Viketsonuo kiewhuo | Kevingunuo | Thripi | Neihunuo | Razouvolie Tsiirho
Rongsentila Ao | Neitala Rathu | Manisi Rathu

DANCERS OF FINALE ACT

Nana | Kezia | Silas | Soniya | Maffin | Rupa | Bishnu | Akinoto
Viliho | Aja | Pamita | Rebok

THE OPERATUS CHOIR

Sürhüveyi Tetseo | Molilou Nukhu | Vetho Ringa | Vekuto Ringa | Pfütsüvielo Ladu | Ajo Kesen | Akum Thüvüri
Ashalo Kesen | Thejano Keyho | Razoukhrienuo Seletsu | Vepfütölü Medeo | Kekhriesenuo Luho | Nguvili Assumi
Kanitoli Achumi | Vengölü Medeo | Mülüzölü Nyekha | Tsüvolü Dzüdo | Lisü Nukhu

TRANCE EFFECT

Sosang Lkr | Tako Chang | Iuli Yeptho | Merentoshi Lkr | Temsujungba Jamir

Meyisanen Lemtur **Sound Engineer** | Nayan Jyoti Saud **Light Engineer** | Nikhil Hodam **Sam Shiu**

EASTORY**TEAM CHUMOU (DANCERS)**

Suzen Longkumar | Azie quinker | Bongngoi Phom | Mulongrenla Longchar | Throngkiuba Quinker
Kezai Rai | Angelina Shimray | Sashirenla Ozukum | Arnala Longkumar | Silas Basumatary
Watiyanger imchen | Viliho Chishi | Visakhonuo Metha | Sonia.P.Meitie | Neha Singh | Ruba Tamang
Yemsa Sumi | Yimzo | Lensu Yimkhiun | Asen Longkumar | Azhavi Mere | Watisenla Pongen | Avilie Mere
Itoka Achumi | Bishnu | Alongti Sangtam | Ato Quinker

TEAM SEYIE_INTREPID

SONG - 1

Seyievinuo Chuzho, Female | Imnainla Jamir, Female (Guitarist) | Vizokho Chuzho | Kethosilie Chuzho | Akhruzo Kezo
 Nuveo Medeo | Susalho Ringa | Khyolamo Tungoe | Seyiekole Bio | Zito Nyekha | Verasii Veswüh | Muzita Tunyi
 Süvi Domeh | Zhozo Chizo | Veruo Swuro | Veruo Swuro | Tozo Vero | Luta Nyekha | Azuto Swuro
 Mosu Domeh | Tshveto Resuh | Vezovoto Medeo | Thujozo Rũho

SONG - 2

Lovely, Female | Zholũ Dzudo, Female | Tshveto Resuh, Male | Lhiche-u Khutso, Female | Khyolamo Tungoe, Male
 Benjong, Male | Limba, Male | Sangkum, Male | Oungbou, Male | Moshu, Male | Akhang, Male | Naong, Female | Kebo, Female
 Jokpha konyak, Male | Abotoli shohe, Female | Kuzhohu Medeo, Male | Nguvili Assumi, Female

DANCERS

Rick Senti, Male | Tongtong, Male | Puchong L | Thongmong senso | Tenjong Chungdok | Vila Belho
 Zuben kinghen | Chimang (all male)

NAGALAND COLLECTIVE

Bamile pamei | Elizabeth khing | Linoka Yephthomi | Yimkumla Gomei | Uyoto lohe | Yangman Lukhim | Chuba Imchen





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