

Join us for Avid's fourth episode of Cultural Capitals: Future Legacies of India's Cities - Chandigarh!

For Immediate Release

The manifestation of a dream actualized by well-known French architect, Le Corbusier – Chandigarh, one of India's foremost planned cities, is a bustling and cosmopolitan hub where modernity seamlessly blends into its cultural and urban fabric. Conceptualised and built shortly after the Partition, the city was often seen as a representation of a new India – focused on modernization, sustainable development and a new social order.

Chandigarh's historical legacy may not match other ancient cities of India such as Varanasi, Delhi or Madras; however, its cultural legacy and impact is still significant. Even beyond its resounding architecture and ground-breaking urban design exists a vibrant and growing arts and culture ecosystem – with many state-of-the-art theatres, auditoriums and performance venues cropping up around the city, as well as fresh impetus being instilled in the arts education sector.

A city where cutting edge buildings and infrastructure complement the natural surroundings – with many beautiful and iconic gardens and green spaces, as well as efficient drainage systems in place to balance the environmental effects of the urban sprawl. Hence, it is often referred to as one of India's cleanest and greenest cities.

Live History India and **Avid Learning** present **Cultural Capitals: Chandigarh**, the fourth episode of **Cultural Capitals: Future Legacies of India's Cities**, an exciting series of discussions celebrating the historical and current legacy of culturally rich, diverse and important cities across India. This series aims to celebrate a wider swathe of India's great cities, their legacy and how they continue to be vibrant centres of culture.

Director, Le Corbusier Centre, Chandigarh Architecture Museum and Jeanneret Museum **Deepika Gandhi**, *Artist* **Manjot Kaur** and *Stage Lighting Designer and Filmmaker* **Gyan Dev Singh** will be in conversation with *Author and Co-Founder & Editor of Live History India* **Mini Menon**.

Please read on for more details:

As a regional urban centre and serving as the capital of two major North Indian states – Punjab and Haryana, the city is a melting pot for various cultures from across India and abroad. In its short and dynamic existence, the city has evolved significantly; and is now well on course to becoming a national and international powerhouse in terms of economy, human development, soft power and culture.

These speakers and experts will look at Chandigarh through varied lenses – the city's growing arts scene, its world renowned architectural heritage and urban design, and its emergence as a regional cultural hub. Our panel will examine Chandigarh from a past, present and future perspective and chart its journey and evolution through the years – unearthing fascinating

lesser-known nuggets, spotlighting influential personalities and documenting pivotal moments along the way – which have shaped its distinct cultural and urban fabric.

Read more about the Series below:

This series aims to spotlight India's cities and their legacy and contributions that have shaped the nation's heritage and continue to have tremendous contemporary influence and impact. Cities under the cultural microscope include Hyderabad, Pune, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Chandigarh and Lucknow. The highlight is on the particularities of each city's unique culture and heritage and how these aspects have changed and evolved over time, influencing their perceptions in the wider world. Varied perspectives on the cultural identity of these urbanscapes will be presented – as informed by history, hidden stories and local insights through diverse lenses. The conversations are focused on restoring, reinventing and reiterating the legacy of these great cities.

Join us on our next stop on this exciting cultural journey through India's cities – Jaipur!

When: Wednesday, 25th August 2021 | 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM (IST)

RSVP: www.avidlearning.in

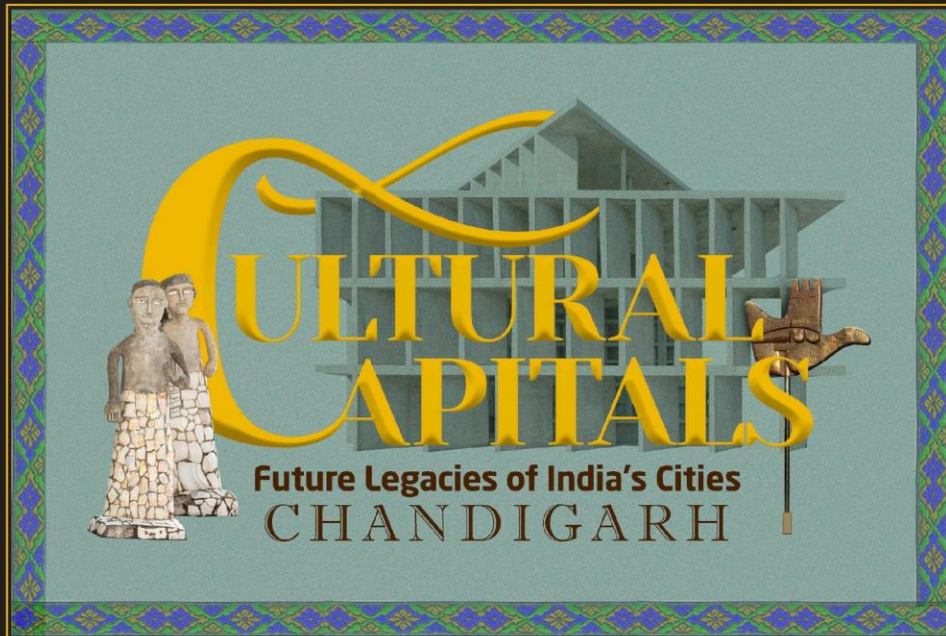
Press Email: Ayeshah Dadachanji on ayeshah.avid@gmail.com

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Director, Le Corbusier Centre,
Chandigarh and Associate Professor
Chandigarh College of Architecture
Deepika Gandhi



Visual Artist
Manjot Kaur



Stage Lighting Designer
and Filmmaker
Gyan Dev Singh



Author, Editor & Co-founder,
Live History India
Mini Menon

WED, 25 AUGUST | 6.00-7.30 PM (IST) | REG: www.avidlearning.in

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About the Speakers

Ar. Deepika Gandhi, M. Arch. An alumna and faculty member of the Chandigarh College of Architecture she is presently the Director, Le Corbusier Centre & Chandigarh Architecture Museum. Having worked on the preparation of the Dossier for the 'World Heritage' nomination

of the Capitol Complex, Chandigarh, she is actively engaged in promoting Chandigarh's heritage also being the Co convener of INTACH, Chandigarh. She supervised the restoration of the erstwhile house of Pierre Jeanneret, to establish a Jeanneret Museum there, and also undertook restoration of the Le Corbusier Centre for further expansion. She has co-authored the book Sukhna -Sublime Lake of Chandigarh besides authoring and designing booklets to sensitise City students about its heritage. Her co edited book "Le Corbusier Rediscovered: Chandigarh and beyond" has also recently been released.

Manjot Kaur's drawings, paintings, and time-based media summon the mythical, scientific, and absurd to draw attention to current socio-political predicaments and the sovereignty of nature. Borrowed imagery and text bridge the past and present, while imaginative, fantasy-inducing zones of abstraction invite viewers to contemplate the legacies of the landscapes we occupy and exploit. Currently, she is an artist in residence at Jan Van Eyck Academie, Maastricht for the year 2020- 21. She has been an artist in residence at 1. Shanthiroad, Bangalore, 2019; Unidee, Citadellarte – Fondazione Pistoletto, Italy on full scholarship by Inlaks Shivdasani Foundation, India, 2018; Museo Casa Masaccio Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea, San Giovanni Valdarno (Italy) – a cross-institutional program with Clark House Initiative, Mumbai, 2018; Khoj International Artists' Association – Peers18, New Delhi, 2018. She has received State Award from Punjab and Chandigarh Lalit Kala Akademi, Chandigarh, India, 2019, 2018, 2017 and 2012; Sohan Qadri Fellowship, Chandigarh Lalit Kala Akademi, Chandigarh, India 2017.

Gyan Dev Singh A graduate from the National School of Drama, New Delhi, Gyan Dev Singh has worked as a lighting designer with many eminent Dancers and Theatre directors like Leela Samson, Aditi Mangaldas, Roysten Abel, Anuradha Kapur, Kavalam Narayana Panikkar, Madhavi Mudgal, Malavika Sarrukai, Kumudini Lakhiya, Lushin Dubey, Ashley lobo, Apsara Arts-Singapore and Akram Khan Dance Company-London. His skills in stage lighting design has taken him to various theatre and dance festivals in Europe, North America, South America Australia, Singapore, Thailand, Africa, China, Russia and the Middle East. He has been invited to perform in festivals like The Edinburgh International Festival, The Bon Biennale, Prague Quadrennial, Korzo International Dans Festival, The Internationale Tanzmesse Festival, Dancing the Gods Festival, to name a few. He has performed in venues like House of the people, China. Esplanade Theatres- Singapore, Nelum Pokuna theatre-Colombo. Susane Dalal Centre- Tel Aviv. Symphony Spaces-Broadway- New York. The Kennedy Centre- Washington DC, Sydney Opera House. He is also the recipient of the prestigious Bismillah Khan Yuva Award by the Sangeet Natak Academy , awarded in Stage Lighting Design. Gyan along with his father has made many films including the 26 episode documentary series on the Forts in India. His latest Feature Film- "Atithi" has been liked and appreciated by the audiences. Apart from this he has co-directed several films on various classical dances and folk theatre forms of India.

Mini Menon is the Co-Founder and Editor of Live History India, a first of its kind digital platform focussed on creating and putting out multi-media content on Indian history and cultural legacy.

Since launch, Live History India has reached over 100 million people across India and the world. It has also brought together over 150 historians and experts on its platform. An award winning journalist and author, Mini has also reported on the changing face of politics and business in India for the last 20 years Her last assignment was as Executive Editor of Bloomberg TV India. In 2013 Mini's first book, 'Riding the Wave' was published by HarperCollins. Mini has been awarded the Rajiv Gandhi Award for Excellence, as a young achiever and in 2009 she was adjudged the Best Business News Anchor by the Indian Broadcasting Federation.

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Live History India

Live History India is a first of its kind multimedia platform on India's history and rich cultural heritage. Over the last 4 years, LHI (www.livehistoryindia.com) has done over 3000 articles and films, mapping large parts of India and its history. It has also created a growing pool of over 150 historians and authors who actively contribute to the platform.

Through its detailed coverage of the 'Stories that Make India', Live History India hopes to help Indians and India admirers 'Rediscover' India's rich and layered history, so that we can revive what we are losing and create a groundswell to restore and protect our tangible and intangible heritage. Over 3 million people, from across India and the world, log in to Live History India, each month.