

The enchanting world of children's literature comes to life this festive season at The Royal Opera House, Mumbai with popular Children's LitFest, Peek-A-Book 2018

For Immediate Release

Avid Learning and the **Royal Opera House, Mumbai** are delighted to present **Peek-A-Book Children's Literature and Storytelling Festival 2018**, an opportunity to discover the enchanting world of children's literature this festive season!

Please read below for more details:

With over 20 versatile sessions that will include author interactions, workshops, art activities, musical performances and more, Peek A Book 2018 brings alive Indian Children's Literature in Mumbai this festive season. Some of the country's best-selling children's authors, book illustrators and designers, performance storytellers and theatre artists will be conducting interactive and stimulating sessions for kids of all ages. **Actress Tara Sharma Saluja** will share tales of a clever dog detective, written by her father, the late Pratap Sharma. **CEO, Welfare of Stray Dogs Abodh Aras'** session will also focus on the stories of 'man's best friend' and their lives on the street. **Award-winning Author, Natasha Sharma** will conduct a series of interactive activities based around her popular book *The Indian Child's Guide to Eating Mangoes*, which include mango-related quizzes and challenges. **Architect Siddhant Shah** will hold a blindfold art session, in which children will use touch and sound to engage with art and create their own masterpieces using different materials, all while being blindfolded. This session aims to include children with special needs and help them develop their artistic skills. Other programmes lined up for the day include, learning how to write like a Radio Jockey with **Radio One's RJ Anita**, the art of writing science fiction stories, conducted by **Pomegranate Workshops** and the art of creating photo stories with your cell phone with **Photographer Zahra Amiruddin**. This festival promises to take children of all ages on an adventurous journey that is sure to ignite their curiosity and imagination while awakening their love for reading!

Especially for our young bibliophiles, we will also present **ART@THEROYALOPERAHOUSE** and **MUSIC@THEROYALOPERAHOUSE** as a part of the festival.

ART@THEROYALOPERAHOUSE will feature students from the Indian School of Design and Innovation (ISDI), Mumbai, who will be live-painting a mural as a tribute to artists such as Monet, Pollock and Raza. Children will be invited to participate in this activity, which will facilitate their learning for art history, techniques and styles such as Impressionism, Pointillism and Indian folk styles such as Gond.

MUSIC@THEROYALOPERAHOUSE includes an orchestra and choir recital by students from the Mehli Mehta Music Foundation and musical performances by students from the True School of Music, who will add to the festive atmosphere with their renditions of popular children's songs. The grand piano that will be used in the musical performances has been graciously provided to us by Furtados.

Literature is an integral part of any city and Bombay is no different. At The Royal Opera House, Mumbai, we strive to lend our stage to support literature in all forms with robust and intelligent programming. We are also committed to the cultural growth of our youngest audience members and this event is part of children's education programming at our venue. We understand the importance and significance of arts and culture as a "playground for young and impressionable minds". The impact and benefits of the arts in shaping our future generations into creative thinkers and better informed citizens is priceless. As architects of our country's future, it is imperative that our kids have unhindered access to world of arts and culture.



LITERATURE & STORYTELLING FESTIVAL FOR CHILDREN (TODDLERS TO TEENS)

The Royal Opera House, Mumbai

December 8, 2018

9:30 am - 6:30 pm

www.peekabook.in

Tickets available at www.insider.in



Where: Royal Opera House, Mama Parmanand Marg, Mumbai - 400 004

When: Saturday, 8th December 2018 | 9:00AM - 9:30 AM - Registration | 9:30 AM - 6:15 PM - Festival

Tickets: rsvp@royaloperahouse.in / www.insider.in / 022 23668888

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About Partners

Peek-A-Book is a one-of-a-kind literature festival for children from 3 years to 14 years. It is a one-day festival that celebrates the latest books, stories and great literature for children. The festival is built around children stories and books featuring some of the country's best-selling children's authors, finest professional book illustrators and designers, performance storytellers, theatre artists, creative competitions and performances. It is an event that takes children into imaginary worlds to immerse them in the delights of language and art that allows children to broaden their experiences and spend quality time with family. Team Peek-A-Book has been creating curated and stand-alone festivals and immersive literary experiences for over five years.

Kids Stop Press

Square Barrel

Serendipity

Furtados (Est. 1865) has always been a leader in the field of Western music education and knowledge in India. From musical instruments & accessories to print music and digital equipment, having a complete spectrum of musical instruments in the Western and Indian categories. Furtados has grown into a household name in the music business and are spread across Mumbai, Pune, Delhi, Chandigarh, Bangalore, Ahmedabad, Mangalore, Dimapur, Panjim and Margao. It has a growing retail network (17 showrooms) and over 350 dealer outlets. Furtados also holds a record number of international dealerships for top-of-the-line brands in music. www.furtadosonline.com is the quintessential Musical Instruments e-commerce site for India. In January 2011, Furtados launched a publishing joint venture with one of the world's leading music book publishers, Music Sales Ltd, UK. Music Sales Furtados (India) Pvt Ltd, is focused on publishing Indian editions of best-selling Music Sales books and special local content. Furtados School of Music (www.fsm.net.in) was launched in June 2011 to provide quality and organized music education to students and aspiring musicians across India. With the help of a path breaking international curriculum for the Piano, Keyboard, Guitar, Drums and Violin, they have been able to bring music to and currently teach over 25,000 students in over 70 points of presence. Furtados invests in developing musical knowledge through training workshops, master classes, clinics, demonstrations and exhibitions, and the sponsoring of local talent and artistes. Furtados also invests in community development and supports several organizations across the country, including school and college events, musical activity in religious and charitable organizations, festivals as well as social upliftment projects involving a musical element.

The Quarter, the city's newest cultural headquarters comprises four distinct venues situated at the iconic Royal Opera House. Live at The Quarter (a live music venue), Drink at The Quarter (a cocktail bar), Café at The Quarter (an all-day café). The venues are a collaboration between three partners who have all contributed to the rise of the city's cultural scene - legendary musician Ranjit Barot, musician and entrepreneur Ashu Phatak (of Blue Frog and True School of Music) and investor (he's invested in Cafe Zoe and other restaurants) Nakul Toshniwal.

Royal Opera House, Mumbai is widely touted as Mumbai's Cultural Crown Jewel and India's only surviving Opera House. The original idea for the space was conceived of in 1908, inaugurated in 1911 by King George V, and eventually completed in 1916. The design incorporated a blend of European and Indian detailing. The space became a cinema in later years before falling into disrepair and shutting by the 1990s. Fittingly, the space has been owned by the Royal Family of Gondal since 1952 and was eventually restored by conservation architect, Abha Narain Lambah under the leadership of His Highness, Maharaja Shri Jyotendrasinhji of Gondal. The Royal Opera House Mumbai, now one of the last remaining Baroque structures in the city, reopened after 23 years in October 2016. The building was included on the 2012 World Monuments Watch to raise awareness about its history and significance, and support preservation efforts. The building has since been recognized with an Award of Merit in the 2017 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage

Conservation. The restored facilities feature a 575-seater 3-level auditorium with an orchestra pit and state of the art technological upgradations, including acoustics, stagecraft, lighting and air-conditioning, alongside retaining the old world charm of the proscenium stage, the royal boxes and the magnificent regal chandeliers. Some more enhancements to the venue include a motorized screen, co-axial ceiling speaker system, Four-zone volume control and all round wifi access. Today, it stands as a key performance and creative hub in the city's cultural landscape, while being a premier heritage landmark. *Facebook:* MumbaiOpera *Twitter:* @MumbaiOpera *Instagram:* @mumbaiopera

Avid Learning, a public programming platform and cultural arm of the Essar Group, has conducted over 950 programs and connected with more than 100,000 individuals since its inception in 2009. Driven by the belief that Learning Never Stops, AVID's multiple formats like Workshops, Panel Discussions, Gallery Walkthroughs, and Festival Platforms create a dynamic and interactive atmosphere that stimulates intellectual and creative growth across the fields of Culture & Heritage, Literature, Art and Innovation.

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