



MusiCal

music for peace, music for all

Folk music of Bengal



banglanatak dot com

banglanatak dot com is a social enterprise with 75 member team, working with a vision of synergizing cultural and economic development. We started our journey in Kolkata in 2000, but now have branches in Delhi and Goa.

Our flagship initiative 'Art for Life' creates opportunities for socio-economic empowerment of communities by leveraging their traditional skills in art and craft. The initiative has been effective in alleviating poverty of thousands of families. Their villages have emerged as cultural destinations. We are working with 20000 rural traditional artists including 5000 folk musicians. Recognition of their art and culture by local people as well as outsiders has fostered inclusiveness and the marginalized communities are participating in the development process resulting in improvement of socio-economic parameters. Our approach is based on the simple principle of capacity building, linking the grass-root artists and crafts persons directly to the market and facilitating exchange and collaboration for supporting innovation and confidence building. Our learning is investment on Culture on one hand creates potential of achieving economic gains, social inclusion and on the other hand engages the people to protect, value and grow with their culture. View more on AFL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=grVX_3JNbJQ.

C4D (Communication for Development)

We specialize in designing and implementing development communications using theatre. We have reached out to over 100,000 villages across rural India and have worked on various issues including Health, Prevention of Human Trafficking, Sanitation, Environmental issues, Strengthening Livelihood and Grass-root Entrepreneurship. We have worked with Central and State Governments and organizations like UNICEF, BBC Media Action, ABT Associates, Futures Group, IPAS etc. We provide end to end solution including script development, community theatre development, capacity building of stakeholders in theatre based methods, campaign planning, designing supporting of communication tools, testing & demonstration, conducting campaign, feedback collection, documentation, evaluation, impact analysis and advisory to client on possible areas of future intervention. We also do theatre based training for grass root service providers and do social research using theatre based methods.

We are accredited with ICH 2003 Convention of UNESCO (since 2011), with Special Advisory Status with UN ECOSOC (since 2013), global partner to UNWTO (since 2015) and National partner to UNESCO (since 2008).

With this background, we launched MusiCal, to link the urban youth and rural musicians to the world and to support youth with skills and resources in developing career and business opportunities in music industry. Our focus is folk music, including traditional folk and contemporary urban acoustic music. We believe that Music Entrepreneurship holds the promise of fostering creative economy, engaging youth in development and achieving global peace by connecting communities. We feel with a little support in this sector, a huge talent pool may get the desired oxygen, will safeguard a treasury of resources, will open up a new window to the world and will show a path for the aspiration of young India.

At MusiCal, we have released 45 music albums so far, covering different genres of Bengali folk music, namely Baul Fakiri, Bhatiyali, Bhawaiya, Bangla Qawwali, Jhumur, Patachitra songs sung by rural traditional artists. In 2012, we released an album on Hindi Lokgeet with the traditional artists of Bihar. 2013 onwards, we started working with urban youth. In 2014-16, we have released a music album series 'Folks of Bengal'. We also did a few collaborative music albums in last two years:

- Between Bengal and Goan musicians, East West Local
 - Trans Bangla, the first album, was the Indian pick of Top World Music Albums of 2014 <http://worldmusiccentral.org/2014/12/19/best-world-music-albums-of-2014/>.
 - Ananda Lahari, the second album, to be released at Womex 2016.
- With Bangladesh musicians- Road to Music &
- Konkani Bengali folk fusion, Ganga Zuari.

We introduced **Sufi Sutra**, World Peace Music Festival, in 2011 at Kolkata, with 6 International and 3 Indian musical acts at each festival. 7th edition of Sufi Sutra, renamed as **Sur Jahan**, to be held in Kolkata on Feb 3-5 and in Goa on Feb 8-10, 2017.

We have a venue at Kolkata, **Akhra@Baitanik**, at courtyard of a heritage building, located at the heart of Kolkata (4 Elgin Road), where we give opportunities to city youth/ rural folk artists for weekend performance and also host cultural exchange workshops. It's an open to all music space, held 150 programmes between Dec 2011 & Mar 2016. 6th season starts on Sep 18, 2016 and continues till Jun 21, 2017.

Performance Calendar for FY 2016-17 at Akhra@Baitanik

	Apr 2016	May 2016	Jun 2016	Jul 2016	Aug 2016	Sep 2016	Oct 2016	Nov 2016	Dec 2016	Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017
Sat	2	7							3			4
Sun			5				2	6				5
Sat		14						12	10	7		
Sun	10									8		
Sat	16	21	18					19	17	14	18	
Sun						18						19
Sat	23		World Music Day				22			21		
Sun											26	26
Sat						24						
Sun			June 21									



At banglanatak dot com, we encourage and support cultural exchange. We have brought many International artists of different genres to Kolkata in last seven years and held workshops, presented collaborative work and facilitated exchanges with rural and urban musicians including performance at village festivals.



Sur Jahan (earlier known as Sufi Sutra)

2011
2012
2013
2014
2015
2016
2017



Sur Jahan

WORLD PEACE MUSIC FESTIVAL
Kolkata-Feb 3-5 Goa-Feb 8-10

International Teams participated so far

Afghanistan
Azerbaijan
Bangladesh
Brazil
Burkina Faso
Denmark
Egypt
Hungary
Iran
Morocco
Portugal
Russia
Scotland
Spain
Syria
Sweden
Tajikistan
Tunisia
UK
USA



National Teams

Andhra Pradesh
Bihar
Delhi
Gujarat
Kashmir
Punjab
Rajasthan
Uttar Pradesh
West Bengal





Baul Fakiri

It is the music of self discovery practiced by the Bauls & Fakirs of Bengal, where music is the conduit for attaining oneness with the supreme power.



Bangla Qawwali

The devotional songs of the Sufis of the Middle East upon arrival in Bengal evolved as a unique music tradition of this region.



Jhumur Song & Dance

Jhumur is the lifestyle music and dance of Purulia and Bankura. The songs convey the everyday life and triumphs of the people in these tribal districts.



Chau

'Chau' is an acrobatic martial art based masked dance of Purulia, inscribed in UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.



Bhatiyali

Bhatiyali is the music of mystic rivers hummed by boatmen while rowing downstream.



Raibenshe

It is a martial art based dance form of the men from the Bagdi community in Bardhaman, Birbhum & Murshidabad districts of West Bengal characterized by use of stils.



Natua

Natua, often termed as origin of Chau, is a folk dance from Purulia characterized by skilled acrobatics and physical strength of the performers wearing head gears, colourful ribbons as wrist bands and chalk painted bodies.



Putul Nach

The art of puppetry of Nadia district is an ancient folk form still practiced by the artists. It has past the test of time and still entralls the audience of all ages.



Bhawaiya

Bhawaiya is the lifestyle music of the Rajbangshi community primarily of North Bengal reflecting the experiences of regular rural life.

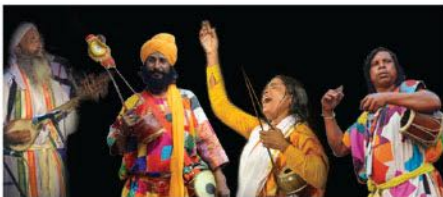
Artists Management

At banglanatak dot com we work with over 5000 urban & rural folk musicians out of which about 150 of them travelled across globe in last seven years. We explore opportunity for the folk artists/groups to perform at various festivals and also provide part support, if needed.



East West Local, world folk music band comprises of urban and rural musicians of Bengal and Goa. The band has performed at festivals across India and also in Malaysia. The seven member team on stage includes Debalina Bhowmick (Vocal), Sumanta Das Baul (Vocal and Dotara), Mohan Tati (Flute), Sonatan Das (Dhol and Khol), Elvis Lobo (Acoustic Guitar), Carlos Gonsalves (Percussion), Steven Francis (Bass Guitar) . The band can also perform with a strength of four.

Armaan Brothers: Fakirs of Gorbhanga, Nadia led by Arman, Babu and Akkas are flag bearers of Fakiri & Bangla Qawwali songs. They have travelled to festivals across India and also performed in Europe and Africa. The team on stage is : Babu Fakir (Vocal, Dotara and Harmonium), Arman Fakir (Vocal and Dotara), Akkas Fakir (Vocal), Kamarujjaman Karigar (Vocal and Dotara) & Gopen Debnath (Dhol).



Baul Fakirs of Bengal convey this simple message of love and humanity through their songs. There are 20 top quality Baul teams, many of them have performed across the globe including at Damascus Festival, Namaste India Festival in Japan, Gannat Festival in France.

Surma Dohar Trio, a Kolkata based Bengali folk music trio, specializing in Bhatiyali songs, consists of Joysankar Choudhury (Vocal), Bablu Das (Vocal & Dubki) and Amit Guha (Vocal, Dotara & Banjo).



Indie Folk Ensemble, is a folk musical consisting of music & dance. Bengali, Rajasthani, Gujarati folk music is presented along with Chau dance. It is a 8 member team.

**banglanatak dot com invites you to explore
Community led Heritage Tourism
at Art & Craft Villages in West Bengal, India**



Dokra
Dariyapur, Bardhaman
Sep 23-25, 2016



Dokra
Bikna, Bankura
Sep 30-Oct 2, 2016



Kantha
Nanoor, Birbhum
Oct 14-16, 2016



Wooden Mask
Kushmandi,
Dakshin Dinajpur
Oct 21-23, 2016



Terracotta
Panchmura, Bankura
Nov 4-6, 2016



POT Maya
Pingla, Paschim Medinipur
Nov 11-13, 2016



Fakiri Utsav
Gorbhanga, Nadia
Nov 18-20, 2016



Tepantar
Theatre Village
Satkahania, Bardhaman
Nov 25-27, 2016



Chau Mask
Charida, Purulia
Dec 16-18, 2016



Chau Jhumur Utsav
Bamnia, Purulia
Dec 22-28, 2016



Wooden Doll
Natungram, Bardhaman
Jan 20-22, 2017



Sitalpati
Ghughumari, Cooch Behar
Jan 20-22, 2017



Basanta Utsav
Festival of Colours
Nimdih & Tepantar
Mar 12-14, 2017



tourEast

**You can visit these villages
at any time of the year.**

Contact: tourearst@banglanatak.com



MusiCal

58/114 Prince Anwar Shah Road, Kolkata 700045
Phone: (91-33) 2417 8516, (91) 8420106396
e-mail : banglanatak@gmail.com
website: www.banglanatak.com