



The photo of a bird's eye-view of our guitar, sequined with dazzling fairy-lights made rounds on social media and signalled that it was perfectly tuned for *that* time of the year. It was the time when *that* word made our minds swivel with excitement, yanked us out of greasy hostel beds, and got us boogieing down the roads of our festooned college in our funkiest clothes.

Let's rewind the tape of life to 5-6 months back. 2018 was unlike any other year for the university. The rechristening of NSIT to NSUT resurrected the dead fountains. Innovation and Resonance rose up from the graves of the engineering dystopia and gave us all respite from the humdrum of college life. However, these were just the trailers to the fest that was about to roll ahead, and our Academic Calendars revealed to us, *'Picture abhi baaki hai mere dost.'*

Remember how our eyes filled with hot tears as Engifest rolled in DTU while we were seized by the fears associated with the mid-semester examinations?

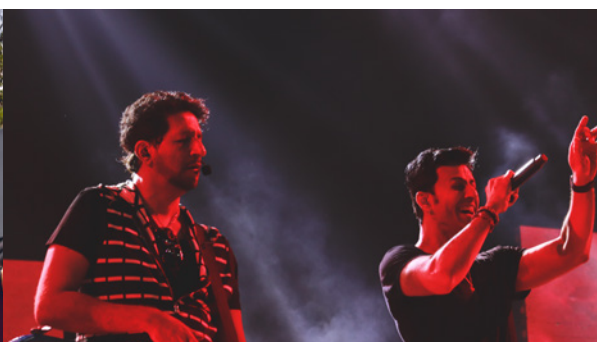
ignorant DTU kids: *'Hamare paas Engifest hai, IIT-D ke paas Odyssey hai, tumhare paas kya hai?'*

Inhale. Drink in two cups of pride. Then bellow out, *'Hamare paas Moksha hai.'*

The pre-Moksha hype had pulled in hordes of excited students into the realms of 'PR', 'EM', 'sponsi', 'logi', 'design team', 'content team'; and thanks to their combined efforts, the retro-themed Moksha 2019 mirrored our expectations. The three days offered a plethora of enjoyable events, a host of stalls serving delectable refreshments and a jocund crowd, which we were happy to be a part of throughout the fest. What with the timings of multiple events overlapping, we couldn't help but wish to possess the magical ability to bilocate. Anyway, we managed to hop from event to event, in a bid to get the best of all worlds. Did we enjoy covering the fest? Yes. Our overall reaction?

'Mogambo khush hua.'

So sink into an antiquated pinewood rocking chair, let your vinyl roar out the tunes of Nirvana, whilst your merry soul seeks to attain Moksha by reliving the fest through this thoughtfully-crafted edition!



DAY 1

INAUGURATION CEREMONY

The Inauguration ceremony was presided upon by Dr JP Saini (Vice-Chancellor), The Dean Student Welfare, Pranav Rastogi (Chief Convener, Moksha 2019); Prof. KPS Rana (Chairman, Moksha 2019); Prof Rajnesh Sharma (FIC, Moksha 2019); Co-FIC, Moksha 2019 and the Chief Guest Chandra Tomar, more popularly known as 'Shooter Dadi', of India's Got Talent fame. The Organising team of Moksha expressed their thanks to the VC for his unwavering and unconditional support. Everybody hoped for a very enjoyable and successful Moksha 2019.



ZEPHYR

Zephyr was the solo and duet dance competition organised by Mirage: The western dance crew of NSUT. This event witnessed profusely talented dancers breaking the stage with their amazing moves. Various dance forms like Contemporary, Locking and Popping, Belly Dancing and even Bhangra were performed at the Admin. The event was judged by Kabir Singh and Rahul Kumar, both well-known dance teachers. The event saw participation from 16 participants in the solo category and 7 teams in the duet category. The winner in the solo category was Jerry from Shyam Lal College and Shikar and Akash from IINTM in the duet category.



VOICE OF MOKSHA

The event brought Bollywood music to our ears as Bollywood music forms a predominant Indian pop music and derives its inspiration from both classical and modern sources, firmly embedded in North India's popular culture.

The main auditorium resonated with mesmerising melodies on 14th March, the very first day of Moksha '19. Voice of Moksha was an event under Dhvani' 19, the musical extravaganza of NSUT. Presented by Crescendo, the music society of NSUT, this event was all about solo performances of Bollywood music. Sakshi from Lady Shri Ram College rocked the stage and impressed an audience of over two hundred people, bagging the first prize!

LAUGHTER CHALLENGE

The Laughter Challenge, held in the Mini Audi, justified the saying that engineers can do anything, even if it's the arduous task of Stand Up Comedy. This event showcased the talent of young comedians, who with their witty remarks and hilarious jokes made the audience go crazy in fits of laughter. The participants did not even shy away from making jokes on politics or religion. This show definitely gave the audience a laughter therapy and was turned out to be a huge success.



SOCH

The Nescii lawns were dotted with actors in vibrant costumes. Their loud voices, impeccable acting and the rhythmic thumping of drums worked in tandem to address some of society's most compelling issues. People thronged the venue to watch the brilliantly scripted plays and were left in awe at the fiery display of energy and emotions. The Street Play Event was a huge hit, thanks to the efforts put in by Ashwamedh Street. The competition was adjudicated by Vineet Khanna, Shashank Tigga and Ajay Satyanami. The first position was grabbed by the team from GTBIT. Shaheed Rajguru College of Applied Sciences for Women and KMV shared the first runners up place. IGDTUW and Gargi College won the third prize. Unsurprisingly, the event surpassed the crowd's expectations and added tonnes of exuberance to the festive atmosphere.



UNPLUGGED KARAOKE:

The tinder sponsored event was a hit amongst those who wanted to sing their heart out in the moksha ground. With over 5000 songs available, the people were excited to sing solo, duets and group songs and seemed to have an amazing time. Jenga was another attraction for those who wanted to play a fun game. The event was full of fun and enthusiasm and drew a lot of attention.



ENLIGHTENING HOPES

As the sun set after an energetic first day at Moksha 2019, we saw the NESCI lawns, followed by the skies, light up with a number of paper lanterns as students, staff and visitors gathered around to take part in the activity.

It took the participants a while and a bit of struggle to get around to understanding how to make the lanterns work but all in all, it was a beautiful experience.

It's been a hell of a night
'Cause DJ Ravator and Mashd n Kutcher were there to excite.
The night was warm.
We were bold and young.
We could bathe in all the lights.
We got high on life.
Is the only reason we were choking on the dust tonight
'Cause we were scared to miss out on the beats.
We wanted something just like this.

Even the most reticent creatures, didn't shy away from swaying their waists on the Moksha Ground, when the electronic buzz suffused the air on the EDM night. Giving a most perfect end to day one, we had on the main stage DJ Ravator, throwing beats which awakened the party animals within all of us. The loud music seemed to resonate with the energy that the massive crowd was brimming up with. The loud music, dusty air and dancing vibes only seemed to increase as the moon rolled up in the sky. The crowd's excitement augmented when the extremely talented Australian band 'Mashd N Kutcher', made up of Matt Minor and Adam Morris, took over the stage, and enthralled the audience with their rocking music and thumping beats. All in all, the first day closed with a complacent and cheerful crowd and was successful in raising up the expectations for the second day.



EDM NIGHT

DAY 2



DIL KHOL KE

Moksha' 19 housed the Dil Khol Ke event which evoked moments of self-realization creating an aura of ebullience among the spectators who were enticing them with the myriad forms of expressions, recitations and modulations. The audience was enthralled with poems, shayaris, songs and stand up comedy.

With a plethora of expression and art touched upon, the artists performed staying true to their individuality Dil Khol Ke.

KALAKRITI

Kalakriti was the folk dance competition of Capella: The Choreography Society of NSUT. The competition saw the participation of 4 teams selected out of a total of 12, from the prelims round. The winner was the Natraj Dance Society of Maharaja Agrasen College. The participating teams captivated the audiences with their exquisite and intricate dance performances, each from a different region of India, each presenting its own beautiful story.



PARWAAZ

Parwaaz, The stage play competition organised by Ashwamedh, The Dramatics Society of NSUT, was arguably one of the biggest and most appreciated events of Moksha 2019 and brought six different plays each lasting around an hour to packed audiences in the Main Auditorium. After an intense competition, Simurgh the annual production of Verbum, The Dramatics society of Shri Venkateshwara College, went home with the crown.



AIMBOT

Aimbot was the hardcore indoor gaming event organised by Venatus-the gaming society of NSUT. The first day at Aimbot CS: go online qualifiers were played and the teams who made it were-Sapola Slayers, minD, Just 5 & GoodParticles. And they played their further rounds at UGN Cafe, Dwarka for the grand prize, which was won by GoodParticles.

POKEBALL HOOPLA

Venatus, the Gaming Society of NSUT helped all the attendees of Moksha'19 relive their childhood ecstasy of claiming exciting gifts by making a shot with the Hoopla. The Pokeball Hoopla event was an outdoor extravaganza organised in the Nescii Lawns, which took everyone down the nostalgic memory lane. The participants also displayed their love and devotion for Pokemon by solving puzzles and games like guessing the Pokemon and its type.



MUDRA

Mudra was the choreography and dance competition of Capella: The Choreography Society of NSUT. Mudra 2019 was one of the most successful events of the 3-day long fest, with every single choreography team in Delhi turning up for the highly anticipated event. The competition was 12 teams engaging in a dancing battle royale, with LSR DanceSoc being adjudged the best performing team by Mr Sarthak Chauhan, a renowned choreographer and dancer of Delhi.



RAP BATTLE

"You better lose yourself!"

Presented by ACM Productions and Crescendo, the music society of NSUT, Rap Battle was held at the admin block on 15th of march. A multitude of excited students collected as talented rappers from around the country took over the mic and impressed the audience with their beat and rhymes. The judge of the event was Piku Ross, a well known hindi rapper. Sunny Yadav from Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar College was crowned the rap king in the event.



OPEN MIC

Open Mic, an event organised by Tatsam: The Hindi society of NSUT & Nojoto started off with novice poets and artists taking the stage to enthrall their audience with their shayaris, ghazals and poetry in Hindi and Urdu. The poets showed their innate artistry with their wits and the essence of rhythmic creation of beauty with words and heated up the stage by even doing impromptu slam poetry to get the event going with a bang.



The second day of Moksha 2019 was capped off by a stellar performance by Indian Ocean - India's oldest, yet the classiest and most popular rock band. The event witnessed an unprecedented crowd and they made the audience groove to their tunes. With their experimental fusion genre of music which contains spiritual and philosophical elements, it is no wonder that they have captivated Indians for more than three decades.

After being mesmerised by the musical extravaganza put up by the Indian Ocean, we rushed to catch up with them. We managed to get past all the paparazzi and crazy fans and had a short interview with Nikhil Rao, the lead guitarist.

What genre of music do you listen to?

Well to begin with, each of us from the band belongs to a different generation, so our tastes in music are likely to differ. Speaking for myself, I am open to all genres of music. Rock and blues were among the first types of music I listened to. This period was followed by my stint in a metal band. Then I took a liking for classical music and got deeply immersed into it. In addition, I listened to a lot of jazz and fusion music. These days, I almost entirely listen to hip-hop—and Jay-Z is my favourite! My favourite band is Snarky Puppy. It is a 25-strong American band that produces music reflecting elements of jazz, fusion and classical music. Each of their pieces is truly amazing. I wouldn't say that what we listen to directly influences our music; it's just that I'm curious to examine the different genres out there.

In an era when rap, pop and Punjabi songs dominate the charts, how do you manage to stay popular and give out such fresh vibes?

I think that we are living in a time when a multitude of genres have come up and found their niche among the audience. That is to say, we don't have any *pangaa* with pop, Bollywood music or any up and coming genre for that matter. Our band is the oldest surviving band in India, having delivered our music to the masses for nearly three decades now. Perhaps the desire to come up with refreshing new music has been key to our success. As a matter of fact, I joined the band just 6

years back and am the newest member on board. Rahul, in contrast, has been there right since the inception of this band. He has seen the band take birth, go through various phases and grow into what it currently is. The band has weathered different eras of music and he has stuck with the band throughout the journey. His principle, and the whole band's principle is to make music for ourselves, and not for any targeted audience—something that we all proudly uphold and swear by. Our success can be attributed to this mantra. This year, we are probably going to release a new album. We are totally hyped for it, and we've already begun playing new songs at live concerts—even at today's concert at Moksha. We're excited to put them out for people to listen to and can't wait to see the response we receive.

What can we expect from your new album? Also, can you give our readers a tentative date for its release?

The songs have been recorded and are currently in the post-production stage. A few revisions here and there will be followed by mixing engineering and mastering. These processes will take quite a while, so I can't put out a tentative date. I'd like to mention that we won't release the entire album in one go. Consuming music in the form of whole albums is out of vogue these days; people like listening to singles and self-curated playlists. Bearing this in mind, we plan to release each song one by one. Furthermore, we are collaborating with some superstars—not the Arijit Singh kind of sensational stars—but musicians who are nevertheless incredible in their

own right. We have created these songs with some hard-hitting lyrics and nifty instrumental arrangements, so expect an enjoyable experience listening to our new songs!

Are you considering including rap in any of your songs?

(laughs good-naturedly) This particular album does not have that. However, there is one song which doesn't feature 'rap' in the conventional sense: one of India's music legends, Vikku Vinayakram, who specializes in playing Carnatic music with the *ghatam*, has done something quite close. The 76-year old artist has recorded Tamil chants performed in a hip-hop fashion.

So we can expect some cool Carnatic rap, right?

Yes, you could say that the song has Carnatic rapping.

Your songs have distinct spiritual and philosophical messages, and your sound is ever-evolving. How would you describe your latest album, and what genre would you classify it as?

The music is largely fusion; there is rock and folk music, combined with styles taken from different parts of India and the globe. But like always, it is a reflection of our thoughts and all what we want to convey to our audience.

DAY 3

MELODY:

Students from various colleges participated in this solo singing competition and set the stage on fire with their renditions of songs of widely acclaimed singers like Beyonce and Britney Spears. While some of them were accompanied by their talented friends for playing out the instrumentals, others chose to strum away at the guitar themselves. The event lived up to its name, as the mellifluous voices of all participants synced with soothing instrumentals enthralled the audience.

The judge Sumer Bhatia had a tough time choosing the winners. Sana Arora and Vrinda were tied for the first position, while Gatha and Kartik won the second position and special mention respectively.



ARES ATOM EXHIBITION:

Even though Avalanche stood cancelled on day two due to technical difficulties, Team ARES truly made up for it. This was an automobile event displaying the ARES Mars rover Atom to the audience. The all-day-long event gathered a huge crowd of enthusiasts and intrigued onlookers who were enthralled by the might of the rover. The ARES Atom showcase certainly proved to be an educating as well as an interesting one.



SYMPHONY

This event was marked by various instrumentalists showcasing their talents in their unique styles. The audience was left in awe by some of the tunes and rhythms strung out from the minds of these budding artists. The participation and healthy competition amongst these instrumentalists gave the event an interesting edge. Overall the Crescendo organized event can be considered as a big success.



GOONJ

'A period should end a sentence, not education.'

The Oscar-winning documentary, 'Period-The End of Sentence' was a grand success. In light of the brilliant documentary's victory, Tatsam, the Hindi society of NSUT organised a panel discussion. The session was rocked by the superwomen- Ankita Anand, Sulekha Singh, Sneha Singh and Mridula- who have constantly been uplifting women and excelling at their respective fields. The crowd listened in rapture to the powerful speeches of these women. The speakers pulled off a wonderful afternoon of enlightening discussions amidst the pomp and show of the rest of the fest.



BRAHMASTRA

While the refreshing hues of fun and frolic coloured the open sky, the mini auditorium reverberated with the stories of ancient India. The Mythological Quiz competition organised by Tatsam, the Hindi society of NSUT, saw a good turnout of participants from different colleges. The atmosphere was intense, with students battling the questions in their quiz booklets, each armed with a passion for Indian mythology and quizzing. The team from University School of Chemical Technology wielded the strongest 'Astra' and emerged as the 'Vijeta'.



TREBLE MAKERS

The music flowed into the veins of the spectators as they witnessed the wide spectrum of music ranging from Indie to even acapella performed as a duet or trios. The artists continued to enthrall their beholders with a spiced up rendition of famous melodies to express their own individuality and their artistry. The event ended on a successful note with a performance from the judges Sherry Mathew and Sumer Bhatia.



STEP UP

Step-Up was the street dance competition of Mirage: The Western dance Crew of NSUT. The performances by six dance crews left the audiences in awe. With their hip moves and extremely breathtaking and complicated spins and jump, Step-Up was truly one of the most entertaining events in the fest. Out of the six teams, RAW the team from the Satyawati College was adjudged the best performing team by Abhishek Sethwar and Himanshu Kataria.



OORJA



The event witnessed an enormous turnout at the mini stage. The power packed performances received an even more enthusiastic response from the audience who couldn't help but dance and sing along with the participating teams. Various colleges took part in this competition and energetically captured the attention of all present near and far. The Mirage organized event was one of the best events of the evening.





SALIM AND SULAIMAN

The crown jewel of our fest was the performance by the brother duo. The performance left the crowd mesmerised and even enlightened us all about the Zendrum, the enigmatic instrument with a lot of buttons, which Sulaiman plays. The entire Moksha ground was brimming with people filled with enthusiasm and excitement. The power of the crowd became evident when they cheered at the top of their lungs when the iconic duo made their appearance. It wasn't just the songs which blew the crowd's minds, but the overall show was also so very visually enthralling, with the powerful concert lights and the abstract animations on the LED screen. The concert even featured a little dance performance by Salim,

Sulaiman and Crew much to the delight of the crowd. The amount of dirt kicked up by the crowd while dancing was a clear indication of their enormous numbers in the Moksha ground. The duo took this occasion to pay homage to the Pulwama martyrs with a song. They dedicated a heart-warming song to the victims of the terror attack, bringing out the patriots in us.

The euphonies of Salim and Sulaiman struck a chord with the audience and echoed the language of love in the hearts of the listeners as the last main event of the fest paid a tribute to all the hard work that the organising team put in in the preceding months. Although the event witnessed some disturbing buzz about organised phone-snatching attempts, it was quickly addressed and restrained by the Moksha team. The performance itself as a whole was truly a marvel to uphold. Standing in the audience, you could definitely feel the rush of emotions that run through every one of us. Nobody wanted that experience to fade away as they revelled those truly wondrous fulfilling moments and everything outside the Moksha grounds seemed immaterial. And in that moment was NSUT truly infinite.





JUNOON

MOKSHA GOT TALENT

Taking cues from the wildly successful 'Got Talent' franchise, this one of its kind event, provided participants with the perfect platform to showcase their talents. The awe-inspiring performances performed at the admin block reminded us of the reality show judged by Karan Johar and Malaika Arora. Dancing, singing, stand-up comedy and visual arts displays were some of the talents showcased by participants. Being a fun event rather than a competition, it kept all participants at ease with being in front of a loud crowd. Some enthusiastic ones put up solo performances; others chose to be team players and came in groups.



The Team

Mentors

Arushee Sharma Kshitij Mathur Perez Yeptho Simratpal Singh Satia Sharanya Swain Soumya Bisht Tanmay Singh Vandana Miglani

Editors

Anuja Sharma Harshita Pasricha Kamalpreet Bhatia Kritika Anuragi Mimansa Bagri Shashank Vishwanath Trishla Verma

Journalists

Anmol Garg Devansh Batra Manad Gupta Mayank Saxena Nishant Chahar Pranay Bora Priya Chugh Srishti Bahot
Aashna Jha Advik Jain Ayush Kumar Himanshu Singhal Muskan Sharma Shashank Singh Sheersha Majumder
Urja Banati Vaidehee Thakur Vidushi Yadav Vishesh Bhaskar