

# Music Residency

## Indian musician at the Asia Sori Project and the Jeonju International Sori Festival



Folk artist, Vishwa Bharath, will participate as an artist-in residence, in the Asia Sori Project for traditional musicians selected from 4 countries across Asia. The three-month long residency at Jeonju, Korea which commences in August 2019 will allow for research and creative collaboration that will culminate with the presentation of new work at the Jeonju International Sori Festival in October 2019.

**Vishwa Bharath** is a percussionist, folk artist and trainer based in Chennai. He has been a student of the leading folk artist Nellai Manikandan for the past 18 years. After completion of a Diploma in Folk Arts from the Government Music College, Chennai, he has been teaching indigenous folk art forms like *Oyilattam*, *Paraiattam* and *Devarattam* in various schools and colleges in Chennai and beyond for the past 10 years. He is also a notable presence in the Chennai theatre circle, having participated in over 80 productions as a percussionist and choreographer. He has performed at various major Theatre Festivals across India. Bharath has, on invitation and with support from InKo Centre, worked with Performance Group Tuida from Korea and has participated in workshops with Creative Group Noni, percussion ensemble group Jin:Dae and Noreum Machi and has been a core member of collaborative theatre productions such as, *Beyond Binary*, co-presented in India and Korea by InKo Centre and AsiaNow Productions and *Fish, Tree, Moon*, directed by Yosup Bae and co-presented in India by InKo Centre and Ranga Shankara.

### About the Asia Sori Project

Artist-in-residence programme for traditional musicians from Asia.

The Asia Sori Project is an international artist residency programme in Jeonju, Jeolla buk-do, South Korea, for traditional musicians from Asia. It is hosted and organized by the Jeonju International Sori Festival.

The programme aims to encourage collaboration between traditional musicians in Asia with an aim to highlight Asia's traditions and its contemporary and future relevance. The selected artists will participate in a three-month residency to create a new collaborative performance. As members of the Festival ensemble, the invited artists will premiere their new production at the Jeonju International Sori Festival.

In 2018, the first of these residencies was launched with six musicians from Mongolia, Vietnam and Uzbekistan. Local emerging artists joined the project to collaborate with artists invited from these countries. As members of the Asia Sori Project 2018, four new songs based on each country's repertoire of traditional music, were created and premiered successfully at the Jeonju International Sori Festival 2018.



This year, musicians from India, Mongolia, Vietnam and Armenia will be invited to participate in the residency and to create a collaborative piece that draws on the rich musical vocabularies of these singular countries. While in residence, the musicians will also be encouraged to interact and collaborate with traditional Korean musicians.

The Jeonju International Sori Festival provides the studio, accommodation, expenses for research and provides all the support required for the development and presentation of the collaborative performance. The residency and the Festival will be at Jeonju, an exemplary traditional Korean city which preserves and promotes the rich repertoire of traditional Korean music.

The residency project is supported by the Korean Foundation for International Cultural Exchange (KOFICE) and the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism of the Republic of Korea.

For further information, please visit:

[http://sorifestival.com/2019html/rep\\_english/](http://sorifestival.com/2019html/rep_english/)

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**InKo Centre is delighted to support Vishwa Bharath's residency at the Asia Sori Project 2019, in Jeonju, Korea.**

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### **About the Jeonju International Sori Festival**



The Jeonju International Sori Festival, founded in 2001, is an international music festival that showcases various traditional music from around the world and presents Korean traditional music including *Pansori* which has been registered as a Masterpiece of Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO. The Festival aims to promote exchanges among musicians in Korea and across the world.

Every autumn, the city of Jeonju, known as the most representative of traditional Korean cities, resonates with *Sori* (the *sound of voice and music*) from all over the world. The festival presents grand opening and closing concerts, outdoor stage performances by invited artists from Korea and the world as well as Master Classes, World Music Workshops and children and family-oriented events.

The Jeonju International Sori Festival was selected as the Winner of the Best Festival Award presented by TWMC Festival Awards 2018 and as one of the '25 of the Best World Music Festivals 2012-2015' by Songlines, the British World Music magazine.

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**The Jeonju International Sori Festival will be held from 2 to 6 October 2019.**

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For further information, please visit: <http://www.sorifestival.com/>  
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