

ARTS ENCOUNTER



In India, we are blessed with a multiplicity of rich performing arts practices, some from 2,000 years ago, others born yesterday. We can boast, perhaps, one of the richest performing arts cultures in the world. Each performing art form is a language in itself. Each artist adds nuance, layers, interpretations, even distortions to that language, and creates their own unique, wonderful, magical expression. Just imagine the richness we have in our culture! The sadness is that our young people get so little access to this richness.

To address this gap, we have worked with professional artists to create a series of **Arts Encounters**, which share the delight and magic of these amazing forms with young people. Each encounter is an enthralling journey into the heart of an art form practiced in India, a magical key that unlocks secret and exciting doors into the performing arts. Through demonstration, interaction, conversation and performance, artists enable students to develop a sense of familiarity and understanding with these art forms that otherwise can feel out of reach. In the process, students claim these performance forms as their own to enjoy, appreciate and delight in. They imbibe a positive, complex and rich sense of our heritage and identity.

Junoon offers Arts Encounters in Kathak, percussion traditions of Kerala, Nautanki theatre, Puppetry, Contemporary Dance and Music, and much more. Encounters are approximately 1.5 hours in duration. They can be in the open air as long as the area is quiet and disturbance free. Audience capacity for each encounter is a maximum of 250 students. Each performance-interaction speaks to a specific age-group range, and therefore should be experienced in age batches as follows – Classes 3 to 5, Classes 6 to 8, and Classes 9 to 12.