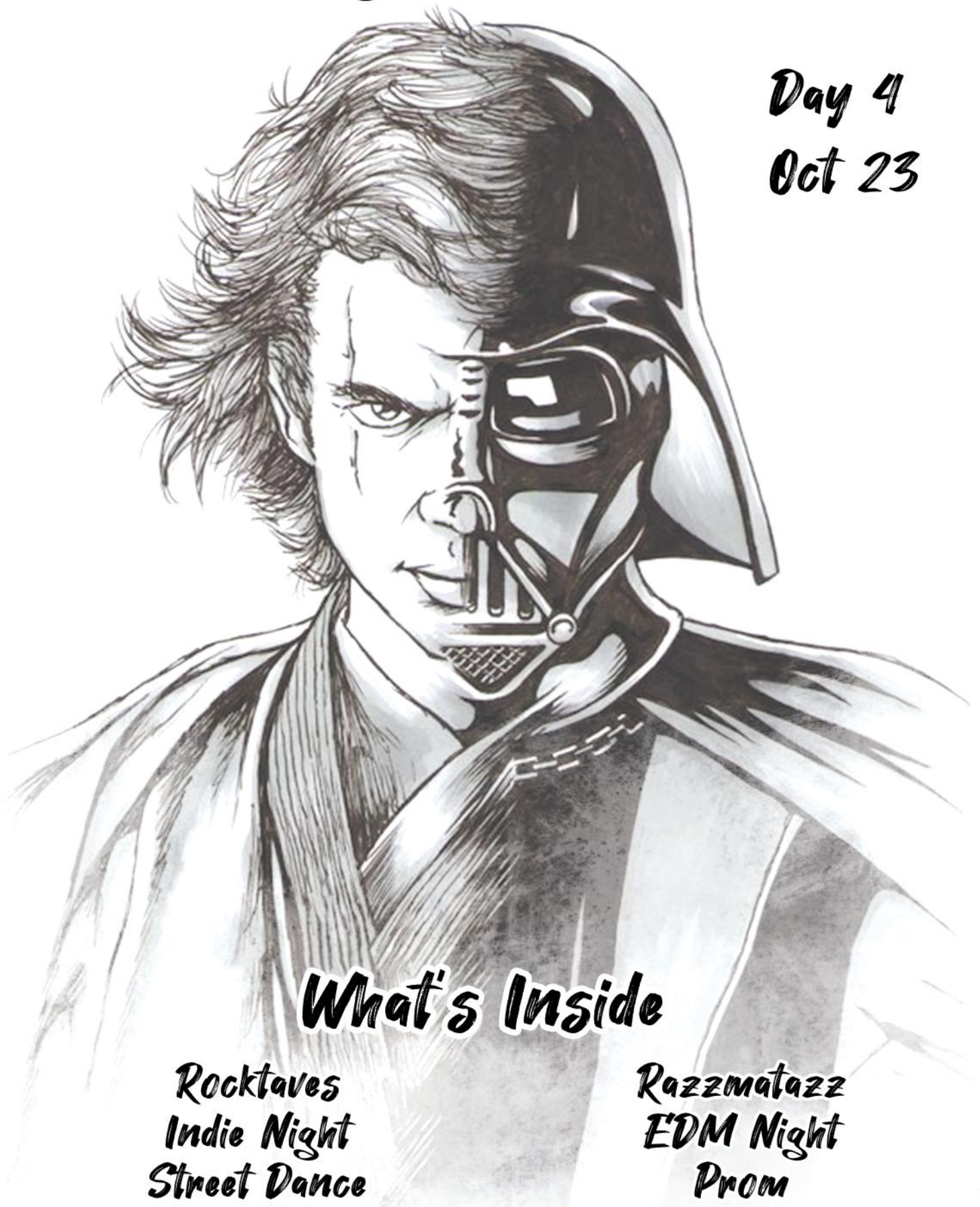


THE PENNING EFFECT

An Oasis English Press Presentation

Day 4

Oct 23



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Indie Night
Street Dance

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Prom

EDITORIAL

Here it is, the fourth and final issue of the Penning Effect.

To be honest, writing an editorial has been the most difficult task for me throughout the fest press. I had so much to say, but I could never frame my editorials to convey what I intended to. Over the course of four issues, I had written about various things in my editorials. There was no overarching theme that connected them. I believe that it could be attributed to my lack of interest in writing editorials.

In retrospect, I am extremely proud of the articles that went into every issue. Sure, a few errors might have been overlooked, but the way the writers have worked to produce quality content is commendable. I have also been fortunate enough to have skilled designers who keep pushing the limits and always deliver more than what is expected of them. The support that I received from the seniors that I have looked up to in the club augments my respect for them.

The fest press has consistently tried and tested us, thereby giving us a lot of opportunities to improve. I may not have met the standards set by fest press editors in the past, but I cannot deny the fact that the journey has been a very good learning experience. I learned how to make do with what we have, pull-off all nighters, get work done, resolve last-minute issues and also managed to learn a bit of Photoshop.

The members of the fest press may disband after today and drift apart; but, in my opinion, the values that each and every member imparted on the other is the greatest takeaway of the Penning Effect.

I have been over-confident and over-ambitious in the past, and the Penning Effect was the reality check that I needed to put myself into the spectator mode and introspect. Always remember, the journey is more important than the destination. If you know the path, you will get there. Maybe not immediately, but definitely.

Goodbye!



THE TEAM

Anurup, Nabeel, Smax, Sneha, Vaswani, Vighnesh;

Adhitya, Anuvind, Ardra, Aswin, Divya, Mustansir, Naveen, Swarup, Vidhi;

Abhinav, Aditya, **Anirudh**, Archith, Aswathy, Debarpan, Jai, Jayanth, Roshan, Saksham, Vinay, Yashaswi;

Adit, Anand, Chiraag, Effy, Gandhar, George, Hamza, Mihir, Pranav, Sabhya, Sarthak, Shourya, Shreyasi, Suhaas, Utkarsh;

Abhigya, Akshaya, Ananya, Anirudh, Ayushmaan, Digivijay, Ishan, Lavitra, Siddharth, Tanay, Tejas, Yash.



ROCKTAVES

Time Is A Social Construct

Rocktaves, organised by ARBITS, is the battle-of-the-band-style competition that pits bands from across the country against each other.

Before Oasis, preliminary rounds are organised Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, and Bangalore. The best bands from these locations are selected to perform in the finals, which takes place during Oasis.

This year, Rocktaves concluded on Day 3. It was one of the most anticipated events, and despite being delayed the conclusion was widely appreciated. Rocktaves, which has been drawing some of the best up-and-coming bands in the country, lived up to its hype, and delivered some sensational performances. Seven teams made the finals this year after winning the qualifying rounds.

The event was scheduled to start at 2:30 am, but due to an overall delay in preceding events, and problems in the sound setup, the event was pushed to 5:30 am. Each team had 25 minutes to perform their set, but a lot of time was invested in sound check and stage setup, which delayed their performances.

Sutej Singh, an Indian guitarist based in Solan, headlined the competition. He energised the crowd with his flowing guitar riffs. This, combined with the rhythmic drum beats and bass, added to the experience. Their hit songs Oceans Apart and Walk My Path showcased his talent. The crowd was drawn forward by their energy, and stayed at the foot of the stage till the end of the performance.

Spotlight, the winner of the South-East eliminations, was great as the first act. They brought the crowd to their feet though their use of power chords and the vocalist's passionate singing. The five members had great chemistry and they never missed a beat.

Imbecile, a band whose songs include multiple sub-genres of rock, surprised the crowd with their high intensity set up, and the energy in their performance. The four members, all of whom are still in college, peppered the crowd with their heavy use of the bass drum and the complexity of their music.

Larger than 90 displayed their potency in combining

groovy Indian vocals with classic rock beats. Their songs Paisa and No Strings Attached had a retro vibe. Their last song was based on the movie "Out in the Wild" and it spoke of one's frustration with the strenuous city life and a desire to break free from those shackles.

Tripp Pilots graced the occasion with singles like Compassion. Their performance was marked with brilliant guitar and drum solos. They drew inspiration from the Metal Gods of music and never failed to interact with the audience members.

The Milgram Experiment were quite successful in getting the exhausted audience pumped up. Their lead singer was proficient in growling which went well with their heavy metal style of music. They played songs including *Lost in Transition* and *Sisyphian Intervention* from their debut album *City of Paranoia*.

Mrigtrishna, a Carnatic-fusion band, got the audience to the foot of the stage. Their tabla player and drummer showed incredible rhythm sense, as they combined expertly with the bassist. The vocalist was also impressive, showcasing a wide range in his pitch. The star of the show, however, was the guitarist, who played complex solos and catchy riffs.

8 GB RAM, another Carnatic-fusion band, ended the competition in style. The Bangalorean band incorporated the Indian classical aspect efficiently. The violinist treated the crowd to sweeping strokes, and he seemed to cut through the rest of the sounds with the vocals. The rest of the band's contributions only added to the beautiful music.

The results of the contest will be announced around two weeks from now. All teams delivered strong performances, and unlike previous versions of Rocktaves, the lineup was quite diverse in terms of genres. Metal, prog rock, and Hindustani classical music fans alike were given something memorable to take back for the last two days of the fest. Despite the delay and problems associated with getting the event together, Rocktaves did not disappoint in terms of the quality of music.



RAZZMATAZZ

Jazz And Pizzazz

Conducted by the Dance Club, BITS Pilani, Razzmatazz is a dance competition that forces teams to improvise and be creative. This year, Razzmatazz was conducted in collaboration with the India Hip Hop Dance Championship 2020, a nation-wide contest for the opportunity to represent India on the international stage at the World Hip Hop Championships at Phoenix, Arizona. The judge for the event was a representative from the India Hip Hop Championship group.

The Razzmatazz finals were scheduled to begin at half past nine in the morning, but because Rocktaves ended late, the event started at one in the afternoon. Eight teams made it past the elimination rounds and into the finals: The Ramjas Dance Society (Ramjas College), Nox Dance Society (Thapar College), Electra (Motilal Nehru College), Spardha (Shaheed Bhagat Singh College), CVS Zest (CVS College), Illusion (Ramlal College), 3.14 Crew (VIPS), and Nriyanjali (Lady Irwin College). The event had three rounds, each testing a different aspect of improvisation in dance.

The first round required teams to repeat their elimination round performances in a full production environment. The Dance Club secretary explained that this allows teams to do justice to their work by presenting their semester/annual productions in front of a large audience. He went on to say that from a judging perspective, the keys to winning this round are being synchronised and minimising mistakes.

The performances are judged based on their choreography, innovativeness, and novelty. This round served as the Pilani Elimination round for the India Hip Hop Championships, as the judge selected one team that performed to qualifying from the Pilani edition solely based on this round.

The teams performed with different styles of dance, with some teams preferring a more abstract fusion of dance styles while others preferred fast paced music and rapid changes. Of particular note was the Nox Dance Society's performance, a drama-dance about the struggles

drama-dance about the struggles of cancer patients that incorporated themes of pain and death.

The second round had participants perform to backing tracks selected by Dance Club, and not by the teams themselves. Each track lasted around three to five minutes, and was an amalgamation of multiple songs. The secretary explained that the songs are carefully selected, so that both the dancers and the audience are likely to have heard them. They also ensure that the songs have different paces, to see how teams cope with sudden tempo changes. Teams have to ensure that every member can intuitively guess what the leader is about to do, a skill that is often developed through multiple rounds of practice. While most teams struggled at the start, by the second or third transition, almost all teams managed to make their transitions seamless. Some teams got particularly adventurous and incorporated break-dance elements, random back-flips, and jumps.

The final round involved using props. Dance Club had arranged for seven props—A rubber mat, a rope, a wooden frame, a bean-bag, an LED light strip, a cardboard box, and a semi-transparent cloth. Teams picked their props by lots. Like the previous round, this round also featured backing tracks unknown to the teams in advance. The teams were allowed to listen to their tracks and plan their performances for thirty minutes. This round has been a Razzmatazz

favorite in the past, and it was no different this year, with the audience laughing wildly as

teams thought up outlandish ways to use their props, including using the beanbag as a seat for Lord Vishnu and as a wheel for an odd vehicular contraption made of people. The primary judging parameter for this round was the capability of the teams to improvise under time pressure.

Once it started, the three-hour Razzmatazz went off without a hitch, and garnered one of the largest audiences for any event this Oasis.





PURPLE PROSE

A Red Herring

Purple Prose is a nation-wide slam poetry competition organized by the Poetry Club in association with the Hindi Activities Society (HAS). This time, there were around ten participants chosen after the elimination round, which was conducted in six major cities after collaborating with various reputed poetry societies based in those regions. The participants were required to present six-minute-long original poetry pieces in either Hindi, Urdu, or English.

The participants were judged in two rounds. The first had ten participants out of which seven were to be eliminated. However, the performances were so good that the judges insisted that the number of participants qualifying into the second round be increased to five.

Since there was no particular topic given for the competition, the performances touched on a wide variety of themes. Though participants in open contests generally stick to safer central themes,

performers in the competition boldly spoke on a variety of difficult social issues, tackling topics like terrorism, mental illness, and child sexual abuse.

Surprisingly, the dominant language among the performers was Urdu, with five out of the ten performers presenting in Urdu, while two presented in English and three in Hindi. Most of the performers wrote in free verse, though some Urdu performers followed a style called "Beher" or performed a form of a ghazal. Interestingly, none of the English performers presented rhythm poetry pieces, although some Urdu and Hindi performers did.

The pieces were judged based on creativity and originality, clarity of imagery and language, stage presence and presentation, indentation and poetic expression, and an "X-Factor" based on the judges' opinions. After careful deliberation, the judges declared Saumya Venkatesan as the winner of the event.



TRIATHLON

Decathlon, But Without The Extra Steps

Triathlon was organized by MATRIX—the art and cinema society. It comprised three sets of problems—Minimalist quiz, Shipwreck, and Treasure Hunt.

Triathlon was held in NAB 6164. It competed with popular events like Razzmatazz and Purple Prose to garner attention, but as they say, 'Nerds have a niche of their own' and rightly so, as four teams did turn up. The teams participated in the two-hour-long event in groups ranging from two to eight people and seemed enthusiastic about getting closer to the finish line.

The Minimalist Quiz comprised 30 questions in the form of a picture, which the participants had to decipher to figure out the title of the movie, series, or novel. The questions were diverse, encompassing several genres and were of varying difficulty. For the more difficult questions, some hints were also supplied to the contestants. Overall, only two questions remained unanswered. Screams of agony

and surprise from the contestants filled the hall as the correct answers were revealed thereon.

Shipwreck was a rather interesting and mind-wrenching affair. In this event, every team had to pick a negative character from a list compiled by the club and then justify their actions, and reason with the judges as to why the character should be given the last lifeboat on a sinking ship. The teams laid out quite accurate arguments, thus justifying the title of this article.

Treasure Hunt was also a mind-boggling event, as the teams went through clues ranging from Greek mythological characters to modern pop culture references. It was a somewhat sweaty experience for the contestants as they ran across campus in the peak of the afternoon. The zeal to complete the triathlon kept them going. In a rather interesting turn of events, a team from MATRIX itself was unable to complete the treasure hunt.



INDIE NITE

Fish Out Of Mainstream

It is commonly believed that certain genres of music do not go well together. For those who felt that jazz and electronic music, or Carnatic tunes and rock, should not be combined, Indie Nite was an eye-opener. The two bands who had been called for this year's performance were Pakshee and Ape Echoes—two of the most prominent names in the Indian fusion music ecosystem. While Ape Echoes is known for experimenting with electronic music, Pakshee has the distinction of infusing Carnatic music into a bedrock of funk, pop, and rock. There was palpable excitement surrounding these two bands, resulting in a great turnout.

At around 11 pm, one could see droves of students milling into the main Audi for the performances. It is not easy to describe the emotion and the unadulterated energy that drives a live performance. Be it the feeling of living in the moment or just being a part of something greater than yourself, there is something for everyone in such a performance.

After a rather lengthy period of checking the sound systems, the first band, Ape Echoes, took the stage. Ape Echoes is the brainchild of two Bombay-based producers, Nimit Shah and Sid Shirodkar, along with drummer Sahil Shah and guitarist Harsh Gadhvi. After its formation in August 2017, the band has toured the nation and shared the stage with some of the most well-known names in Indian music. The Apes began their performance with a brilliant rendition of a song, "Comes Alive", from their marquee album, "Ape Machines". This song set the tone for the evening, as a large chunk of the audience got up from their seats and gathered around the stage. This song was followed by a set of their other well-known compositions such as "Hold Tight" and "Monkey See". The Apes received a great crowd response as they struck a crescendo at midnight. Their performance was however cut short by ten minutes when the sound system hit a snag.

The next act was Pakshee, which is a six-member outfit based out of New Delhi. The band has people coming from different musical backgrounds and their unique blend of sound falls under the umbrella of World Music, within which they incorporate their various influences such as Jazz, Funk, Pop, and



Rock. With a two-vocalist (Hindustani and Carnatic) formula for diversity, their melodies are refreshingly catchy with innovative rhythms.

Pakshee began their performance with the Classical-jazz fusion "Raah Piya". The song kicked off with Tanishque's mellifluous turn on the Hindi lyrics based in Raag Bhimplasi, before Shreerag came into the fray, singing in Malayalam, producing a twisty shock for the uninitiated, who might have been expecting a song entirely written in Hindi. This was followed by a set of compositions that transported the audience into a world of surrealism. Songs such as "Jogi", "Balma", and "Kosh" bore testament to the scope of fusion music. Pakshee employed brilliant sound and lighting to bring together the entire psychedelic vibe of their fusion music. The final performance ended at around 1:45 am, with the band signing off on a high.

In a country where the music industry suffers from the undisputed hegemony of Bollywood, it is but natural for the talent to gravitate that way. In such a system, supporting aspiring local artists becomes of paramount importance. These musicians often do not get the patronage they deserve. However, seeing the audience at Indie Nite '19, one can safely say that there is still hope for the Indie music industry to prosper and grow into a pan-Indian phenomenon.



EDM NITE

Electronic Music Has Achieved A New High

It was 10:45 pm. The crowd was filled with fervour and SR grounds brimmed with anticipation. The atmosphere reminded one of an Amsterdam cafe. EDM Nite welcomed the crowd to an opening act filled with bright, flashing lights and hard beat drops by a quartet of masked DJs. Incidentally, this was the group's first ever live show. They pulled out all the stops, with top-notch visuals and hype music. The opening act lasted for around 20 minutes and set the tone for what was to come. The crowd danced energetically, but carefully so as to avoid tripping. The 24x7 spirit of Oasis had left a considerable portion of the audience red-eyed in their sleeplessness.

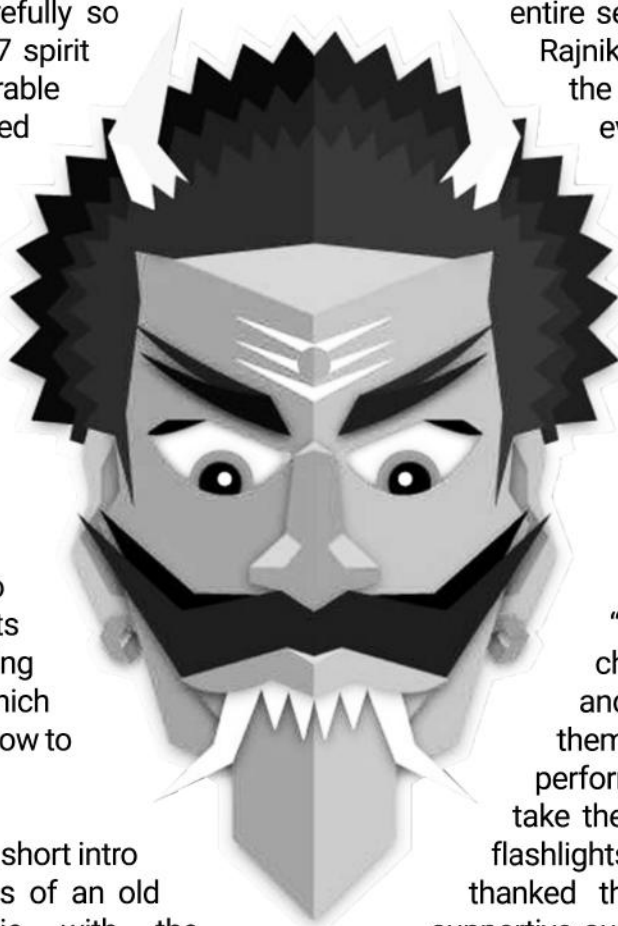
Nucleya took the stage shortly after. As he began his customary sound check, the host, GD Sayal, tried to keep the crowd entertained by making them chant Nucleya's name, as he felt it was not just a name, but 'an emotion'. He also asked the crowd to feel grateful for their parents and for the soldiers protecting our borders. The crowd, which was impatient and unsure of how to react, decided to go with it.

Nucleya opened his set with a short intro video that presented snippets of an old Amitabh Bachchan movie with the dialogues edited to flow into the opening track. The smooth transitions and the beat drop caught the audience by surprise, driving them wild. The colours on stage blended in tune with Nucleya's music, further entrancing the audience. Several audience members were caught staring wide-eyed at the flashing lights. Throughout his set, Nucleya mainly played remixes of old Bollywood songs with background movie snippets of matching tempo. The entire setup whipped the crowd into a frenzy, and each transition was greeted with loud cheers. Juices were available at the refreshment stall, but much of the audience had already had enough to drink.

The background visuals helped maintain the intensity of the performance throughout. Apart from movie snippets, they also contained clips of various trending events that had happened over the past year, including a clip of Priya Warrier's famous wink and Narendra Modi doing Yoga. Nucleya gave Baba Ramdev and his company Patanjali quite a bit of publicity, with many of the background clips featuring Baba Ramdev's yogic talents and ads of Patanjali products. Notably, Nucleya devoted an entire section of his set to "Thalaivar" Rajnikanth, complete with clips from the veteran actor's old movies. He even changed a song's beat drop to Rajnikanth saying "Yenna Da", resulting in a roar of joy from the crowd who recognized him from Shah Rukh Khan's viral "Lungi Dance" song.

Nucleya smartly mixed his original songs with the old Bollywood tracks and played songs like "Laung Gawacha", "Dhoop", and "Going to America". The crowd cheered wildly for every song and even sang along to many of them. Nucleya rounded off his performance by getting the crowd to take their phones out and shine their flashlights to the beat. Following this, he thanked the crowd for being such a supportive audience and promised to come back soon. The host then introduced the organizing committee behind Oasis and requested the crowd to thank them. The GenSec responded in kind and asked the crowd to do the same for the host. The performance concluded at around 1:30 am.

In a nutshell, a tight and fast-paced set by the DJs, carefully curated accompanying visuals and lights, enough burnt grass, and most importantly, a great crowd made for an unforgettable night.





ANDHOLIKA FINALS

Raag-narok

While the auditorium behind cheered for the Razzmatazz performances, another crowd of people gathered in the backstage QT for the final rounds of Andholika. Organised by the Music Club, Andholika is a vocal talent competition that tests the versatility of participants by making them sing across different genres of music. It was held across four categories: male eastern, female eastern, male western, and female western. The preliminary rounds of the competition took place on Day 1 of the fest. For each category, the finalists were asked to sing two songs—a solo and a duet.

The first category was male western. The two finalists were Nakul Chugh from Ramjas and Radheshyam Arora from Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies. The contestants were asked to sing *Unchained Melody* for the solo and *Are You Gonna Be My Girl* for the duet. While both contestants struggled with pitch throughout their performances, Nakul improved significantly in the duet.

The next category was the male eastern category. Contestants sang *Dilhara* for the solo and *Bhaag Milkha Bhaag* as a duet. Manjeet Singh from Manav Rachna International Institute Of Research And Studies nailed the first performance. Huge support for MRIIRS in the crowd led to strong applause for Manjeet's performance. Vishwajeet Singh, the second finalist from VIPS, started off well, but

struggled in the duet stage, with his voice cracking during the performance.

In the female western category, Aroonema from KMC and Shreya Prakash from Amity University had to perform *What's Up* for the solo and *You Know I Am No Good* for the duet stage. Shreya received adulation throughout her performance but her voice cracked during the duet stage. Aroonema had a problem during the start of her performance due to some miscommunication with the instrumentalists from Music Club. However, she improved as the song progressed.

The final category was female eastern. The finalists were asked to sing *Nahi Mei Samajh Gayi* for the solo and *Lambi Judai* for the duet. Shivangani Sharma from MRIIRS received a lot of support from the audience. She, however, lacked confidence and kept looking back to confirm the lyrics of the song. Kriti Bhatnagar from Ramlal Anand College nailed her performance. She maintained her pitch and enunciation throughout the performance. While both performances were comparable for the solo stage, the difference between the two singers became evident in the duet stage. While Shivangani struggled to maintain her flow, Kriti sang consistently. With a sizeable attendance from both BITSians and non-BITSians, the event was popular with the audience and enjoyed a successful run.



T&L QUIZ

Around The World In Four Hours

The Travel and Living Quiz was the second and last quiz hosted by quizmaster Kushan Patel this Oasis. Due to the event being scheduled in the afternoon, the turnout for the event was lower than the previous night's Oasis Quiz. With the typical setbacks out of the way, the quiz was soon underway.

In the fourth ELAS quiz of the fest, Kushan Patel asked the participants congregated at ET 2220 various questions from the realms of travel, living and culture. There were a few standout questions, with one about the origin of the white and blue

houses in Santorini, Greece being particularly noteworthy.

The preliminary round questions were workable in retrospect, but a tired BITSian crowd was not suited for these questions, resulting in lower overall scores. Eight teams qualified for the finals which consisted of three rounds. Two 16-question infinite bounce-pounce rounds with a five-question written round in between ended the quiz in a close finish, with the Honourable S-Max, Mustansir, and Aditya Vasudevan comfortably beating the team of Nandagopal, Utsav, and Devesh.



THEME QUIZ

A Painful Swan Song

The 'Neon Noir' theme quiz, co-hosted by Little Boy 'BoB' O'Bharadwaj and Aditya Vasudevan of the English Language Activities Society, was held in FD-2 2220 from 2:30 am to 5 am. There was a delay in the event as BoB was still building the quiz at the scheduled time of start, because of which the event was able to attract only six teams. The exhaustion in the quizmaster's face was reflected in that of each participant, and Team 1 left the quiz halfway through. It was later replaced by a much less interested party, which also eventually abandoned the endeavour and left the quiz one team short.

The first of the five rounds was a written round and much to BoB's surprise, the last round turned out to be one too. The other rounds were bounce-pounce oral rounds. Each round primarily focused on different elements of the theme: Neon—the bright and colourful and Noir—the dark and bleak, with questions being posed to the participants. The first round vaguely focused on Neon Noir, apparently, while the second and fourth rounds focused on the elements of the theme individually. A concerned bearded member found the lack of Joker questions in the quiz a bleeding problem and decided to fix the society he lived in with the fourth round. The fifth round had questions which had answers that were all syllable variants of the words 'neon' and 'noir' alternatively. Examples of such answers were Trevor Noah, Nair, Noor, Neo, etc. One of the teams, having miscalculated the atmosphere, took a very different route on the last round. While all their answers ended up being wrong, reading them aloud provided a refreshing end to the quiz.

The teams were quick to not come up with the right answers but did manage to think of hilarious answers. For instance, when a question on the Battle of Inkerman was asked, Gandhar Kulkarni of Team 5

answered that it was the first recorded bruh momint in history. The funny answers occasionally turned out to be the right answers as well. Boner was an answer to one of the questions, which was appropriately provided by Jai Vashishtha, Editor of the BOSM English Press for BOSM 2019, of Team 3.

Teams 3 and 5 contested the quiz competitively, while others just wanted a haven from the cold. These two elite quizzing teams were tied on points at the end of the fourth round, due to the inability of

ELAS to perform simple addition. After rashly pouncing on the first five questions and getting four of

them right on the fly, Team

3 had obviously established themselves as the superior team.

This theme continued throughout the event, with Team 3's luck worsening as the night wore on.

However, their occasional break was enough to allow them to maintain a strong competition. Team 5

held the name as a reminder for the sum total

of IQ points of the team.

Team 3 was able to win the quiz after calling in favours from Aditya Vasudevan. Conformational bias and an alternative interpretation of the theme led them astray in the final round, leading them to write incorrect answers that were nevertheless suspiciously coincidental with the questions. Team 3, consisting of Jai, Utkarsh, and Sarthak, steered away from the Jaineric answers with their own darker variations on the round's questions. Their answers, which will not be disclosed, did gain them brownie points from the BoB but eventually sealed their fate in the quiz. In this way, Team 5 comprising Gandhar, Saksham, and Anirudh did not win the quiz.

QUIZ
Time



METAMORPHOSIS

What If We Made A Film, But Shorter?

Metamorphosis is a short film-making competition conducted by FMaC. Students from across India submit short films, out of which ten are selected for the finals in Oasis. This year, the judge for the finals was Mayank Shankar, a Mumbai-based film critic and journalist. The theme was "What If?", which was praised by the judge for being open-ended.

Aftaab was a love story by Ramanujan College, Delhi about a dying wife who writes a letter to her husband, unsure of whether he will ever read it. When the husband finally reads it, he is unsure about whether it is intended for him or someone else. The majority of the narrative was expressed through poetry, which made it more engaging.

Akara was a gritty psycho-horror by Delhi University. It was about an unsuccessful actor who becomes a serial killer to record his "performance" with his victims. The protagonist's scenes were depicted in black-and-white, which highlighted his transitions from psychopathy to sanity.

Another Brick in the Wall by SBSC, Delhi was another psycho-horror film centred on a father who killed his daughter after she found out about his torture obsession and a boy investigating what happened. It used lighting and stop cuts well to link the two narratives that occurred simultaneously.

Ehsaas was an emotional drama by TIPS. It was about a man who steals an auto-rickshaw from a woman who is later raped and killed because of it. The man is racked with guilt when he sees his own daughter. The script was moving and stayed especially relevant to the theme.

GHAR was a drama by JIMS, Delhi. It was the story of a woman who is domestically abused. It was short, but the audience found the topic engaging.

Jostled was a slice-of-life story by SBSC, Delhi. It contrasted the life of a well-off child to that of a child worker. The cinematography was praised, but the audience felt that it lacked a plot.

Karvatein was a romantic drama by NIFT Delhi. The premise was about a married woman and a young



man who can share dreams when they sleep and write letters to each other about those dreams. The plot, cinematography, and acting contributed to the overall professional look of the film.

Let's Meet was a romantic drama by Thapar University about a lonely boy who finds solace in a girl he meets online. The film was about the stigma he faces for meeting someone online and the expectations he has of the meet. Some of the shots taken were interesting, but the ending was poorly received.

Parallels by Miranda House, Delhi University told parallel stories of multiple characters and how their actions affect each other. The audience was unable to connect to either of the acting and the script.

Rounding off the event was *Today's Special* by VIPS, Delhi, which was based on the premise of a black stain appearing on a man's shirt. This leads to the people around him trying to help him. The audience did not connect with the metaphor of mental illness, and one audience member proclaimed that she found the film offensive to those with mental illnesses.

Some of the participating teams like NIFT Delhi had previously attended film courses and had a professor helping them with their entry. The judge pointed it out in his concluding remarks, but he expressed that it is not a problem, because in the real world there will always be people with better resources or skills than others and that that the others must learn how to deal with that. NIFT Delhi were adjudged the winners of the event.



STREET DANCE

Step Up 2: The Streets

Street Dance is a street-style dance competition, which also acted as the regional round for the Indian Hip-Hop Dance Championship 2020, which in turn is a qualification event for the World Championship. The event was judged by Rahul Suryavanshi, a gold medallist in the Dance World Cup. The event consisted of two rounds. While the first round featured street-style performances by the participating teams, the second round consisted of face-off challenges between pairs of teams.

The start of the first performance of the night, which was by the students of Trinity College, was delayed due to technical issues. With constant cheering from the crowd, they started with a song by XXXTENTACION and continued their performance with a fusion of reggaeton and pop. The next performance by Maharaja Surajmal Institute of Technology was full of energy and started with Punjabi songs which were welcomed by the audience. Pannalal Girdharlal Dayanand Anglo-Vedic College (Evening), which performed next, was met with tremendous applause. The audience especially enjoyed the John Cena theme sequence in the middle of their performance. PDM University's performance involved a human pyramid, multiple

formations, and twerking. The next performance was by BITS Pilani, who had dressed up in martial arts attire and half-masks.

Thapar had a fast-paced performance that had a number of Punjabi songs. The formation made by them at the end of the performance was well received by the crowd. College of Vocational Studies's performance included a background score that was majorly pop and had several well-executed steps. Ramlal Anand College, impressed the audience with their well-choreographed routine. PGDAV (Morning) danced to retro Bollywood music and had a very synchronised routine. The last performance was by Spardha of Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, which involved a lot of popping. The impeccable synchronisation of the final two performances ensured that the conclusion of the first round was enjoyable for the audience.

In the second round, the duels were: MSIT vs Thapar, PGDAV (evening) vs CVS, and BITSP vs SBSC. MSIT, CVS, and SBSC won their respective duels. At last, a tiebreaker duel of two songs was held between SBSC and CVS. The tiebreaker was tightly contested with both the teams performing a lot of popping, but was eventually won by CVS.



PROM

Save The Date

One of the most exclusive events of the year, the Oasis Prom, was held early in the morning on the 23rd of October in the main hall of SAC. Prom Night is a couples-only event organised by Radioaktiv that is held every Oasis, quietly rebuffing efforts of Pilani's bachelor populace to discover what happens inside. This year, the event was entitled Baile de la Noche, which translates to "The Night of Dance" in Spanish. True to its name, the event was modeled around its theme in decor as well as entertainment.

Due to technical issues with the lighting, Prom was delayed by an hour, but it proceeded smoothly thereon. Through liberal usage of fairy-lights, ribbons, and balloons, a complete transformation was effected on the generally sober-looking SAC. As the couples on the invite list gradually trickled in, they

were given ribbons of different colours, separating them into four groups for the activities to follow. Radioaktiv members then proceeded to distribute masks for the first activity, with the aim of lending the event an air of a masquerade.

The activities, consistent with the theme, revolved around music and dance. Throughout the entirety of the event, a wide selection of music encouraged couples to take to the floor in between games, albeit with some nudging by the comperes.

As the activities proceeded, numbers gradually dwindled as the participants left. Their cheerful laughter and flushed smiles were the finest testimonial to another successful Prom Night hosted by Radioaktiv.

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