

SOI CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Marat Bisengaliev, conductor/violin



SOI Patron

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17 JANUARY 2026



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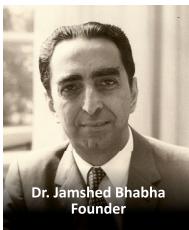
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**17 January 2026
Institute Menezes Braganza
Panjim, Goa**

About the NCPA

The National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA), Mumbai, is India's premier cultural institution. Inaugurated in 1969, it was the first multi-venue, multi-genre cultural centre in South Asia. The NCPA is committed to preserving and promoting India's rich and vibrant artistic heritage in the fields of music, dance, theatre, film, literature and photography, as well as presenting new and innovative work by Indian and international artistes from a diverse range of genres including theatre, contemporary dance, orchestral concerts, opera, jazz and chamber music. Today, the NCPA hosts more than 700 events each year, making it India's largest and most holistic performing arts centre.

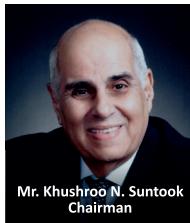


Dr. Jamshed Bhabha
Founder

The NCPA was the brainchild of JRD Tata and Dr. Jamshed Bhabha, two visionaries who saw India's need for a all-encompassing world-class performing arts centre. Luminaries from various fields have contributed towards lending the NCPA

the iconic status it now enjoys, with such artistes as Satyajit Ray and Yehudi Menuhin as its earliest mentors. Facing the Arabian Sea, the NCPA campus houses five theatres, as well as galleries, libraries, restaurants and numerous reception spaces. Boasting the best-appointed auditoriums in India, which underwent massive technical upgrade recently, the NCPA frequently attracts major events from overseas and is ideally suited to host large productions, including fully staged operas and ballets.

As India's role on the international stage expands, the NCPA has been investing in the country's cultural future. The Centre regularly presents performances and workshops by leading artistes from around India. It also presents several international groups and has collaborated with arts organisations and theatres around the globe including the Southbank Centre,



Mr. Khushroo N. Suntook
Chairman

Carnegie Hall, National Theatre (London), the Edinburgh Festival, and the Metropolitan Opera (New York). The NCPA regularly welcomes some of the leading orchestras from around the world, including the Vienna Philharmonic, Israel Philharmonic, Bavarian State Orchestra, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande and London Symphony Orchestra, amongst others. With its great emphasis on education, the NCPA is developing a reputation as a major centre for training and education, building on an already well-established programme of workshops, seminars, and special events for families and children.

In 2006, the NCPA established the Symphony Orchestra of India (SOI), the country's first and only professional orchestra. Founded by NCPA Chairman Khushroo N. Suntook and violin virtuoso Marat Bisengaliev, who serves as the Artistic Director, the SOI regularly performs with some of the world's leading conductors and soloists.



Mr. Marat Bisengaliev
Music Director, SOI

The NCPA Library is the only specialised performing arts library in the city of Mumbai, and as part of its mission to preserve India's cultural heritage, the NCPA has built up extensive archives of more than 6,000 hours of music and film recorded at the organisation since its inception. The addition of the Stuart-Liff Collection in 2010 gave the NCPA a treasure trove of sought-after books, recordings, and musical scores that is truly unique in the world of Western vocal and operatic music.

Having celebrated its golden jubilee in 2019 with a multi-genre festival spanning four days, the NCPA, with an ever-expanding list of performances, educational projects, exhibitions, and much more, continues to build on its reputation as one of the leading arts centres in Asia.

About the Symphony Orchestra of India

Symphony Orchestra of India

Khushroo N. Suntook, Chairman
Marat Bisengaliev, Artistic Director

“A world-class ensemble”

- The Spectator

“A very fine orchestra that can be compared with a lot of good ensembles all over the world”

- Maestro Zubin Mehta

“This is clearly an orchestra that’s going places.”

- Miranda Heggie, *The Arts Desk*, on the SOI’s UK tour

The Symphony Orchestra of India (SOI), housed at the National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA), Mumbai, is India’s first and only professional orchestra. It was founded in 2006 by NCPA Chairman Khushroo N. Suntook and violin virtuoso Marat Bisengaliev, who serves as the orchestra’s Artistic Director. Martyn Brabbins has been appointed as the SOI’s Chief Conductor, starting January 2026.

The SOI has worked with such renowned conductors as Zubin Mehta, Martyn Brabbins, Carlo Rizzi, Charles Dutoit, Karl Jenkins and more. Soloists appearing with the SOI have included Maria João Pires, Augustin Dumay, Simon O’Neill, Stephen Hough, Angel Blue, Zakir Hussain, Barry Douglas amongst others.

International tours have seen the SOI perform in the Hall of Columns in Moscow; the Royal Opera House, Muscat; the Emirates Palace Auditorium, Abu Dhabi; the Tonhalle, Zurich; Victoria Hall, Geneva; and the Tonhalle, St. Gallen; and at prestigious venues across the United Kingdom.



Apart from the mainstays of the symphonic repertoire, the NCPA and SOI have also presented large-scale productions, including fully staged opera productions of *Tosca*, *Cavalleria rusitcana/Pagliacci*, *Madama Butterfly*, *La Bohème* and *Die Fledermaus* in 2022 in collaboration with the Hungarian State Opera. In 2024, the NCPA had the honour of hosting the 31st edition of the world's foremost opera competition – Operalia, founded by world renowned tenor Plácido Domingo, in South Asia for the very first time. The SOI accompanied the finalists under the baton of Plácido Domingo.

The orchestra comprises a core group of resident musicians who form the SOI Chamber Orchestra. It enjoys a year-round busy performing schedule with regular series of concerts performed at the NCPA as well as other venues across Mumbai and India.

The SOI also places great emphasis on education, with many of the SOI musicians doubling as teachers to develop the musical potential of young people in India. An in-house traineeship programme, workshops, masterclasses, and teacher-training programmes in various cities form an integral part of this endeavour. Chief amongst the Orchestra's educational initiatives is the SOI Music Academy which brings a professional level of teaching to gifted young musicians. Several graduates of the Academy have gone on to pursue music in leading conservatories around the world, often coming back full circle to perform as part of the SOI.

www.soimumbai.com

Marat Bisengaliev

conductor/violin

Internationally renowned violinist Marat Bisengaliev is the founding Artistic Director of the Symphony Orchestra of India. Described by The Times as a "brilliant violin soloist", Marat Bisengaliev has also been designated "a latter-day Ysaë" by the American Journal Fanfare. The New York Times says that "he has taken to heart a style of playing that was a hallmark of violin virtuosity early in the century".

In 2019, Marat performed with the Symphony Orchestra of India on their maiden tour to the UK, with critically acclaimed concerts in London, Edinburgh, Guildford & Cardiff. The Scotsman hailed his "gloriously assertive, chiselled account of Bruch's First Violin Concerto", with Classical Source declaring it "without question, the finest live performance of this masterpiece I have heard."



Marat was born in Kazakhstan in 1962 and made his debut at the age of nine. He studied at the Tchaikovsky Conservatoire in Moscow with two of the legendary names in violin tuition: Boris Belinki and Valery Klimov. He was a prize-winner in 1988 at the Leipzig International Bach Competition, and in 1991 won first prize at the International Nicanor Zabaleta Competition in Spain, also receiving the Special Virtuoso Prize.

Since signing a major recording contract with Naxos and Marco Polo in 1991, Marat has produced a number of acclaimed recordings. His recording of the Mendelssohn Concertos (Northern Sinfonia) was the Gramophone Critic's Choice of the Year in 1998. Fanfare nominated his recording of Havergal Brian's concerto (BBC SSO) as Critics' Choice 1994. Sony BMG awarded him a Gold Disc for his recording *Tlep* by Karl Jenkins. In 2000, he received the 1st Platinum Tarlan Award and the Government Medal of Honour in Kazakhstan.

A noted interpreter of the works of Sir Edward Elgar, his album *Elgar: Re-discovered works for violin, Vol. 1* (Black Box) was nominated for the 1999 Gramophone Award and the second volume was named by Classic FM as one of the "Top 5 Elgar recordings". His three-CD anthology *Elgar: The Violin Works*, which received the Gold Disc award from the American Elgar Foundation was recently reissued by Naxos. In 2013, Marat received the first Elgar Proliferation Award from the American Elgar Foundation.

Apart from the SOI, Marat has also founded two orchestras in his home country. In 2003, he founded the West Kazakhstan Philharmonic Orchestra. Their first CD—Karl Jenkins' Requiem—was released on EMI and reached No. 1 in the classical sales charts and was No. 1 in Hall of Fame in Classic FM magazine. In 2012, he founded the Almaty Symphony Orchestra.

Marat has performed in over 35 countries, with orchestras including the London Symphony Orchestra, Berlin Symphony Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, English Chamber Orchestra, BBC Scottish, Philharmonia, Warsaw Philharmonic, Moscow Symphony Orchestra, BBC Ulster, Beijing Symphony Orchestra, and Moscow Radio Symphony Orchestra, amongst others. He has played in leading venues around the world including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center, Royal Albert Hall, Barbican, Wigmore Hall, Bridgewater Hall, and the Forbidden City Concert Hall.

In June 2024, the Kazakh Foreign Ministry honoured Marat as a Goodwill Ambassador of the country, in recognition of his contribution in putting Kazakhstan on the global map.

www.maratbisengaliev.co

Saturday, 17th January, 2026 at 7:00 pm
Institute Menezes Braganza, Panjim, Goa

SOI Chamber Orchestra
Marat Bisengaliev, conductor/violin

HAYDN	Cello Concerto No. 1 in C major	10'
	<i>Moderato</i>	
	Sherali Mukhanbetkali, cello	
<i>Intermission</i>		
MOZART	Symphony No. 40 in G minor, K. 550	30'
	<i>Molto allegro</i>	
	<i>Andante</i>	
	<i>Menuetto. Allegretto – Trio</i>	
	<i>Finale. Allegro assai</i>	
JENKINS	Fifth Season	20'
	<i>Fifth season</i>	
	<i>Tango</i>	
	<i>Waltz</i>	
	<i>Romanze</i>	
	<i>Bits</i>	
	Air	3'
	Scherpek	3'
	Palladio	19'
	<i>Allegretto</i>	
	<i>Largo</i>	
	<i>Vivace</i>	
	Sarikiz	3'
	<i>Allegro</i>	

About the Musicians

Symphony Orchestra of India
Khushroo N. Suntokh, Chairman
Marat Bisengaliev, Artistic Director

Violin

Olga Lyapina *concertmaster*
 Prayash Biswakarma
 Tabigat Amrenov
 Averell deSouza
 Nazikgul Zhanazarova
 Yevgeniy Ugay
 Biju Salin
 Shynar Barlykova
 Prabhat Kishore
 Kalyanee Mujumdar
 Pramit Biswas
 Anirudh Gnanadhandayuthapani
 Navaneethkrishnan J*

Viola

Osman Yarullin
 Mikhail Bulgakov
 Deon Dsouza
 Francis Mendes
 Unni PR*

Cello

Sherali Mukhanbetkali
 Johann Arthur
 Yulia Gallyamova

Double Bass

Akhmad Kerimkulov
 Sujan Chettri
 Joshua Rodrigues

Flute

Altyn Bissengaliyeva

Oboe

Daniyar Yerman

Clarinet

Nuraly Kungaliyev

Bassoon

Shaknur Marsali

Horn

Aldiyar Shakenov

Trumpet

Adil Ukibayev

Saxophone

Aleksei Iurushkin

Percussion

Igor Avdeev
 Roshan Singh Chhabra

Piano

Aida Bisengalieva

* SOI Trainee Musician

SOI Management

Bianca Mendonca *General Manager, Symphony Orchestra of India & Western Classical Music*
 Onay Zhumabayeva *Orchestra Manager*
 Meher Mistry *Manager*
 Maneck Billimoria *Dy. Manager*
 Nicole Fernandes *Consultant*
 Adil Ukibayev *Orchestra Librarian*
 Aleksei Iurushkin *Orchestra Inspector*
 Luis Chico Sr. *Manager – Development, SOI Music Academy*

Child's Play India Foundation

Child's Play India Foundation is a registered music education trust that seeks to instil positive values and provide social empowerment to India's disadvantaged children through the teaching of classical music to the highest possible standard. It was founded by Dr. Luis Dias in 2009.

We currently teach violin, viola, cello, double bass, recorder, transverse flute, clarinet, trumpet, and choir to children across eight locations in Goa. Our locations include children's shelters, schools, village projects, music lessons in Bookworm's village libraries, and community choirs.

Along with a music library in St. Inez, we also offer a piano practice room for piano students who may not have an acoustic piano to practice on. These initiative are open to the community so more students can benefit from them.

Our orchestra – Camerata Goa – includes our senior students, teachers and local musicians from the community. The Junior Camerata welcomes beginner and intermediate students.

For all locations, Child's Play pays for the teachers, instruments, teaching material (books, strings, etc) and any other expenses related to the project. Please consider supporting our work through individual or corporate sponsorships, instrument purchases, or our 'Adopt-a-Musician' program.

You can find latest updates on our website <https://childscopyindia.org/> or on social media @childscopyindia

If you'd like to support any of our projects, please visit our 'Support us' page for information on the many ways you can help us transform children's lives through music or contact us on 9922642059 / info@childscopyindia.org.

Child's Play India Foundation would like to thank the following for their support:

Furtados Music Goa

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Margarida Miranda

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Mimi and Cesar Menezes

Raju Rangachar



National Centre for the Performing Arts

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