

We interacted with a host of different artists and bands playing in the Harman Live Arena at this year's Palm Expo, and we've compiled their thoughts and views into a few broad categories.

Tell us about your music & your set list at Live Arena this year

Selva Ganesh

Usually people expect fusion when they see instruments like drums. We essentially play classical but with a different dimension. We don't fix any piece of music. We just discuss the raag and taal, and play whatever comes naturally on stage. The sitar is by itself a classical instrument, and the idea is that the kanjira should sound more like a tabla than a drum set, with a Carnatic vocabulary.

Rhythm Shaw

I've worked on some finger-style acoustic guitar music and some rock, funk, jazz and varied combinations. I'm glad to have made friends here and found the industry's top musicians to help me express my music and play my parts.

Sivamani

A.R Rahman gifted me a Continuum that I was very glad to have, and there were a lot of smaller additional percussive instruments that I couldn't play last year. I just like to try new sounds. Playing with Rhythm Shaw was also great cause it reminded me of my old days of playing with a rock band (laughs).

Anand Bhaskar Collective

We're an alternative rock act and write our lyrics in Hindi, and we have influences of classical, Carnatic elements mostly brought through by the vocals and violin. The music itself can be put under the heavy, alternative rock category. Our melodies are pop and our themes are inspired by everything around us.

Tejas Menon

We played some songs that were written from my 2014 album, and a couple that are from my upcoming album. I'm trying to walk the fine line between contemporary stuff and the classic, analog sounds. I have members in my band who are into the classic Simon and Garfunkel kind of stuff as well as those who listen to Ceili Mor and Vulfpek, and I personally also listen to a lot of electronic music and so we do tend to incorporate both elements into our music.

The Kush Upadhyay Group

As a band we started writing together 3 years ago and put out two EPs. The music we played was really fresh and written like a month ago and we wanted to see what people thought of it.

What do you think about the Harman Live arena and the sound on stage?

Selva Ganesh

It sounded great! We're trying hard to bring out classical sounds in ways that rock or pop would, and the sound on this stage definitely helps achieve that.

Rhythm Shaw

It was perfect actually. We didn't sound check together (with Sivamani) on stage, but I loved the sound. It was really enjoyable.



Sivamani

It was awesome actually. The new A12s were great. I'm thankful to Harman for their products cause without them I wouldn't be able to play a setup like this. The AKG microphones were also great, and the lapel microphone that picks up sound where ever I touch.

Anand Bhaskar Collective

It sounds fantastic! We were really excited the minute we walked in with the lights and the booming sound.

Tejas Menon

It was so good. I know their stuff is obviously top notch but they really delivered and provided us with everything we asked for. It was definitely an experience.

The Kush Upadhyay Group

It was great. I have no words actually. It's always nice to play with such great sound and the new monitors were kickass. Everything was setup really well, we had no hitches and Anshuman did a great job with sound.

Tell us about their gear, endorsements and technology

Selva Ganesh

We don't use any electronic instruments, our set is entirely acoustic and all our instruments are miked. I'm endorsed by AKG and I'm so glad that it helps pick up the sound the way I like it. It's a great microphone. I use the clip-on mikes for the kanjira and the other AKG models for the rest of the instruments.

Rhythm Shaw

There's a new signature power supply that I've been playing with. I endorse around 13 brands so it's hard to talk about all of them (laughs). I recently started endorsing Boss and I've been playing Yamaha electric guitars right now. My dad had got me a really old second or third-hand Yamaha acoustic guitar when I was a kid and I fell in love with it. Then the guys at Yamaha contacted me and got me one of their best guitars, the Pacifica and now I'm really looking forward to using it. The DD500 by Boss is my absolute favourite. It's one box that can do anything.

Anand Bhaskar Collective

Circle Pro Audio endorses us and our entire live set is powered by them, including in-ears, microphones and wireless units. We love technology and although we like our analog sounds and their warmth, gear and tech will always be beneficial.

The Kush Upadhyay Group

We've used MIDI setups for years now and despite it's drawbacks you can do a lot with it. There are plenty of audio plug-ins and instruments and even on stage you've got everything at your fingertips. The idea is to not get too dependent on the technology.

Tell us about your way forward and upcoming plans for the year

Selva Ganesh

We are still searching. Every musician has a search and right now we're trying to get into classical ideas and presenting them in a different way. We can play all sorts of things as long as the roots of our music are strong.

Rhythm Shaw

There's my finger style acoustic album that's coming out, along with another album featuring a lot of different musicians and varied styles of music. It'll be releasing in Germany. There's a lot of material that I want to write and so I'm just going with the flow.

Sivamani

My wife Runa and I are launching an album together called Tu Hi Tu. I'm also focusing on re-launching my Mahalila. I'm going to start a 'Dumru' school this year and I'm just deciding the location.

Tejas Menon

We have an album coming out soon called Make It Happen. Our songwriting, grooves and direction are pretty contemporary while also incorporating classic elements. So this album is going to have a blend of both.

The Kush Upadhyay Group

We're expecting Impulsive Decisions to be out by September and we're planning to tour. It's a five-track album that we recorded at Cotton Press studios with Gino Banks and Sheldon D'Silva. We've worked really hard for this album and we are really excited to get it out there.



PALM 2017 welcomed 30,000 visitors across 27,000 sq.m exhibit area, 10 highlight pro features

PALM creates pride and position for professionals establishing credible, reputed platforms with awards, conferences, championships







PALM 2017 got off to a roaring start with long queues for the registration before opening hour at 11am. Total visitors on day 1 clocked 7682 and nearly 2000 participants, representing the exhibitors. It was thumps up across the exhibit floors from all exhibitors signaling a very high quality crowd - knowledgeable and representing prospects.

This was the largest PALM expo in its 17th consecutive year, growing consistently year on year at more than 10 to 15 percent. PALM expo covered in all 27,000 sqm across the demo cubes, line arrays, live arena, conference Halls and exhibit area. Exhibits were divided into the sound and display hall and the lighting hall.

The biggest PALM show hosted nearly 225 exhibitors over 9500 sqm of exhibit area. Witnessing the maximum number of new products this year, Day 2 clocked 7440 unique visitors, with a record 10186 footfalls. Over the three days of the show, total unique visitors registered were 21506, an increase of 17.5% from 2016. The show hosted a total footfall of 30000 visitors across three days.

"PALM 2017 welcomed 225 exhibitors across five halls and two demo grounds. This large expo replete with the latest technology from leading brands exhibited latest products from across the world. ABEC is proud to serve the pro sound & light industry in this remarkable expo which saw over 30000 trade visitors this year and which we shall build bigger and better in 2018," said Manish Gandhi, Director & COO of ABEC Exhibitions & Conferences Pvt. Ltd.

Stage sound & lighting indeed was the biggest chunk of the visitor pie. Remarkably system integrators looking for solutions across AV, Audio –for-Video, cinema represents the second highest piece of the pie. Studio recording and music production solutions represented the third biggest piece of the pie. The visitors mix for each segment was a healthy average between professional talent and business buyers.

"ITE takes pride in ownership of this dynamic platform, infusing energy to the event entertainment industry in India. ITE is committed to develop content to drive professional growth in India's changed stage Sound & light market. The show's success can only be attributed to the enthusiastic attendance of trade professionals. ITE is happy to serve this dynamic community," said Gordon Payne, Asia Regional Director, ITE Asia Exhibitions Limited.

ABEC successfully produced this 17th edition of the PALM expo. We met the challenge to provide an international class show production featuring championships, demos, creative showcase conferences, stage arenas and sound reinforcement. ABEC deployed resources and experience in conducting such an expansive expo covering 27,000 sqm. All the events at the expo were held smoothly with appreciative audiences from trade and creative professionals.

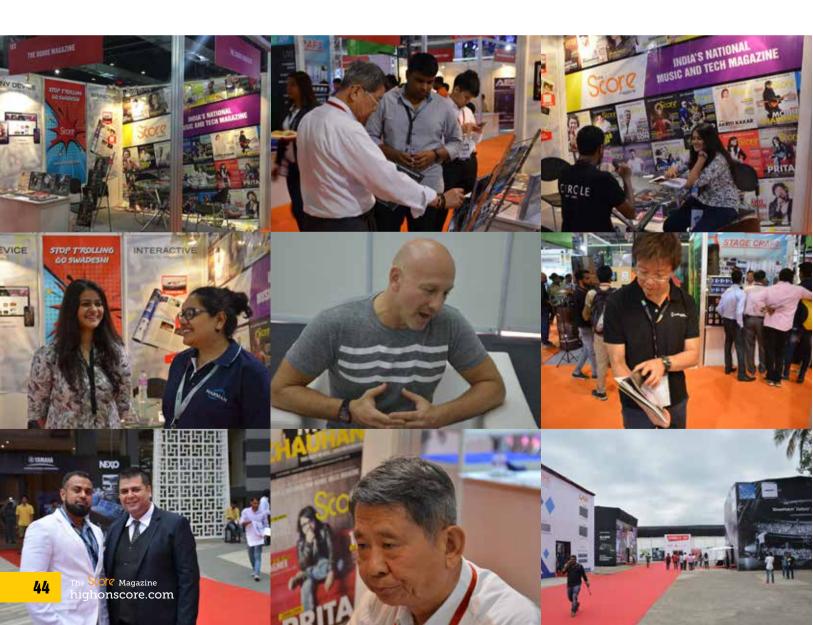
Key highlights:

- The latest feature at PALM was the lighting designing hosted by Ulhas Sahasrabuddhe.
- The 7th edition of DJ championship once again was dramatically successful, created by Reji Ravindran.
- Pramod Chandorkar is the Awards Director of the IRAA awards presented by the PALM technology magazine
- PALM Sound and Light Awards decided by the PALM fraternity and the PALM technology magazine.



S the Comagazine

MUSIC MEDIA PARTNER



A chat with Mr. Arun Kumar, Divisional Manager, Bose Corporation India about their new technologies launched at Palm Show 2017, how the show has helped reach out to their audience, new developments in this year and more.



Can you tell us about the products at Palm Expo 2017

This year we are displaying our ControlSpace EX conferencing system which is a new launch from Bose with some innovative features. It has all kinds of connectivity that you can think of in one box. It is useful for conference room applications.

The other product we are focusing on is the Showmatch Loudspeaker system which is a DeltaQ line array system targeted at rental and tour sound. We had a demo cube where we did live of this product and had about 5 parties on the verge of confirming after listening to the system.

We have our portable range on display and creating a lot of interest in the visitors. We have our usual engineered sound products, speakers, amplifiers and so on.

If there is one word you can associate with Bose, what would it be?

I would like to use two: Quality Sound

Are there any business associations this year?

There is an important change in how we reach out to our customers in this fiscal. Our distribution network has undergone a revamp. Now we have Distributors who handle our regular moving products and now have distributors catering to specific markets (South, West, North & East).

We are entering into direct partnerships for the engineering sound range with folks in all major cities.

This is a big change for us in our way to reach out to customers.

How has Palm show benefitted Bose?

Palm Show has been gaining traction through the country gradually. Early on, the visitor profile was mostly focused on west especially Gujarat and Maharashtra.

This time I saw a lot of people from South and North coming here. In one platform, I can reach out to a large audience. This is one reason why we invested in the Demo Cube where we allow you to listen to the sound and also learn about its features through a presentation.

Lot of people we met from tier two cities, which is a plus for Palm and for us. For us as Bose, our objectives get met.

It is much better organized and they have been improving every year. Of course, a little bit more discipline about the loud sound in the hall must be avoided (Laughs).

Tell us about your Demo Cube at Palm

We have a presentation where we explain about the benefits after which we do the demo. We try to show the quality in the vocal range and also exhibit how it sounds in a concert, high energy tracks.

About The Score Magazine

I have been following the magazine for a long time now. Once we changed our business model, we became keen to come on board and reach out to our target audience through your magazine. The magazine has evolved a lot from being a solely music magazine. Yes, music remains the core but you are covering the entire spectrum that involves manufacturers of different products, recording segment, producers, events, pro audio and complete the chain.

Your digital section has evolved rapidly in the last couple of years. We would like to associate with your magazine in the Events section definitely.

Initially, magazine was short on content but today it has a much wider coverage and there is a huge improvement in the last few years. The magazine is also well targeted and it is our target as well.

Kudos!

YAMAHA LIVE ARENA

At this year's Palm Expo, we managed to meet and interact with a couple of brilliant artists performing at the Yamaha auditorium. They spoke about their music, endorsements and the Yamaha products that they love. Here are some of their responses.



What kinds of music do you like playing and how did it begin?

Lydian Nadhaswaram

When I was 2 years old I started playing drums on the floor with xylophone sticks in a 6/8 pattern. The next day my Dad bought a rotom and I started practicing on that. I started playing on a full kit from the age of 3. I like western classical, jazz and Indian music. I love Buddy Rich, Tony Royster Jr., Aaron Spears and Gino Banks (laughs). I plan to write my music and compose my own patterns in drums.

Stephen Devasy

I'm a classical pianist. I started with western classical and then came to Indian classical. Then we started combining music, a mix of Indian and western. Fusion, as it's called. More of instrumental, but hitting the kind of notes that communicate with people fast. If our rhythm is complicated, we keep the melodies simple and complicated melodies are met with simple rhythms so that the common audience can connect with it easily. Instrumental music isn't very popular and so I want to bring it to greater crowds. Today we played tracks from my album Project 70.

What kind of products do you like using?

Lydian Nadhaswaram

I love Yamaha drums. For a long time it's been my dream to play for Yamaha. Rydeen series has an amazing tone and I love it. Today I used the K-Series Zildjian cymbals for the performance and they were great. I like playing Vic Firth sticks, 5As.

Stephen

My favorite is Yamaha motif. It's a killer instrument with great boom and feel. I like playing hard and percussive and this really works for me. Now there's a new product from Yamaha known as Montage. It's not just great on stage but good for production too.

Gino Banks

I've used Yamaha pads as attachments to my acoustic kit for gigs with A.R Rahman and situations when I need electronic sounds. Then Yamaha offered to make me a part of their artist roster and endorse me for their electronic drums and I thought it was a great opportunity cause I'm an acoustic player, but this helps immensely with production and even trigger loop sounds live. I've done clinics and workshops before, but this was my first time playing a completely electronic kit. In fact, we're planning a tour with this setup too.

What are your plans for the year?

Stephen

I'm coming out with my album Project 70 this year, which has over 200 musicians playing on it, signed by an international label. The magic behind it is that it was composed, recorded, edited, mixed, mastered and even shot on camera within 70 days. Hence the name. We had pre-launch events in London and we're heading to Australia soon.

This year at Palm Expo, we had the pleasure of having a quick chat with Mr. Rehan Siddiqui (Sales Head MI), Mr. Hisayoshi Matsui (General Manager MI) and Mr. Hitoshi Mochizuki (Managing Director) from Yamaha Music India Pvt. Ltd. About their views on Palm Expo, how it has benefitted them, the change they would like to see in the music industry and a lot more. Read on to find out.



Rehan Siddiqui - Sales Head MI

Elaborate on the products launched at Palm Expo 2017

Rehan Siddiqui: This year, we have started Nexo, as Yamaha has taken over it recently and we have launched it at Palm Expo. For the music industry, we have come up with a new Clavinova Digital series including the CLP-625, CLP-635, CLP-645 and in the keyboard section we have two new products PSR-E263 & PSR-E363 with Indian contents.

Apart from that, we have an electric guitar named Ravstar which is very popular in the world market and now we have it in India.

Some more new products with cool colors to give charm for musicians and rental companies.

How has Palm Expo benefitted Yamaha as a brand?

Hitoshi Mochizuki: We can show our entire line up of categories to everyone. Instead of showing each category separately, the main advantage is that we can show all at once.

Can you brief about your Yamaha Live concept at Palm Expo

Hisayoshi Matsui: This time we focused on more Indian artists and also have genres from hard rock to jazz fusion. By the artists using our products, we can showcase the advantages of the products to the people and show them that it can be utilized for all genres.

We want the bands to promote our products and in turn we are supporting the artists.

Tell us about your endorsee program Rehan Siddiqui: Yamaha is famous for their endorsees worldwide In India as well we have many artists to name a few Mr. Louiz Banks, Mr. Gino Banks, Mr. Stephan Devassy and we are signing up with Salim Merchant. We also have our first Youngest Artist India Master Lydian Nadhaswaram.

Your success mantra and USP

Rehan Siddiqui: The biggest strength is that we are a complete Sound Company. An artist can get Music Instruments products, Audio Video & Drofessional Audio Equipment's. Every student, teacher, or a professional can get everything under one umbrella.

Hitoshi Mochizuki: We have our own manufactured products and everything is made within our company. We are more than 130 years and still growing!

This year, we are setting up a new factory in India and hope to provide market oriented products from the factory supporting Make in India Project.

What change would you like to see in the Industry?

Hitoshi Mochizuki: In India, the MI industry should be bigger but it is too small unfortunately. There is nothing to support the MI industry.

We hope that Palm Expo comes up with a platform for this industry so we all grow together.

About The Score Magazine

Rehan Siddiqui: The Score Magazine is doing a very good job of catering to all audience right from an artist to a student. It targets the entire spectrum from learners to top professionals. We are really proud to work with the magazine! Mr. Vipin Pungalia, Director, Sales and Marketing, Sennheiser Electronics India tells us about the new products launched at Palm 2017, their plans for the year and their products USP.

This Palm, what are you exhibiting

Palm Expo has been a very good platform for us to showcase our latest products and technologies. This time we had maximum number of new product launches. We launched the AMBEO VR Mic which can capture spherical 3D sound . We also have some unique studio mics, click mic digital and also a specific mic for the GoPro Camera in the Audio segment catering to videographers, broadcasters and film makers.

We also had some exciting launches in the MI segment including the entire range of XS wireless family. The Sennheiser mics now start at INR 20,000'- and it will be exciting in terms of budget and budding musicians. We have the W2 for a more challenging requirement.

Digital 6000 is our top end wireless microphone with 12 channels.

Moving to our studio microphones, we have digital mics with USB recording options which is the perfect bridge between professional and consumer world.

How Palm helps you reach to your audience

It caters not only to live or sound rentals. We also have consumers from Studios and partners coming from different parts of county doing different projects. Installed market consumers and users also visit Palm Expo.

Your plans for 2017

Our major focus is training and education to our customers, users, partners and our in-house team. This year, we are going to take that part to higher levels where we want more intense engagement and giving experience. Our hands are going to be full with our new products in hand.

Another exciting thing is the Top 50 Season 3 and we hope to take it to a different level.

We also keep doing private road shows and we look forward to doing more workshops this year to connect with regional users and partners.







What makes Sennheiser's products unique

It is one of the oldest companies and is known to give new technologies to people. AMEO is one such technology and we are in the pursuit of perfection by giving future technology in the present.

It is a German brand and is known for its reliability, quality and perfection!

What change would you like to see in the music industry?

Educating people on latest technology and products in essential to make people experience it better. It is encouraging to see how people want more awareness about the products and there are resources available to expose people to products.

About The Score Magazine

Sennheiser is absolutely thrilled to be a part of various editions of the Score Magazine. Score magazine is my go-to magazine to update me on the latest innovations in the field of technology, music and innovation specially in the professional segment. The magazine is playing an important role by providing deep insights, case studies and interviews on latest technological advancements so that the potential target audience can be well informed about the know-how of this field. I have been an avid reader and believe that it adds a plethora of valuable insights into my domain of knowledge and learning.