

SPACE

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In the winter of 2008, one evening Tritha along with her friend, Ritika decided to make music very “simply”...



Using unassuming objects like a Tibetan prayer bowl, a ghungroo (used by Indian kathak dancers on their feet) and many other street percussive objects, they created a two voice harmonic sound

SPACE is now a journey where musicians from various parts of the world keep boarding and sharing their human experiences through musical conversations.

Instruments like tabla, saxophone, djembe, guitar have been brilliantly featured and a constant flow of new thoughts and fresh sounds fills up the feeling of SPACE.

In 2010 SPACE became an all-girl setup, when Sunayana joined the band after it moved from Calcutta to New Delhi.

The formula proved very popular among both girls, who like Space for its feminist engagements, and boys who go crazy for the looks of the three singers.



Space plays a subtle mix of electro-fusion pop, mostly in hindi. They also sing several songs in bengali, tamil, punjabi, english. And some tribal sounds too...





Tritha Sinha Roche

Vocals Electronics Guitar

Training in Indian classical singing for more than 18yrs and singing professionally for last 8 years, in concerts all over India and abroad, Tritha has had the privilege of performing for the great hero Sir Edmund Hillary in Nepal and at the Raj Bhavan in Kolkata for Honourable Governor of West Bengal, Gopalkrishna Gandhi. Living in and out of Paris, New Delhi and Kolkata, she performs at world music events where she sings from her repertoire of Indian classical, fusion and Bollywood music. An endeavour to blend contemporary and

classical music, Tritha is the founder of the outfit SPACE.

Vocals Guitar Rap

Ritika Singh

A multi-faceted individual, RiZ is the modern independent Indian girl. A part-time DJ she spins music from the best of east and west. With a love for performing arts, she has been acting in theatre and can also be spotted in the woman-centric Bengali film, Bishh. A multi-expressionist, a brilliant song-writer, she is the all-rounder in the outfit SPACE.



Sunayana Wadhawan

Djembe Vocals Guitar



No one will think by looking at her, that this girl is all out to fight for the cause and rights of women whether legal or human. A true musical being, SunaYana is the pulse of SPACE which comes naturally out of her djembe and anything which makes rhythmic or percussive sounds. Singing with a sweet rock voice, she brings the flavour of folk and tribal sounds and adds to the revolutionary concept of SPACE.



Space has performed in many clubs and pubs in Calcutta including Someplace Else, Park and several times at The Big Ben, Kenilworth Hotel.

In Delhi at Cafe Morrison, Geoffrey's, International Diner, Turquoise Cottage, Cafe Oz. and at the Wills Fashion Week 2010

The band was also invited in Naukuchiyatal for the ESCAPE festival in May 2010.

They performed in July 23rd in Paris at Les Ecoliers, a musical bar in Paris promoting new and experimental world music bands.



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PRATEEK DOUGHERTY



(From left) Ritika Singh, Alessandro Valdambri, Ritwik Banerji (guest artiste) and Tritha Sinha Roche will perform at Amoda this evening

HT City Correspondent

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In a piece dated December 31, 2008, Ben Sisario writes in the *New York Times*: "Sales of recorded music fell sharply in 2008, as consumers continued to migrate away from the CD format, large retailers reduced floor space for music and the recession dampened..."

In the winter of 2008, far away from the hysterics over consumer spending in the States, Tritha Sinha Roche and her friend Ritika Singh were just settling down to the idea of making music very "simply", and writing lyrics that would deal with women's liberation, social oppression and sexual exploitation.

Interestingly, Tritha and Ritika found themselves grappling with the concept of 'space', or the lack of it — as pointed out in the NYT arti-

Spaced out, but finger on pulse

cle — in Kolkata, too. Here, though, 'the lack of space', apart from the obvious, meant something else, something that was coming in the way of their music.

"I felt a need for space in music, to make music that would act as a therapy, rejuvenate you. We also wanted the feeling of space in music," says vocalist Tritha, who is also on electronics and guitar.

The name SPACE came about organically. The instruments, typically, were unassuming objects such as a Tibetan prayer bowl, ghungroo, an "incredible" tabla

box, a cheap keyboard and many other street percussive objects. So favourites like Massive Attack's *Teardrop* (SPACE call their version *Space-drop*) or Air's *All I Need* got the space-y treatment ("the sometimes ethnic and raw, sometimes jazz or psychedelic sound"), until elements from Indian classical, hip-hop, psy-trance, and bhangra segued into original, socially relevant lyrics.

"We wanted to be honest, and create a comfort zone where we can share ideas," says Ritika, singer, songwriter, and occasional rapper.

SPACE, significantly, has "only front women, and no front men". Alessandro Valdambri (guitarist, keyboardist), the only man in SPACE, gets the joke, and says that he doesn't consider SPACE a feminist band. "We approach everything with an open mind. Our purpose is to make good music. It's important for the music to be minimalist. Some of the songs are based on very relevant, serious issues," he says.

SPACE, adds Tritha, is poised at a juncture when India is undergoing change. "As women of today, we are part of that change. These days, we have many choices, but we still face an identity crisis. We want to find a balance. I guess, as women, we have more to give. We are sensitive to things around us. But our music does not preach. We have things to say for our sex," she says.



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WHEN GIRLS PLAYED IT REAL HARD

An all-ladies band performance is rarity the city, joins. Recently, at a special gig night in a South Extension eatery 'all fair' musicians' gang Space performed with DJ Baracuda. Here's a recap of the night.



NACH BALIYE: Some couldn't stop jiving



SIMPLY STYLISH: DJ Anvesh with Divya



GOOD TIMES: Guests of the do



DANCE DANCE: Lady on the floor



TRUMPETS UP: Sunayana Wadhwan



PALM TUP: Tisha



TABLE TUP: A performer at the show



GOOGLE SEARCH: Nisha