

## **Explore Mumbai's Cultural Mosaic with an Immersive Exhibition 'Maza Mazagon,' to be organised by Anant, Ahmedabad**

**Ahmedabad:** Step into the vibrant streets of Mazagon with Maza Mazagon, an immersive exhibition celebrating the rich human and cultural heritage of one of Mumbai's most dynamic neighbourhoods. Developed by Anant National University, Ahmedabad in collaboration with the Istituto Italiano di Cultura Mumbai, this visionary project will be held on 24-25<sup>th</sup> February, 2024 and will offer a unique blend of technology, research and storytelling prowess.

Mentored by faculty members Maia Marinelli, Vijay Sekhon, Aditi Vashisht and Pallavi Jain, together with Interaction Design students, the exhibition is sure to leave a lasting impact on visitors.

### **Exploring Mazagon's Cultural Landscape**

The story of Mazagon is as diverse and vibrant as the city of Mumbai itself. From its humble beginnings as a working-class neighbourhood to its pivotal role in shaping Mumbai's economic landscape, Mazagon's history is a testament to the resilience and multiculturalism of the city. Through Maza Mazagon, visitors will get to delve into the neighbourhood's past, present and future, exploring its culinary traditions, cultural intersections and community harmony.

### **Preserving Heritage in the Digital Age**

Central to the project is the creation of a comprehensive digital archive, documenting the stories and testimonies of Mazagon's residents for future generations. This archive serves as a digital time capsule, preserving the essence of Mazagon's cultural richness and empowering the community to take pride in its heritage amidst the challenges of urban development.

### **A Beacon of Community Engagement**

The exhibition, hosted at Matharpacady Village in Mazagon, serves as a focal point for communal engagement, fostering dialogue and celebrating diversity. Through immersive storytelling and interactive experiences, Maza Mazagon offers visitors a unique opportunity to engage with the neighbourhood's rich cultural tapestry.

Meagan Pandian, India's first and only pedal harp player, will grace the opening day of the exhibition with a captivating performance. Meagan has played the harp in the Arijit Singh and Symphony concert series in India and internationally and worked with AR Rahman and Pritam. Internationally, Meagan has performed with the Bohuslav Martinů Philharmonic (Czech Republic) and The South Asian Symphony Orchestra among many others. As the founder of the first harp school in the country in Mazagon and a certified Montessori teacher, Meagan wishes to bring the joy of harp playing and music to as many people as possible.