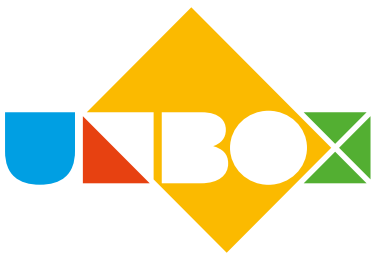


All Together Now at the UnBox Festival 2014



UnBox has firmly established itself as a platform where creative minds come together to ideate, innovate, inspire and be inspired since its founding in 2011. UnBox's guiding ethos is "Action at the Intersections", and celebrates this in its collaborations across disciplines while playing host to some of the most dynamic practitioners in the fields of design, art, science, social innovation, technology and business from India, the United Kingdom, and beyond.

With a focus on participation and incubating new projects, UnBox is where people from seemingly disparate backgrounds, but with similar interests come together to explore diverse themes and apply their unique skills and talents in co-creating new products and ideas. This focus on creation and collaboration and not simply showcasing end-results sets UnBox apart, and has created a passionate and loyal fan base. Every part of the festival is carefully curated for a rich balance of the intellectual and the experiential.

The festival views its attendees as participants and not as an audience, providing a wide variety of engagements with a hands-on, participatory approach to workshops, seminars, performances, and exhibitions. Unlike other design-centric conferences, speakers are accessible and approachable; they too are participants with an eye for learning something new as well.

Participating in the 2014 edition of the festival were thought leaders, artists, and practitioners such as design provocateur and longtime UnBox supporter John Thackara who hosted a workshop, Kanpur Innovation Lab, with the aim of designing systems that would help breathe new life into the city's leather industry, while designer, entrepreneur, and Superflux creative studio founder Anab Jain, along with the not-for-profit organisation Forum for the Future expounded on the significance of the internet of things and how it can be used to tackle global challenges.

The ethos of creating and innovating was displayed through workshops like the kind conducted by Justin Marshall, professor of digital craft at Falmouth University, who collaborated with Rajasthani block printers supported by the All India Artisans and Craftworker Welfare Association (AIACA) and textile students at the Indian Institute of Crafts and Design to develop digitally-etched blocks, and Japanese kinetic artist Tsuyoshi Anzai who held a workshop titled "Stop MAKEing Machines" which repurposed existing machinery for new, divergent, and artistic purposes.

Important issues like sanitation in India and governance were also discussed and debated through sessions like the Sanitation Panel discussion, which approached sanitation challenges through human-centric design using the urban initiative Project Sammaan in Orissa as a case study, and the workshop "Are our cities drowning in their own shit?" that explored the manifold challenges facing India's waste management infrastructure with India's rapid urbanisation, led by CEPT professor and frequent UnBox collaborator Neelkanth Chhaya along with environmentalist and "Zen Rainman" S. Vishwanath.

A motley crew of chef friends returned to tempt palettes with their FoodLAB offerings, which this year included exploring traditional practices in modern contexts, and hosted a discussion with local chefs around the future of food. New this year was homemade ice cream and sorbet delivered in an ice cream truck.

New to this year's edition were also several walks to explore and engage with Delhi's cultural offerings, bicycle rides around the city's central landmarks, and FunBox, which provided participants an opportunity to just kick back and play games while getting to know each other.

As always with UnBox, the nights were filled with great music and libations at several off-site locations throughout Delhi, including a performance by Dutch harpist Gwyneth Wentink at the beautiful The Lodi Garden Restaurant and the festival wrap party featuring music and visuals by BLOT! at Hauz Khas Village's own antiSocial.

The fourth edition of the festival – supported by the British Council, The Arts & Humanities Research Council, Goethe Institut – was held at the IGNCA from December 12-14, 2014 and included 13 talks, 25 workshops, nine field trips, seven showcases and eight performances over three days.

Get a glimpse of the action at <https://vimeo.com/122097777>

About UnBox

Unbox is conceptualized and hosted by renowned design studio Quicksand and its partners, working in tandem with an advisory board of experts in various fields.