





FAST FORWARD TO THE HAPPIEST MUSIC FESTIVAL

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OUR TEAM



Muskan Puri



Pallavi Dwivedi



Prarthana Kudtarkar



Shanaiya Dsouza



EDITOR'S NOTE

In a world where disruption and innovation are. almost used interchangeably, erring on the probability side ofpredictability does seem a little brazen but this is what this issue of RAASTA has in store. Borrowing from the basic, RAASTA is about nonconformity and rawness that's all around us. It highlights the undisturbed elegance in art, in food, in fashion and in us. It reflects the eternal chaos we live with and explores the beauty of its craziness.

Pick up the January issue and join the cultural revolution: the rise of a movement that blurs the lines between gender, the rules of fashion and the boundaries of art. The streets have only one rule Be Yourself.

Siane D'cruz

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RAASTA ISSUE





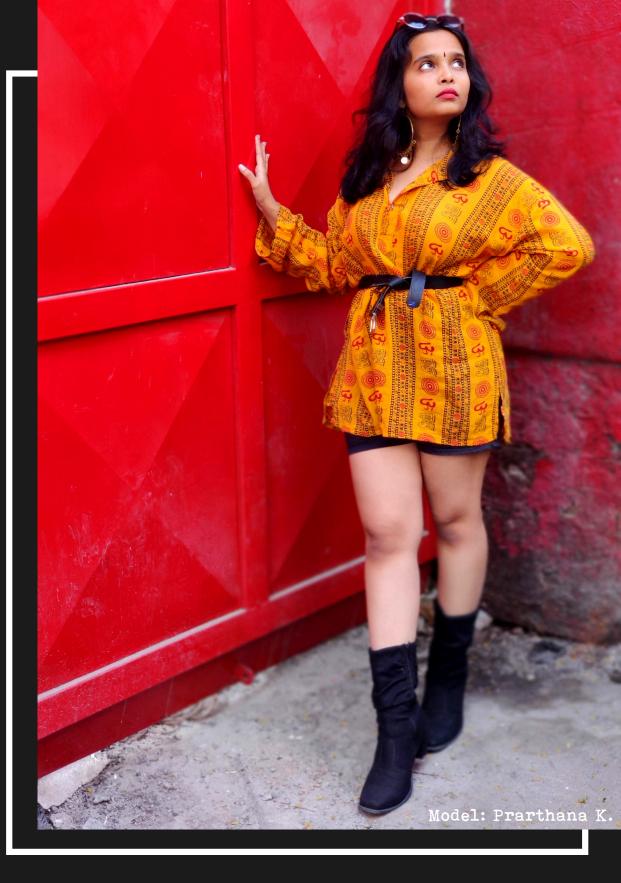
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FASHION

LIVE YOUR

TRUTH

NARTISTIC EXPRESSION HAS THE ABILITY TO EMBOLDEN INDIVIDUALS; TO REFLECT, TO INFLUENCE AND TO RESIST A REALITY.

Fashion is a very universal subject. While everyone and every culture will have their unique perspective on it, fashion is something everyone has been a part of, experienced, and understood.

Over the last 100 years, fashion has changed exponentially. Decade after decade, new trends have come in and influenced cultures, movements, and people. Fashion itself has also been influenced by culture, political attitudes and the style icons of the time. From corsets to bell sleeves and from denim to LBDs, fashion has been an ever-evolving piece of art. Fashion within the paradigm of art and creation is both universal and distinctive. Fashion is movement, design and architecture all in one. It brings an entirely different outlook on what art can represent or mean.



WITH THE STREE

Model: Renfred D.

Most of what we wear would have been 'fashionable' at one stage or another. It may not be unique by itself but when blended with one's personality, the clothes we wear the accessories we use and the fashion we see transcends into the realm of style. Fashion is a vivid reflection of culture and social trends. Our clothes denote social rank. status and aspirations. Every day when we get dressed, we choose the identity we want to present to the world.

This makes fashion a form of interaction with a piece of art in a very tangible manner.

Everyone has a distinctive style that evolves as we age. It is the medium of fashion that allows us to represent that creative, original self, to stand out or to fit in by rendering to our inner-selves. Style is self-expression through clothes, a statement of our character and spirit, of who we are and who we want to be.

If you feel comfortable in the look you've created for yourself, that may or may not follow the rules set by the society, most of who you are on the inside and how you feel takes a physical form. There's often one thing - a hoodie, a t-shirt, a pair of jeans that has a permanent place in your wardrobe. Sometimes it's the stories and memories associated with it, other times it's the inexplicable way that it shapes you when you have it on.





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These elements of Fashion have led to its invariably use in various movements to express and protest. Throughout history, fashion and rebellion have gone hand in hand. During the Women's Suffrage Movements, the typical suffragette's outfit consisted of a long, frilly, black or white dress, paired with a hat and a pair of gloves, giving them the distinct appearance of a high-class woman. When the Suffragettes dressed in these hyper-feminine clothing, they not only mocked the standards set for them but also presented a form of visual harmony and unity through their outfits.

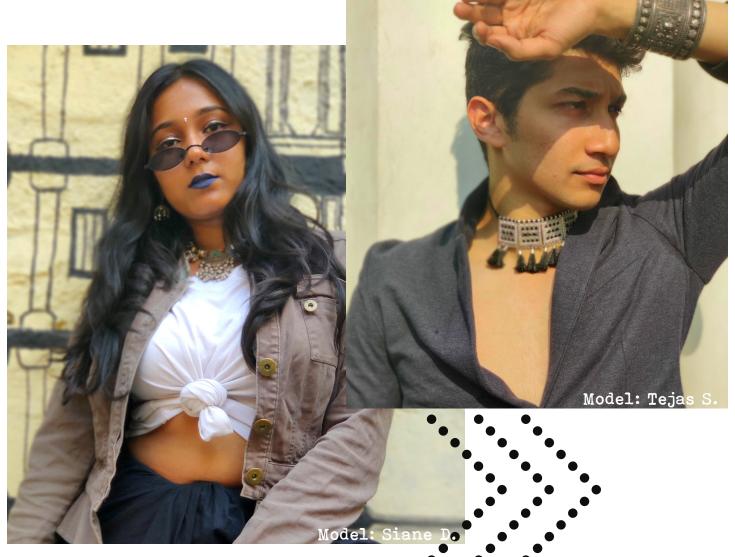
In the '60s, the miniskirt was used to make a statement of women's freedom and independence. It signified women's freedom to choose whatever they wanted to do with their body and wear on their body. At rallies across the United States, women stood with megaphones and signs that read "Women Unite," while wearing those skirts.

Today, fashion and politics are more intertwined than ever. The tradition of protest dressing has taken a new meaning: "Pussy" hats being adopted by thousands of women on marches after Trump's election, and the wearing of black on the red carpet at the 2018 Golden Globes for the Time's Up campaign. Everything from gender inequality to racism

workplace bullying is now being protested via fashion. In fact, fashion as rebellion is even being used in the everyday, personal lives of people. The widespread use of graphic tees and t-shirts with slogans and captions is testament to that.

In the 21st century, with the advent of globalisation, when everything is being massproduced and there are thousands of rules on how to dress and how to style and what to wear, fashion is slowly losing its ability to express individuality. Commercialisation is responsible for this. Everyone is wearing the same styles and the element of dynamism is lost. Instead of using clothes to express themselves, people are using them to imitate their icons. While most follow the standards set by the industry and society, many have attempted to oppose it by the way of the Anti-Fashion movement. The concept of this movement is closely linked to the intrinsic dynamism of fashion wherein the (un)fashion styles tend to evolve despite the world of Fashion.

The devil called 'commercialisation' again peeks its head here as even anti-fashion becomes a mass trend with the popularisation of anti-fashion products like crocs and bum bags.





The truth is, only those who consume fashion, in the form of clothes, shoes, accessories, can use it to extract its power of expression. They can only do so by creating their personal style and using fashion as medium to give self your true physical manifestation.

So dress the way you want. Wear what you want to wear and the way you want to wear them. Let your clothes express who you are. After all, all that matters is...

Andaaz Apna Apna









Makeup can be a form of self-expression and character. What most women know who are passionate about cosmetics - like about makeup isn't that the right gloss can make your lips poutier or that false lashes can make your eyes more doe-like, Rather it's how women can communicate messages and express themselves through makeup.

Certainly, it's not single factor of communication, but it's one forms many of expression that allows oneself to showcase individual styles.

In order to consider makeup an art form, it is important to first understand the fluid position that it holds in society.

For the layperson, makeup can be used as part of a daily routine. However, instead of the typical convention that makeup is used to correct flaws, an alternative perspective views the face as a canvas for a work of art.

For one person, this could mean simply using makeup to accentuate one's natural beauty. For another, makeup can be used to experiment, express one's self and try new things. Each day, the canvas is blank yet again and a new makeup look can be created.

MAKEUP IS AN ARTISTIC EXPRESSION AND, THEREFORE, THE PURPOSE IS EVER-CHANGING.







In the fashion industry, makeup is used to complete a look. The designer can decide which parts of the outfit they wish to emphasize on the face. This could mean extravagant glitter on the eyes or it could mean absolutely clear skin. The options are limitless: whatever specific look the designer envisions, is recreated by the makeup artist. On social media, makeup artists, beauty gurus, celebrities and every day people come together to share their creations.

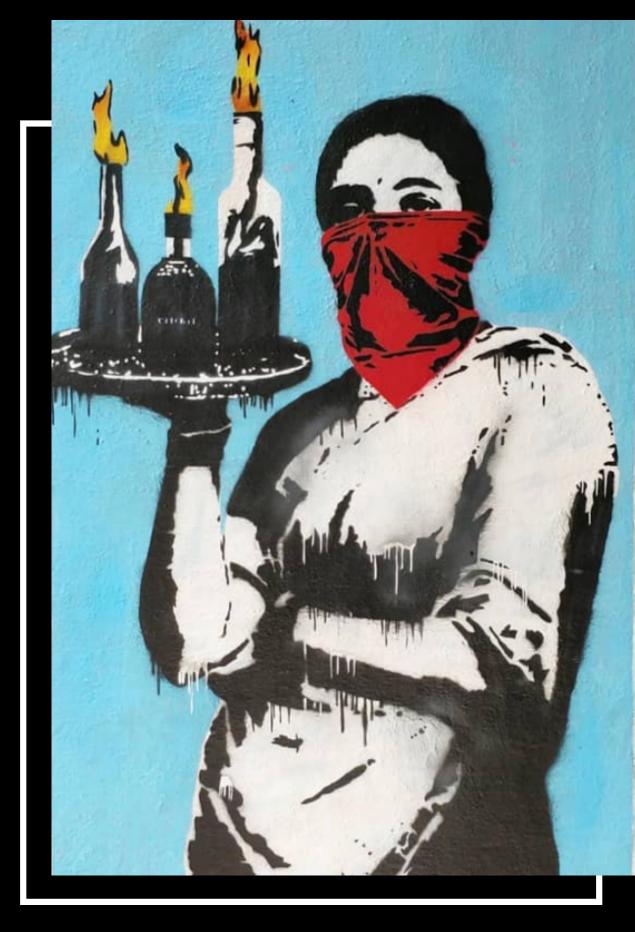
This way, people can share products and techniques so that anyone can recreate a look or even create a completely new one. Various kinds of people use the work of others as inspiration for the next day's makeup look.

Every look demands a unique vibe, which focuses on highlighting specific features and bringing out certain elements, which accentuate the look and give it an edge.

People dress differently according to the event, makeup looks also work the same way, and go hand in hand. For example - The girl-next-door is known for its nomakeup - makeup look. Concerts call for over the top Glam, Fashion events, call for chic stylish glam.

By viewing makeup as a fluid force in our society, we can begin to surpass the stigma that some subscribe to cosmetics. Every face is different. Every person's features are laid out in a different way, and makeup allows us to see that. Problems arise when people attempt to pin down the purpose behind doing makeup.

There is not one single purpose. Makeup is an artistic expression and, therefore, the purpose is ever-changing. By considering makeup a fluid art form, we can accept our humanity and embrace diversity.



ART



"Art lives within you

LOCAL ARTIST,
NARENDRA MOHAN
KADAM SHARES HIS
VIEWS ON ART AND
BEING AN ARTIST.

By Prarthana Kudtarkar Photo by Siane D'cruz

Art, although a part of everyone's lives, holds a very different significance in each life depending on the individual. While some incline towards art to escape from the clutters of modern society, others as a it resort to recreational activity. However, there is also that category of individuals who make art the entire purpose of their existence.

They devote their lives to the creation of art, and aim to serve people through it.

One such individual is Narendra Mohan Kadam, a 45 year old artist who was born and brought up in Solapur and is currently based in Bhayander, on the outskirts of Mumbai.

While painting is his forte, he also engages in various other art forms like writing, acting and from to time. even filmmaking. He has managed make a living bу marinating all of these different art forms.

Along with this, he also takes time to pass his knowledge onto others by teaching art and drama in a municipality school in Bhayander. As a budding artist myself, I had the privilege of meeting him and conducting a small interview.

A lot of topics surrounding art, being an artist, education with respect to the arts, social issues and so on were discussed.

With this interview, I had aimed to capture the vision that an artist, who has managed to make a living solely on the basis of art, uses to see art and the world around him.

1. How did you get started? What inspired you to take this path?

My earliest memory is when I was a small child, even before the age of 6. My father had drawn a horse on the floor of our house using a chalk. When I had seen it for the first time, remember being fascinated by it, that I kept tracing it over and over again. And that is how I was introduced to my love for art. During my school days, along with that, I was good in drama as well. There, I grew into a habit of writing. Му school art teacher, Ashok Thite, he encouraged us a lot. I wanted to grow up and become a successful artist like him.

2. Do you believe that it is necessary for all forms of art to come with a stand or a message? Or can a chunk of it be left just for the aesthetics?

"An artist can change an entire system, mentality, and thoughts"

When it comes to modern art.. or abstract art, a lot of the times, one can't understand it. People say it's not for everyone to understand, similar classical singing. But it can still get an individual to get lost into it. However, when it comes to commercial art, I think it is necessary for it to carry a message. It is important for it to be understood by the common public. If your artwork does not benefit the common man. then I think the purpose of art remains incomplete.





3. What does your artwork aim to say?

Once upon a time, I was asked to paint a wall outside a police station, by policemen one of the himself. There, Т had painted about a lot of issues surrounding cultures. health, pollution and campaigns like Beti Bachaon Beti Padhao. In one my short films, I had shown how caste is a social construct- and how the innocence possessed by small kids goes beyond such structures. My other short films have spoken on the topics of superstition, blind faith, the importance of educating a child in his mother tongue and so on. I believe that that it is my responsibility.. to take these social messages to the people, especially the people living in rural areas.

4. What is the process that goes down before you paint? Is your artwork a well thought-out process, or do you work on spontaneity?

Usually before I start painting, I make a rough sketch of whatever I have in my mind first. My artwork is well thought-out. For example, once, I had painted a portrait of a woman at Bombay Art Society. The mirror in the portrait showed her back and not her face. With that I wanted to convey the message that man has somewhere lost contact with his own self, and he attempts to find it outsidein the external world, or in other people but fails to look within himself. So, there is a lot of thought process that goes down before I paint, or film or create any form of art.

5. Do you think our current education system encourages a child to take up a career in the arts?

Unfortunately, there is not a lot of volume or scope for the arts in our country. I think, the atmosphere for artists is better in foreign countries. In India, artists particularly have to struggle a lot. Here, along with talent, you require good marketing skills to become successful. Apart from a few schools, children here don't get quality artistic education and that greatly comes in the way of achieving their truest potential.

6. What do you think the future of art is, in our country?

is Tt. becoming more expensive by the day become a doctor or engineer in our country. And consequently, I feel like people are once again inclining towards the arts. I believe children should be given the freedom encouragement to pursue a career in non-mainstream fields, may it be arts or sports, and this should be done by the government and our education system.

7. Which qualities do you think one needs to possess in order to become a successful artist?

Art lives within you. It is something that is internal. Skill can be learnt. Art however, can't. Art is internal, but it cannot be expressed properly without a certain set of skills. But, I believe that most importantly, to become a successful artist.



you first need to learn to be a good human. Your righteousness, your kindness, is reflected through your actions

- the way you walk,
the way you talk, through your
eyes. Consequently, it gets
reflected onto your art.

8. What do you think is the role of an artist in a society?

An artist has a huge role, undoubtedly. An Artist is a creator. In the way how God created this universe, an artist holds a power within him to create an entire alternate universe. An artist has the capability of giving back to the society, more than anyone else, during his lifespan and even after his death. An artist can change an entire system, mentality, and thoughts. He has the capability of changing all these fundamentals.

righteousness, your kindness, Vis reflected through your actions. Consequently, it gets reflected onto your art. "

9. Do you have anything to say to other local artists?

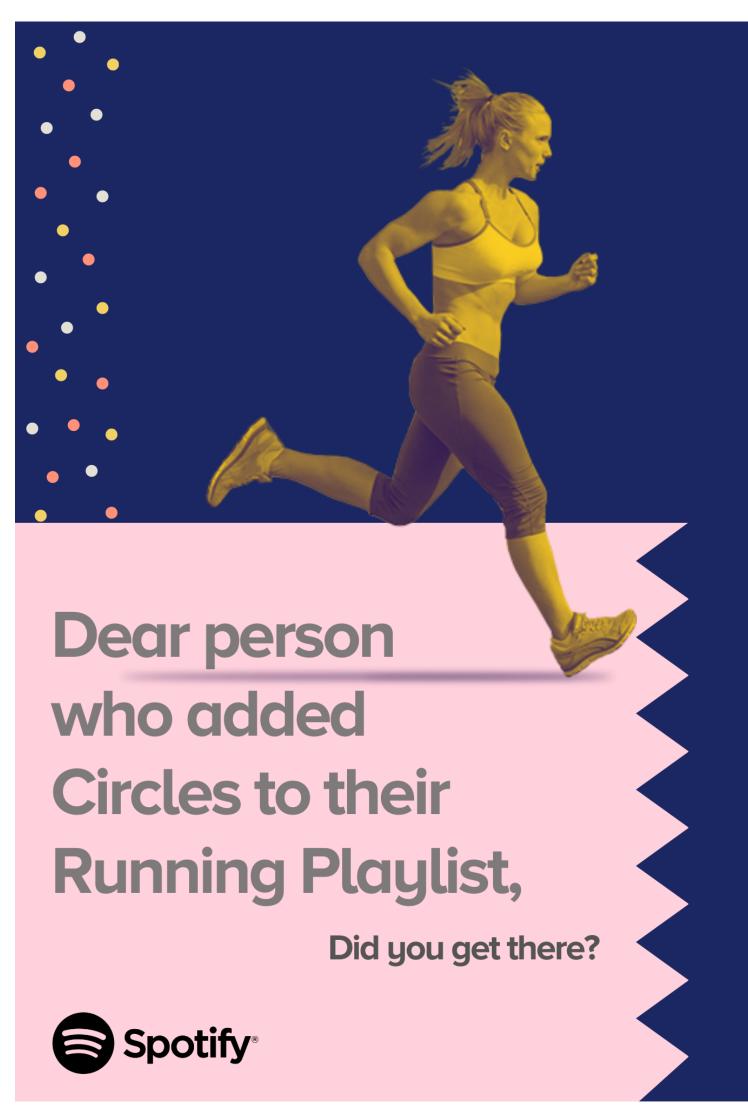
Whatever form of art you feel like you resonate with, don't practice it for money or fame. Do it only if it feels right to you. Some or the other day, it will benefit you, in some shape or form. The art will pay you back. Just focus on being a good person, to yourself and to the people around you and with that in mind go ahead and pursue your dreams becoming an artist.













FOOD



CHATPATA CHAAT By Siane D'cruz

Welcoming you with arms full of spices and flavours so delicious, is undoubtedly the famous chaat that graces the busy and bustling streets of Aamchi Mumbai. Today, chaat is recognized as one of Mumbai's favourite street food with each street corner having its own native chaat-wala! Come morning or evening and one gets to see hundreds of people milling around Chowpatty and Juhu beach getting their chaat fix for the day.

Exploring this realm of mouthwatering snacks is sure to leave you longing for more. Starting with the most amazing of them all the 'Paani-Puri'. Pani Puri consists of a round, hollow puri, fried crisp, and filled first with a filling of mashed potatoes and chickpeas. The Puri is then dipped into a mixture of spicy and tangy water("pani"). And is then ready to be devoured by eating the pani-puri whole! Now, if you're from Delhi, you may know these awesome snacks as more of a 'Gol-Gappa'; but whatever the name, you're still a fan!





Ragda pattice is part of the popular street food culture in the Indian states of Maharashtra

and Gujarat too. This dish, along with being a popular street food offering, it is also served at

restaurants that offer Indian fast food.

An interesting fact about it, is that the word "Pattice" is the localization of the English word

"patties," and refers to the potato cakes, that are at the heart of the dish.

One can prepare this dish easily by just adding some ragda and pattice on a plate together!

Where 'Ragda' is a light stew of chickpeas cooked with a variety of spices, Pattices are

simple mashed potato cakes. and garnished with finely chopped Onions, Coriander leaves,

Green chutney, Tamarind chutney and Sev.

The dish also bears similarity to the chhole tikki, more popular in North India.

In contrast to North Indian "tikkis," pattice are usually not spiced but salted.

Another extremely popular snack on our cha(r)ts of Mumbai is the Sev Puri. Made with Deep-fried flat puris, topped with mashed potato, and the addition of some tangy and spicy chutney, it is one hell of a blockbuster filled tasty snack!

It's garnished with sev and coriander leaves that build myriad flavours, so intense, that give you a burst of deliciousness in just one bite!

These Sev Puris are the ideal snack served either as a party starter/ appetiser, or even for a light dinner.

Sev Puri chaat recipes are very common and a popular snack across india. It is served for different reasons for different occasions.

Some like it spicy and some like it chatpata with lip-smacking spices in it.



Last but not least, on our list is The Dahi Batata Puri! 'Batata' is the Maharashtrian name for potato.

This insanely delicious dish is a popular chaat recipe which will make you lick your fingers clean.

The dish is prepared by stuffing crispy puris with a potato mixture, which is then topped with yoghurt, tamarind chutney, coriander and Sev. This simple snack is like a cannonball of glorious flavours in your mouth.

Since it's easy to make, it can be easily prepared at home in a jiffy. Thus, it is loved by people of all age groups.

Serve it at kitty parties, potlucks, and even buffets! And you'll tire yourself from just hearing sweet compliments from your friends and family.

So, what are you waiting for?

Go ahead and bite in the spice and the savoury palate of the Chatpata Chaat that the Streets have to offer!



GO LIKE NEVER BEFORE.





K RUSTOM'S

An Institution

By Pallavi Dwivedi

A ten minute walk from Churchgate station, on the ground floor of a nondescript building near the ocean, is a hidden-in-plain-sight treasure of Mumbai.

Here lies K Rustom's, a unique ice-cream shop that has stood the test of time for over sixty years. An integral part of any visit to Marine Drive, K Rustom's sells some of the most interesting ice-cream flavours in Mumbai.

The shop was opened by Khodabux Rustom Irani as a department store. In 1953, they decided to move into the ice cream business and have never looked back since.

The options available at their store are mind-boggling.

From simple fare such as vanilla, nescafe and chocolate to rarer offerings like muskmelon, lime and lemon and rose ripple. One can even go in for some flavours that simply cannot be found in any other ice-cream range: rum and raisin, pink guava and ginger lemon.

Ranging from 40 to 70 rupees, the price also makes Rustom's a very attractive experience.

What makes K Rustoms truly different from all other ice-cream parlours is their iconic paper-thin wafer in which they serve their ice-cream blocks.

The origin story of this distinctive serving style is fascinating: originally, K Rustom's served their ice creams in porcelain plates. Unfortunately, those were prone to breaking or being stolen. Thus, the ice cream sandwich was born: the rectangular block of ice cream is removed from its butter-paper wrapper, and gently pressed between two bright yellow or orange wafers.

K Rustom's has made such a reputation for themselves based off of quality alone. They have not felt the need to do any marketing to promote themselves. In a social media age, where the Instagrammability of a restaurant's food can make or break their walk-in numbers, K Rustom's is already tailormade for Instagram fame. The brightly coloured ice-creams bricks and the prime location makes K Rustom's a social media staple. The storefront, unlike other ice-cream parlours, does not try to lure in prospective consumers based on aesthetic alone.

Quality, above all else, is the secret of K Rustom's success.



WHEN: WHILE THE STORE IS OPEN FROM 9:30 AM TO 11PM, WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND GOING DURING GOLDEN HOUR! AIM FOR 5-7PM.

WHERE: 86, VEER NARIMAN ROAD, CHURCHGATE

WE RECOMMEND: ANY FLAVOUR THAT YOU WON'T GET AT A REGULAR ICE-CREAM STORE! OUR FAVOURITES WERE CHOCOMINT CRUNCH. BLUEBERRY AND LIME AND LEMON



we got that yumny yum too, justin.

you ain't special.

zomato —



