W.I.P Labs press kit

Playground

Where modular meets Carnatic. Charu Hariharan and Vaibhav Batra in a live improvised performance.

Created, conceptualised and produced by W.I.P Labs.



Playground, W.I.P alt.FEST, Bengaluru

About

It is not a fusion. It is a conversation. Playground is a live improvised performance at the meeting point of two distant sonic worlds: South Indian classical percussion and Carnatic vocalism on one side, and the voltage-driven terrain of modular synthesis on the other.

Neither artist moves toward the other's tradition to make the meeting easier. Charu Hariharan brings Carnatic music fully intact, its rhythmic sophistication and ornamental vocabulary. Vaibhav Batra brings a modular synthesiser that must be built anew before every performance. What emerges is not a middle ground but a third space that neither could occupy alone.

A playground is not a concert hall. It is a space for exploration rather than exhibition, where the point is the playing. Every set is a real-time discovery, and the audience witnesses the whole process of finding out.

At a glance

Duration	**45 to 60 minutes, no interval**
On stage	**2 artists, minimal staging**
Audience	**Seated or on the floor, close to the artists**
Language	**Non-verbal and Carnatic syllables**
Premiere	**W.I.P alt.FEST, December 2024**

Credits

Charu Hariharan, Carnatic percussion and vocals

Vaibhav Batra, Modular synthesis

Technical needs

PA system and stage monitor

Power supply for the modular rig

Full technical rider on request

Performed at

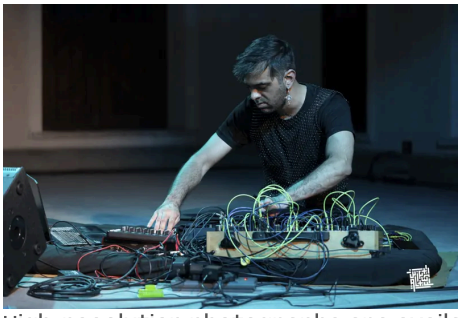
Dec 2024 World premiere, W.I.P alt.FEST, Bengaluru

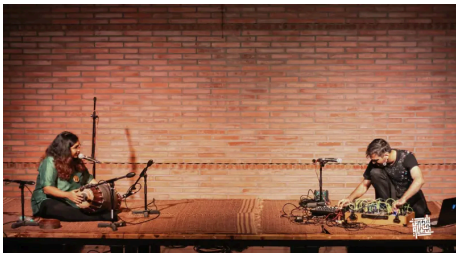
2025 OddBird Theatre, two runs, New Delhi

Jan 2026 Kochi-Muziris Biennale, Kochi

Photographs





High-resolution photographs are available on request.

Bookings and press: info@wipcollective.in. @wip_labs. wipcollective.in/productions/playground/