

It is August 2018 when Sarita Rav and Otto de Jong meet each other in Sarita's hometown Jaipur, capital city of Rajasthan, India.

Sarita is a singer and teaches music classes to Indians and travellers from abroad, Otto is a drummer and one of those travellers who's interested in Indian music. After a few lessons, some little jams together and passionate conversations about each others musical cultures they decide to undertake an adventure, start a band and tour together.

In April and May 2019 they undertook their first tour. For a month they played in The Netherlands and France with an unusual and minimalistic setup of just vocals and drumset. Their pure and dynamic mix of North Indian songs and ragas and Western indie and jazz influenced drums was being received with great enthusiasm.

Sarita has a voice straight out of the Rajasthani dessert, with a great melodic and dynamic range. Sufi songs, mantra's and bhajans are being sung by her in an energetic and raw fashion. A perfect match with Otto's dynamic and eccentric style of playing. Indian rhythms are interpreted freely with a robust sound and complemented with jazz-infused improvisations.

After the first tour Sarita and Otto decided to take this international project to a next level under the name of Jaipur Junction. In October and November of 2019 they were touring in Europe again. During this tour they played at the famous Le Guess Who festival as part of Lombok Festival in Utrecht (NL).

The tour was followed by the recording sessions for their first album with Utrecht based producer Erwin Tuijl. The album is called Kyon Nahin (Why Not?) and was released in October 2020. Both digitally and on vinyl.

All songs (except Utrecht Centraal) are minimalistic renditions of traditional compositions. The process is visualized in the video of Wah Wah Guzran Faqeeran Da, that was shot during the recording of the album.

By the end of Februari, start of March 2020 Jaipur Junction undertook their first tour in India. During two concerts they were accompanied by Aman Bhardwaj on guitar and Imran Khan on tabla (grandson of tabla maestro Ustad Faiyaz Khan Sahib).

During this tour they also shot the video for Mohe Apne He Rang Main in Amer and Jaipur, where Sarita and Otto met for the first time.

More than two years alter, in the fall of 2022, Sarita came back to Europe again. This time Jaipur Junction stayed in The Netherlands, performing around the country. This time they played at The Gandhi Centre, a concert venue at the Indian Embassy in Den Haag and at the famous Le Guess Who Festival again, as part of U? around the city of Utrecht.

Besides touring in 2022 they also took their own compositions to studio Barn In The Meadow near Utrecht and selected a dedicated team to record a new album with.

In the fall of 2020 Sarita and Otto had already started composing new, original music, while living more that 6000km apart. Demo's were being send back and forth between Jaipur and Utrecht.

Otto produced the album himself with Imran Khan from New Delhi on tabla, Sahil Bahl from Den Haag on electric, slide and weissenborn guitar and Erwin Tuijl from Utrecht took care of synthesizers and co-production. The new album will be called Naina Na and is an eclectic fusion of traditional North-Indian music and independent music from the West. Traditional Indian vocals are complemented with warm harmonies and lush melodies on guitar and keys. Authentic tabla rhythms with origins in the classical school of New Delhi and folk are accompanied by indierock and jazz infused, dynamic drums, deep synth basses and abstract electronics. All of this is blended in a raw, yet contemporary sounding mix by Matthijs Kievit (Joneski) and mastered by Alex Geurink.

With their new, colourful album and positive experiences from the past, Jaipur Junction is ambitions to interact with an audience around the world.