

## Kiss Nuka

### Artist, Producer, Activist

Kiss Nuka is the genre-bending uncensored outlet of Anushka Manchanda, where she distils the world around her – with all its injustices and capacity for compassion, its chaos and natural tranquillity, and its eternal undercurrents and immediate concerns – into stylistically boundless and immersive musical experiences.

A well-established creative polymath based between Mumbai and Barcelona, Anushka Manchanda has an artistic legacy that spans from editing and directing to Bollywood playback singing and screen performances. With Kiss Nuka, she asserts total control of her artistic voice and presents it at its most unabashed and all-encompassing.





# KISS NUKA

Known as an audiovisual artist-producer and activist [Kiss Nuka](#) is a visionary for the future of dance music. Playing with ambient soundscapes, Nuka has explored inspirations from Bollywood to hindu mantras. What makes her productions so unique and emotive is her attention to detail, particularly with the frequencies behind her music. Working on her latest EP 'Raat Rani' Nuka wanted to share her passion for healing the planet. In 'Harvest' we see her transform the folk songs of Assam into a driving track with a thumping beat. While 'War Cry' depicts a darker side of her productions which fall close to gritty techno as she unravels sounds from the Amazon rainforest into a bellowing beat. Some tracks however, are more literal as we see with the sample in 'The Seed'. Nuka embeds a speech from the Indian scholar and environmental activist Dr Vandana Shiva into the track. As a producer, Kiss Nuka has delivered an inspiring level of work which we are certain she will continue to advance on.

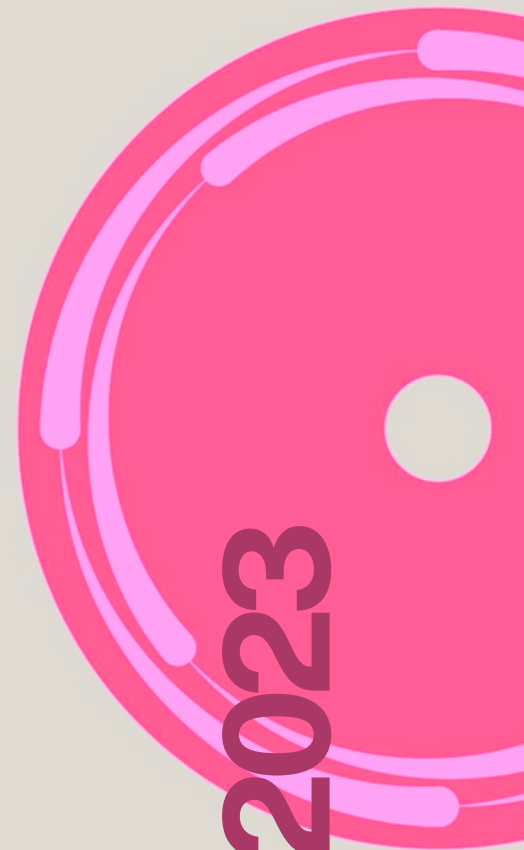
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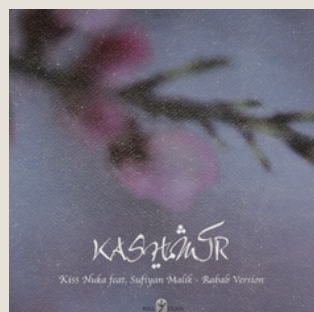
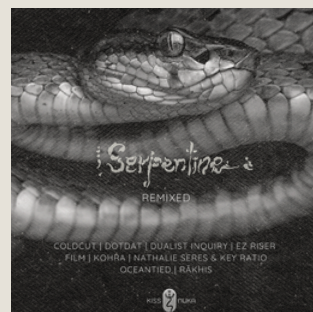
Blends of ambient soundscapes, four-on-the-floor rhythms, electro-pop vocal lines, drum and bass frenzy, groovy bass thumping and poetic lyricism co-exist on works like the cinematic and haunting ***Don't Be Afraid***, the subtle and sombre ***Kashmir***, the socio-politically bold and blazing hip-hop number ***Ayo Burn***, and her debut EP ***Serpentine*** (Nov '22) which fluidly traverses across the spectrum of dance music with a gritty energy.

Her releases include the single ***I Love The Drive***, which dropped on the seminal UK label Ninja Tune imprint Ahead Of Time and was accompanied by a remix from co-founder and one-half of Coldcut, Matt Black. The artist-producer and activist also released ***Fight*** in collaboration with Beirut-based NGO The Great Oven.

Kiss Nuka released her sophomore EP ***Raat Rani*** (Nov '23), where she takes a brazen approach to her sound, weaving tribal beats and growling basslines with her dance-floor influences of dnb, electro, trip-hop and techno.

Her next EP sees her further experimenting with dance floor soundscapes and will release on London based label Future Bounce in the summer of 2024.

Kiss Nuka closed 2023 being featured on Mixmag's list of ***'Top 25 Producers Who Defined 2023'***.



# Releases



Bringing together all her creative roles, Kiss Nuka elevates her musical offerings with **audio-visual pieces** and **photo essays** dealing with themes like the **rise of the feminine**, **animal rights**, and **environmentalism** to create cinematic storytelling for both the screen and the live setting.

Her thought-provoking audio-visual work has won recognition at the **Indian Independent Music Awards**, **Berlin Music Video Awards**, and **London Music Video Awards**, and was on display at **The World of Music Video** exhibition at Völkinger Hütte UNESCO World Heritage Site alongside work from iconic artists like Björk, Daft Punk, Chemical Brothers, Massive Attack and Lil Nas X.



**Audio Visual**





As a live performer, Kiss Nuka has brought her hypnotic, seamless and dynamically-rich live set to stages such as **Boiler Room, Dialed In, Mixmag LAB, Farout Left, Magnetic Fields, Rave The Planet, Ziro Festival, Ctrl Alt Del, and Basscamp.**

30.02.2024

## Crack Mix 549: Kiss Nuka

Techno Electro Bass Club



Kiss Nuka distils a raw energy into everything she does. The alias of multi-faceted artist and activist Anushka Manchanda, her work spans playback music for Bollywood films, cinematic direction and audio-visual pieces not to mention her heady, adrenaline-fuelled productions. The latter of which see the Mumbai artist channel a bold conviviality via swaggering beats, melodic warmth and brooding electronics.

Ahead of playing Southbank Centre as part of Dialed In's takeover there next month, she gives us a taste of what to expect and provides a high-energy live set for her entry into the Crack Mix series. "Earthy, sweaty, ravey, that's how this set feels to me," Manchanda says. "I wish I could play it to you inside a cavern, or deep in a jungle, barefoot, bodies glistening, mud flying from feet thumping on the ground..."


"Until then, here is what I recorded live in my studio," she adds, "the night before my birthday. I hope you enjoy". Play this one loud.

A few selected mixes are online, the latest being for **Crack Magazine, Rinse Fm w/ Jay Carder, and Mixmag Asia.**

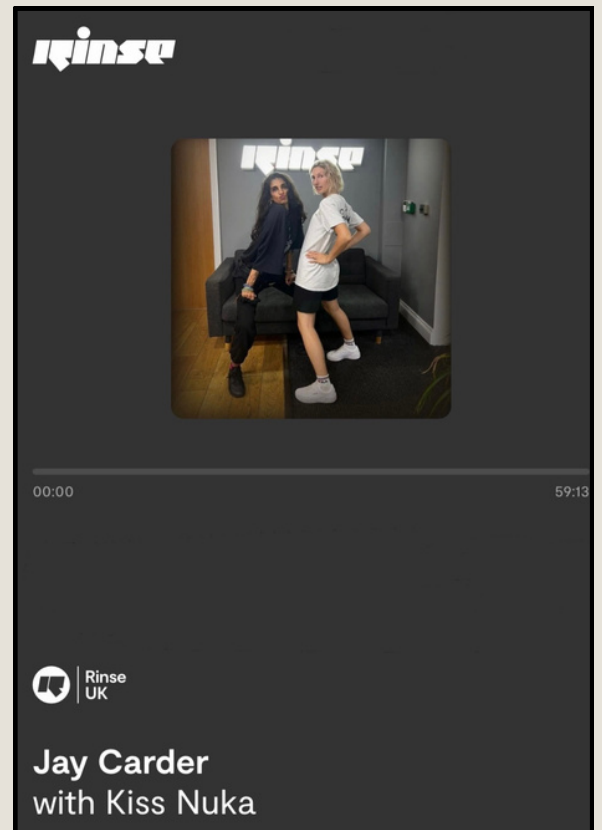
## MMA RADIO: KISS NUKA'S ETHEREAL ELECTRONICA MIX CHANNELS EARLY RAVE DAYS IN GOA

"I wanted to represent where I'm coming from and the various influences that make me the artist I am today."


CHARLES BUDD | 24 MAY 2023



Mixmag Asia Radio 131 - Kiss Nuka [India]  
by mixmagasia [FOLLOW](#)



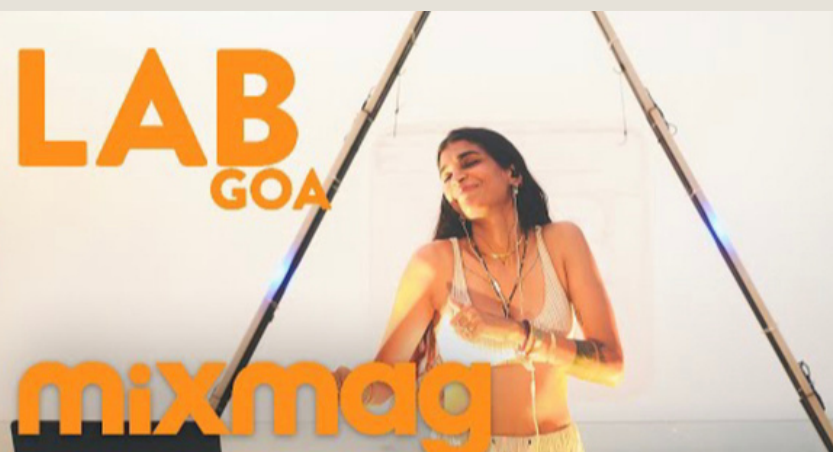
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**Jay Carder**  
with Kiss Nuka



**Live**





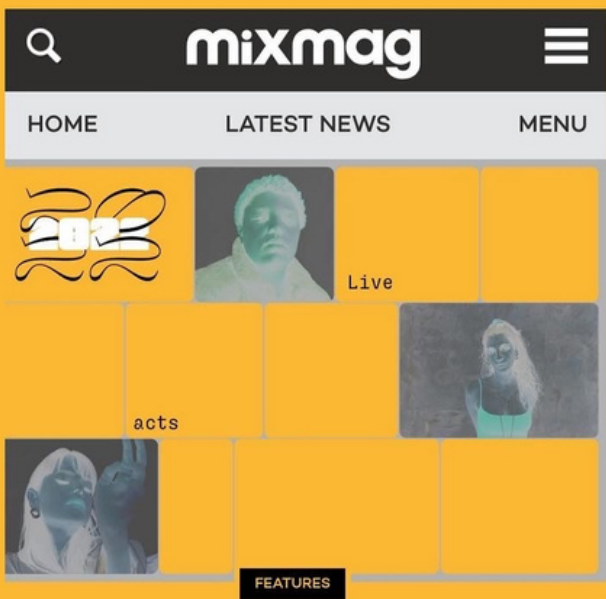
# Tilting the scales

India's Kiss Nuka swapped a career as a famous pop star for a devotion to underground dance music, and hasn't looked back since. She tells Tara Joshi about incorporating aspects of Indian music on her own terms, her commitment to activism, and celebrating feminine energy

Words: TARA JOSHI Pics: APURVA JADHAV

In doing so, her music melds melodic and percussive elements of Indian music with sounds from UK and US dance. Her Mixmag Lab live set in Goa from last year is euphoric to behold; you can practically feel the glowing heat of her surroundings blended into the deft traversing of genres, as she crescendos from softly melodic ambient and nods to psy-trance into heady bass, breaks and juddering footwork. The set is telling of Manchanda's commitment to nailing her craft.

"I had learned how to produce on Logic, but when I got booked to play Mixmag, my songs were all very cinematic — and I remember having a conversation like, 'Mixmag Lab is a dancefloor'," she says. "And so I took two months off to learn how to use Ableton, broke down my existing tracks, and turned them into dancefloor versions."



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## KISS NUKA

Emotive and evocative, [Kiss Nuka](#) mesmerises any dancefloor with her live wizardry. The audio-visual artist from Mumbai is an entirely live performer that uses soundscapes to tell stories. Keeping experimental, Kiss Nuka sculpts beats and synths to flow from track to track along with playing a mixture of released and unreleased work. Her [Lab Goa](#) set is a perfect example of this as she performed original work such as 'I Love The Drive' while also melting into improvised sounds and soft vocals. To end the year she performed her debut EP 'Serpentine' live at the [Magnetic Fields Festival](#) and 2023 will see her set off on a tour across India.

## THE 15 TOP LIVE ACTS OF THE YEAR 2022

Live shows are enabling producers to create unique experiences for dancefloors

WORDS: PATRICK HINTON, MEGAN TOWNSEND, GEMMA ROSS, BECKY BUCKLE, ISAAC MUK | NOSTRA FONT  
DESIGNED BY LUCAS DESCROIX |  
21 DECEMBER 2022

Press



## WATCH: KISS NUKA MANIFESTS THE FEMININE DIVINE ENERGY OF 'DAKINI' INTO AN ARTISTIC MUSIC VIDEO

The Mumbai-based artist draws on her love  
for drum'n'bass & the ethereal world



21 June 2023



2022 was a pivotal year for Anushka Manchanda aka [Kiss Nuka](#). Between her set for [Mixmag LAB](#), which pushed her to the limelight as a live electronica performer, and her dynamic set at [Magnetic Fields Festival 2022](#), the creative polymath released a single '[I Love The Drive](#)' via Ninja Tunes' Ahead of Our Time imprint followed by her stylistically far-reaching dance EP '[Serpentine](#)'. Traversing a range of energy levels within dance music over 6 tracks, '[Serpentine](#)' cemented Anushka Manchandan's reinvention as an artist that can flip from languid and poetic to dominate the dancefloor.



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New Music

## Kiss Nuka's 'Raat Rani' EP Combines Socially Conscious Themes and Hypnotic Electronica

The vocalist-producer explores ecological needs and brings in Indian folk and traditional music motifs across five tracks

A year on after the release of her debut EP *Serpentine*, **Mumbai-based vocalist-producer Kiss Nuka** aka Anushka Manchanda has put out *Raat Rani* as her sophomore EP, traversing sonic and thematic wilderness like few other artists in the country.

Press





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