

11th PALM SOUND & LIGHT AWARDS Recognize Talent in Pro Sound and Lighting Industry

The 11th PALM Sound & Light Awards continued the tradition of identifying and celebrating the cream-of-the-crop from the pro sound and lighting industry. From sound engineering and lighting design to homegrown pro audio manufacturing, rental, and distribution, the PALM Sound & Light Awards honoured deserving individuals and companies from the pro sound and lighting industry. The article reports on the highlights and winners of the 11th PALM Sound & Light Awards.

The 11th PALM Sound & Light Awards, held at Grande C, Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai, is PALM Expo's highlight feature. The awards are a nod to the superlative brilliance of the brands, companies, and professionals from the pro sound and light industries, be it trailblazing sound and light rental companies, groundbreaking brands, eminent live event organizers or ingenious professional and sound engineers all of whom have played a part in elevating the world of sound and light in India to a global level, setting the gold standard in sound, lighting, and AV innovation, distribution, and rental. The PALM Sound & Light Awards also announced the 'AV Architect of the Year' award, which was given to **Kelvin Ashby King**, Principal Consultant, **Clarity Consulting**. Here are the winners of the 11th PALM Sound & Light Awards.

PALM SOUND AND LIGHT AWARDS – WINNERS 2023

Sunny M.R. was awarded with **Outstanding Audio FOH Engineer Of The Year** for creating notable *Front of House (FOH)* mixes for *Arijit Singh Live* and other artists. Sunny M.R. has been a prominent figure of the music industry for over 20 years now and has worked in over 100+ films, receiving several awards, ranging from music production to mixing engineering.

Outstanding Audio Monitor Mix Engineer Of The Year was awarded to **Lee Braganza** for delivering outstanding *Monitor (MON)* mixes for various artists at various events. Lee Braganza started mixing for brands at the age of 15 and has been a Sound and Mix Engineer who has been in the industry since 28 years.

The award for **Outstanding Audio Systems Engineer Of The Year** for delivering outstanding performance in the field of professional sound system design, calibration, & alignment for events was granted to **Dr. Rajesh Khade**. Khade is a doctor by profession, a drummer by inheritance, an entrepreneur by circumstances, and a system engineer by passion. He is also a distributor for internationally recognized industry standard products like iSEMcon Measurement Mics, Sonnect Sound Bullet, and Alpine Hearing Protection, to name a few.

Outstanding Lighting Designer Of The Year was awarded to **Sohail Mansuri** for delivering world-class alluring lighting designs for events. He is a highly experienced Light Designer, who has worked with some of the best artists, architects,



Sophia Braganza collects the Outstanding Audio Monitor Mix Engineer of the Year Award on behalf of Lee Braganza



Dr. Rajesh Khade was awarded with Outstanding Audio Systems Engineer Of The Year



Sarath Chandran receives Outstanding Audio FOH Engineer of the Year Award on behalf of Sunny M.R.



Sohail Manusri receives Outstanding Lighting Designer Of The Year Award

movie makers, and visionary lighting designers, helping them tell their stories through light.

SOUND.COM earned the award for **Sound Company Of The Year** for maintaining the highest standards of quality, service, and delivery in the field of professional audio rentals for live events. SOUND.COM has pushed the boundaries of technical excellence & service provision for turnkey audio rental solutions, becoming globally recognized as the preferred sound rental company to work within India in a short span of time.

Sugandar House of Sound & Light was awarded with **Outstanding Sound Rental Company (Regional)** for maintaining high standards of quality, service, and delivery in the field of professional audio rentals for live events. Sugandar House of Sound and Light started off as a small Bengaluru-based sound and lighting venture in 1958, under the strong leadership of Founder, **S. M. Mohan**. Since 1958, Sugandar House of Sound and Light (erstwhile Sugandar Light House) has strived for excellence in the field of sound and light.

Video Display Rental Company Of The Year was awarded to **Spectrum AV LLP** for one of the largest inventory of video display rental for live events. Spectrum AV LLP was started by **Jay Mathuria**, later followed by **Ashish Saxena**, who took it a notch higher, growing into one of the best rental companies in the country.

Vibhore Khandelwal, Founder & Global Creative Director, **Creative Factory**, was awarded for **Innovative Projection Mapping Of The Year** for delivering enthralling, entertaining, and thrilling projection mapping special effects for stage events and special venues. Over the span of his 24-year journey in creative industry and 15 years in the events industry, Khandelwal has amassed a wealth of experience in delivering on-brand experiences that blend cutting-edge technologies with artistic vision. His innate ability to weave captivating narratives and push the boundaries of creativity and technological excellence has made Creative Factory the partner of choice for leading brands and event management companies across the region.

The award for **Outstanding Visual Content On Stage** was given to **Wolves** for exploiting maximum impact on stage - LED Screen/Display at live events. Wolves



Nidhi Udeshi and Sumit Srivastava, Creative Factory collect the award on behalf of Vibhore Khandelwal for Innovative Projection Mapping Of The Year



Jash Reen collects the award for Outstanding Visual Content on Stage for Wolves Inc.



Kunal Khambhati collects Outstanding Music Festival Event Promoter of the Year for BookMyShow Live



Neil Lean receives Excellence In Sound Design & Integration Award



Kelvin Ashby-King, Clarity Consulting receives the Outstanding Contribution to AV Integration



Warren Dsouza collects Sound Company of the Year Award for SOUND.COM



Prabhakar M.S. collects Outstanding Sound Rental Company (Regional) for Sugandar House of Sound & Light



Ashish Mehta and Ashish Saxena receive Video Rental Display of the Year for Spectrum AV LLP



Amar Subash collects Major Brand Audio Distribution Network Award for HARMAN Professional Solutions



Rashesh Parekh collects the award for High-End Lighting Design Solutions for Integrated Entertainment Solutions



Rajan Gupta collects Best Distributor Award for Hi-Tech Audio & Image LLP



Davinder Wadhwa receives the award for the Visionary Industry Leader Of The Pro AV Industry



Hemal Bhatt collects the award for Indigenous Manufacturing Of Amplifiers for Hemonia Electro Acoustics Pvt. Ltd.

is a visual agency that works closely with artists, live events, media groups, brands, and entertainment companies around the world. The organisation rose to acclaim by redefining 3D mapping installations and stage design for some of India's most cutting-edge nightclubs before scaling up to top-tier commercial entities and corporate signage.

BookMyShow Live was awarded the title of **Outstanding Music Festival Event Promoter Of The Year** for organizing world-class music festivals, live events, and staging world class artistes on the Indian stage. BookMyShow Live is the live entertainment division of BookMyShow, India's leading entertainment destination, and has been making compelling strides in India's live entertainment ecosystem across live music, comedy, performance, sports, theatricals and more.

Excellence In Sound Design & Integration was awarded to **Neil Lean, ANSATA**, for uplifting the paradigm of electroacoustic engineering in audio installation in India through the design and integration of a d&b audiotechnik system with immersive audio for Concerts, Theatre, Film (Dolby Atmos) and a variable acoustic system in the Grand Theatre at the Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre, Mumbai.

Kelvin Ashby-King, Clarity Consulting was awarded **Outstanding Contribution To AV Integration** for decades of project implementation of high quality adopting latest trends and techniques in AV integration. Kelvin Ashby King is a founding member of the Indian Association of Acoustics. He has been involved in the audio-visual and lighting industry throughout his professional career. King has designed over 100 theatre shows for Dolphin Theatre Company, HOC, TDS, and many other theatre companies.

HARMAN Professional Solutions was awarded **Major Audio Brand Distribution Network** for establishing an excellent countrywide dealership and distribution network for the prosumer range through marquee stores that connect with customers.

Best Distributor Award was awarded to **Hi-Tech Audio & Image LLP** for representing top global brands in pro audio and lighting and establishing excellent countrywide distribution.

Indigenous Manufacturing Of Amplifiers was awarded to **Hemonia Electro Acoustics Pvt. Ltd.** for indigenous design and manufacture of amplifier components meeting international standards and adequately fulfilling the demands of domestic amplifier market.

Wizard India Pvt. Ltd. won the award for **Largest & Indigenous Manufacturer And Exporter Of Speaker Components** for establishing manufacturing of global quality standards in speaker components and for exporting Indian manufactured speaker components to global brands.

Devil Truss was awarded **Achievement In Trussing Design & Production Award** for being one of the largest manufacturers of trussing in India and for innovation in design and solution-based truss manufacturing.

High-End Lighting Design Solutions Award was given to **Integrated Entertainment Solutions** for incorporating high-end lighting & control solutions from **Robe, Madrix & Avolites** at the Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre.

Visionary Industry Leader Of The Pro AV Industry was awarded to **Davinder Wadhwa** for visionary leadership in consistently exploiting innovation and new products in delivering excellence in projection and display technology in event installation.



Sayeed and Naved Akhtar collect the award for Largest & Indigenous Manufacturer and Exporter of Speaker Components for Wizard India Pvt. Ltd.



Akshay and Arvind collect the award for Achievement in Trussing Design & Production for Grand Truss