

Sufiana andaaz



Pusthesh Dhangra

Zila Khan, the famed Sufi singer, recently performed at a concert in Delhi. Requesting the audience to "see her through ears", Zila presented a series of *ghazals*. In true *Sufiana* spirit, she asked the audience to understand the real meaning of her Urdu *ghazals*. We asked Zila how she felt after performing and she said, "Sufi thought simplifies your life so much that when you close your eyes, the cosmos is within you. I believe in unconditional love and that is what I want to spread through my songs as well."

The concert began with a percussion performance by the band Sounds Of Isha. Also present at the venue were Montek Singh Ahluwalia and Rama Pilot, mother of Sachin Pilot. Before the concert started we spotted adman Prahlad Kakar moving around the venue and interacting with people. "Zila is one of the most underrated artistes in India," he said. Is it Sufi music or is it Zila? "I must confess that I don't understand much of classical music. It is the voice and the passion with which a song is sung that stirs my soul." We also found out that there's something else that's been on Prahlad's mind. He seemed quite distressed because of the recession. "The only thing that's looking up right now is recession. Advertising is affected and the only thing I can do is hope for things to get better because people can live without food but not advertising," said he.