

THE ORIGIN OF THOUGHT**Imaginative Intelligences with G5A**

in partnership with the **Mozilla Foundation** and the **Berggruen Institute**

Mumbai, February 18, 2026:

The inaugural session of Imaginative Intelligences with G5A: The Origin of Thought was held at The Oddbird Theatre in New Delhi as part of a broader exploration of culture, artificial intelligence, and human cognition.

The session brought together artists, filmmakers, technologists, and journalists to explore how humans and AI shape memory, thought, community, and creativity in an era where efficiency often replaces effort.

The program opened with an AI demonstration comparing human and chatbot responses using parameters such as choice, novelty, and sentiment. The exercise sparked a wider conversation led by Ishan Benegal (Artistic Director, G5A and Founder + Chef, PORT Kitchen & Bar), alongside Shakun Batra (Filmmaker), Nandana Sengupta (Associate Professor, School of Public Policy, IIT Delhi), Ritu Kapur (Co-founder and Managing Director, Quint Digital Limited), and Ziyaad Borat (Vice President of Imagination and Strategic Growth at Mozilla Foundation).

Together, they reflected on creativity, cognition, and the evolving relationship between humans and artificial intelligence: as Ritu Kapur noted, “AI tools have automated away that ‘grunge work,’ and with it, the essential friction required for a reporter to truly learn. The friction was the learning. The friction was journalism.” Nabiha Syed, (Executive Director, Mozilla) reminded the audience to look beyond simplistic narratives of productivity, urging, “Together, we will look past the hype of efficiency and ask the hard questions about originality, ethical lines, and livelihoods. I know that you’re going to remember that technology doesn’t just happen to us. We get to shape it. We get to imagine it.”

Filmmaker Shakun Batra added a cultural critique: “We are heading toward a future where AI consumes everything only to tell us what we should consume.”

The following sessions will be held in **G5A Warehouse, Mumbai**

Session 02

Saturday, April 04

Session 03

Saturday, April 18

Sessions 04

Saturday, April 25

Session 05

Saturday, May 16

Assembly

Friday-Sunday, May 29-31

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Development Council | Shabana Azmi | Jonathan Bannister | Indira Chandrashekar | Nandita Das | Kiran Rao | Richa Roy

The G5A Foundation for Contemporary Culture

G-5/A, Laxmi Mills Estate, Shakti Mills Lane, Mahalaxmi, Mumbai 400011

 g5a.org

 [@g5a.culture](https://www.instagram.com/g5a.culture)

 [@g5afoundation](https://www.youtube.com/g5afoundation)

About G5A

G5A | home for experimental and independent arts practice

At G5A, we believe that art and culture have the power to catalyze change for the better – by challenging people to think critically, creatively, and courageously. Through a series of diverse programs and projects, we are committed to nurturing a vibrant, safe, and inclusive platform that encourages the creative and just – in thought and expression. In doing so, our endeavor is to enrich people’s lives, rebuild resilient and responsible communities, and strengthen the cultural fabric of our community and city.

The G5A Foundation for Contemporary Culture is a not-for-profit organization that celebrates the intersections of culture, community, and city.

About Mozilla Foundation

Mozilla Foundation is a global nonprofit dedicated to ensuring the internet remains open, inclusive, and equitable. Founded in 2003, it supports people-first technology through funding, advocacy, education, and research. Rooted in the open-source movement and guided by the Mozilla Manifesto, Mozilla Foundation focuses on critical issue areas like ethical data practices, healthy digital ecosystems and shifting digital power toward individuals and communities. Its work connects technologists, researchers, policymakers, and activists to reimagine and rebuild systems to serve the public good. With over two decades of global impact, Mozilla Foundation continues to lead the movement for a better technology future—powered by people, open by design and fueled by imagination.

About Berggruen Institute

Since its founding, the Berggruen Institute has forged new conceptual frameworks to meet the challenges and harness the opportunities of the arriving future. With centers in Los Angeles, Beijing, and Venice the Institute has the autonomy to step outside the usual lanes, reaching beyond academic disciplines to bridge social divides, partisan dispositions, and cultural boundaries.

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