# Shantnu & Nikhil spotlight Indian heritage in Fabergé Big Egg Hunt for global conservation cause



Art has long served as a beacon for social causes, combining creativity with meaningful engagement, and this philosophy is vividly embodied in the annual Big Egg Hunt, also known as the Fabergé Big Egg Hunt. Recognised as the world's largest event of its kind, the hunt not only promises excitement and adventure but also supports numerous charitable initiatives. This year, participants traversed the streets of London, from Covent Garden to Chelsea and Buckingham Palace, on an Easter-themed scavenger hunt that featured over 200 intricately decorated eggs. Using a smartphone application, adventurers sought out these artistic creations, with the chance to win a coveted Fabergé egg valued in the thousands. Proceeds from the auction of these unique pieces further bolster vital conservation and children's welfare efforts.

A significant highlight of this prestigious event is the participation of Indian designers Shantnu & Nikhil, marking them as the first and only designers from India to take part in this global public art initiative. Their egg, titled "Valour’s Vessel," was recently unveiled at Kew Gardens, part of a collaborative effort between The Elephant Family and the British Asian Trust. The duo expressed their immense pride at being chosen, noting that it not only represents a personal milestone but also serves as a crucial moment for Indian creativity on the international stage.

In an interview, Shantnu & Nikhil described the conceptual journey behind their egg, stating, “The opportunity came to us through Elephant Family and instantly felt aligned with our creative ethos.” Their design encapsulates elements deeply rooted in India's cultural narrative, such as military symbolism and emotional storytelling. The egg, they explained, serves as a universal emblem of origin and renewal, allowing them to reinterpret themes of nostalgia and national pride through an innovative medium.

Valour’s Vessel is more than just a decorative object; it is a tribute to the rich history and resilience inherent to Indian identity. The design features detailed Chakra buttons, medallion brooches, and vintage coins, each serving as a symbol of courage and heritage. The meticulous choice of materials reflects a profound respect for history, with Shantnu & Nikhil emphasising that they do not merely remember the past—they wear it with purpose.

The designers revealed that the creation process was both intense and intimate, beginning months in advance to carefully select each motif and material, many of which were drawn from their extensive archival library. Crafting the physical egg, however, took only a matter of weeks, leading them to pause and reflect on the deeper meanings behind their work.

In discussions about the intersection of fashion and wildlife conservation, Shantnu & Nikhil advocated for a stronger connection between these fields. They argued that fashion and conservation are not distinct realms but are intertwined, emphasising that preservation of nature is an expression of care and respect. They encouraged fellow designers to engage with causes that resonate with them, highlighting that when fashion is infused with purpose, its impact can be significantly amplified.

The Big Egg Hunt serves as an inspiring platform where creativity and philanthropy converge, showcasing how art can transcend pleasure and serve a greater good. By bringing together more than 200 unique creations from talented artists, designers, and architects, the event raises funds for critical initiatives. This annual celebration not only engages the public in a joyful hunt but also fosters a dialogue about the role of creativity in addressing some of society's pressing challenges. Through their participation, Shantnu & Nikhil not only highlight their Indian heritage but also contribute to a global narrative that champions art as a force for change.

### Reference Map

1. Lead article
2. Related articles 2, 3
3. Related articles 4, 5, 6, 7

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://elle.in/fashion/exclusive-shantnu-nikhil-its-an-incredible-honour-to-participate-in-londons-big-egg-hunt-9064507> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.thebigegghunt.co.uk/about> - The Big Egg Hunt is an annual event organized by Elephant Family and Action for Children, featuring over 200 uniquely crafted eggs hidden across Central London. Created by leading artists, designers, architects, and jewellers, these eggs are part of a city-wide hunt aimed at raising funds for the two charities. Participants can collect the eggs by following a zone map and clues, with the event culminating in an auction of the eggs to support conservation and children's welfare initiatives.
3. <https://www.thebigegghunt.co.uk/home> - The Fabergé Big Egg Hunt is a city-wide art trail in London, featuring over 200 uniquely crafted eggs created by leading artists, designers, architects, and jewellers. Participants can collect the eggs by following a zone map and clues, with the event culminating in an auction of the eggs to support conservation and children's welfare initiatives.
4. <https://www.thebigegghunt.co.uk/the-hunt-tour/the-tour> - The Big Egg Hunt has toured various cities across the UK, including London, Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, and Glasgow. Each city hosted a collection of uniquely crafted eggs created by leading artists, designers, architects, and jewellers, with the event culminating in an auction of the eggs to support conservation and children's welfare initiatives.
5. <https://www.thebigegghunt.co.uk/the-hunt-tour/the-tour/london-covent-garden> - The Big Egg Hunt returned to Covent Garden for its finale from Friday 22nd March to Monday 1st April. Participants could collect a Hunt Book from one of the many Eggsperts and use a zone map to locate the eggs hidden in the area.
6. <https://www.thebigegghunt.co.uk/the-hunt-tour/the-tour/birmingham-victoria-square> - The Big Egg Hunt visited Birmingham's Victoria Square from Tuesday 19th February to Monday 25th February. Participants could collect a Hunt Book from one of the many Eggsperts and use a zone map to locate the eggs hidden in the area.
7. <https://www.thebigegghunt.co.uk/the-hunt-tour/the-tour/liverpool-paradise-street> - The Big Egg Hunt visited Liverpool's Paradise Street from Wednesday 27th February to Tuesday 5th March. Participants could collect a Hunt Book from one of the many Eggsperts and use a zone map to locate the eggs hidden in the area.