



(Above, from left) Pinchas Zukerman, Mehroo Jeejeebhoy, and Lang Lang watch the students of the Mehli Mehta Music Foundation perform; (below) Zukerman shares his observations with the students. PICS COURTESY/MMMF

A masterclass off stage

LAST week, musical patrons witnessed maestro **Zubin Mehta's** (inset) 90th birthday celebrations in advance where fellow musicians **Pinchas Zukerman** and **Lang Lang** joined in. For students of the Mehli Mehta Music Foundation (MMMF) though, it was a rare treat as a lucky few presented a private performance for both guests. While pianist **Yash Prabhu** rendered a performance of Chopin's *Nocturne No 20*, the Nota Bene Trio of **Aisha Bhansali** (violin), **Ananya Kulkarni** (cello) and **Aatish Dhawan** (piano) performed *Winter from 'Seasons'* by Astor Piazzolla. "It was a surreal



experience. We had a chance to watch Lang Lang warm up. The attention to detail was a lesson in itself," shared Dhawan. For 17-year-old cellist Kulkarni, Zukerman had tips. "He gave me suggestions to improve my posture. He was so calm, and jovial throughout," she revealed. Bhansali concluded, "They are 'Gods' when it comes to music. It was surreal."