



SETTING THE BAR

Barrechord, a Kochi-based band, is taking Kerala's music scene by storm. With seven passionate musicians, the band has been performing across the state, leaving audiences spellbound. Barrechord consists of lead vocalist Nihal Salim, two vocalists and acoustic guitarists Harrison Emmanuel Xavier and Irfan Zehn, lead guitarist Rohit Manoj, keyboardist Nikith Michael Biju, bassist Dominic Baby, and drummer Emmanuel Simon. The band's music is a blend of popular melodies, folk rock, and music to which you can bust a groove. "Barrechord was unplanned," says Harrison. Initially, the group was bought together to perform a single gig with no intention of continuing beyond that. "We were amateurs. We were asked to name the band, and I came up with Barrechord because we couldn't even play the barre chords at the time," quips Irfan. In just one year, Barrechord has managed to perform 50-plus shows at various prestigious institutions and locations, including the last Under-25 Summit held in Bengaluru and the PopUp Flea in Kochi. "Most of us are self-taught, and that results in a different connection with the audience," Nihal remarks. Barrechord's next venture is to release original music. "We can definitely play the barre chords now," Harrison muses.