



**HOTEL ISTANA**  
KUALA LUMPUR CITY CENTRE

## Artstream has music down to a science

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Malaysia has produced many fine music artistes, many of whom have stood out as recording or live musicians for their ability to transcend boundaries and move across genres of music effortlessly with remarkable results

Among these is Artstream, which has been on the scene for close to 30 years.

The band is playing at Hotel Istana Kuala Lumpur, which is on a mission to provide a venue for talented local musicians to showcase their capabilities.

Artstream performs at the Songket Lounge.

Artstream leader Suresh Kumar has downsized the band over the years — doing away with the drums and bass guitar — to just him and lead guitarist Rizal. The whittling down of numbers has had little discernible effect on the band's sound and delivery.

In fact, the band's maturation has made it one of the most sought-after acts.

Artstream's wide repertoire that covers pop, rock, retro and contemporary hits is another reason for its success.

Suresh said: "I have performed for 26 years and have not lost my love for music. I am blessed with the ability to put a smile on people's faces and that's rewarding for me."

During a recent show at the lounge, the 40-year-old entertainer's rich, honeyed voice, coupled with his good looks, made for a scintillating performance. The band's musical prowess and versatility



**Suresh Kumar's rich vocals and good looks are a magnetic combination.** —  
*Picture by Syarafiq Abd Samad*

were plainly evident as it moved easily from Mandarin numbers to classic Malay hits.

Hotel Istana food and beverage director Tom Spaan said: "The bands that the hotel engages are the ambassadors of Malaysia's musical culture as well as entertainers."

Artstream performs on Tuesdays and Fridays and resident four-piece band Sweet Notes on the other days of the week.

Show time is from 9pm.

For details, call Songket Lounge at 03-2141 9988. — *By K. Harinderan*