

# PREETAM KOILPILLAI

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## Education

- Started learning piano at age 5 in Geneva, Switzerland with Prof. Janssens of the Geneva Conservatory. (1977)
- Studied with Prof. David Sebastian (grades 4-6 TCL) and Mrs Ruth Hicks (Grade 8) TCL in Bangalore, India (TCL = Trinity College of Music, London) (1983-1990)
- Graduated high school from Bishop Cotton Boy's High School, Bangalore, India (1990)
- Awarded an INLAKS scholarship to the Purcell School, London (UK), studying piano and composition.
- Studied piano with Graham Fitch in London.
- Studied composition with Param Vir in London.
- Studied orchestral conducting (part-time) at the Morley College, London.
- Studied writing, direction, cinematography and editing (Summer Workshop) at the Prague Film School, the Czech Republic
- Awarded the Licentiate of the Trinity College of Music, London - Diploma in Music Performance (Piano) with Distinction.

## MUSIC

### Performances

- 1983 - First public performance, aged 11 - Bangalore, India
- 1989-97 - Solo performances in Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, Kodaikanal and Thrissur.
- Invited twice to perform at the National Centre for Performing Arts, Mumbai.
- 1998 - Keyboardist with indie rock band, Thermal and a Quarter.
- 1999 - Concert with Indian percussionist, Sivamani - Bangalore, India
- 1999 - Concert with Gaurav Mazumdar, pupil of Pandit Ravi Shankar - Bangalore, India.
- 2000 - Concert with American Cellist, Stephen Framil - Bangalore, India.
- 2003 - Performed in a piano duet concert 'Duplay' as a charity fundraiser for a leprosy hospital in Peikulam, Tamil Nadu.
- 2005 - Concert with American violinist, Jody McComb - Bangalore, India.
- 2011 - Concert with Dr L Subramaniam and Kavita Krishnamurti - Festival of India, Sao Paulo, Brazil.
- 2011 - Concert with Dr L Subramaniam and Kavita Krishnamurti - Festival of India, Brasilia, Brazil.
- 2011 - Concert with Dr L Subramaniam and Kavita Krishnamurti, Bengaluru Ganesh Utsav. - Bangalore, India.
- 2011 - Concert with Dr L Subramaniam and Kavita Krishnamurti - Indian Festival of Arts, Esplanade Theatres on the Bay, Singapore.
- 2012 - Lakshminarayana Global Music Festival, India tour with Dr L Subramaniam, Kavita Krishnamurti, Solo Cissokho, Miya Masaoka and Dhaffer Youssef - Bangalore, Chennai, Ahmedabad, Mumbai, Pune, Trivandrum, Kollam.
- 2012 - Concert with Dr L Subramaniam and Kavita Krishnamurti - Lagos, Nigeria.
- 2012 - Concert with Dr L Subramaniam, Kavita Krishnamurti and the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain - Southbank Centre, London, UK.
- 2013 - Lakshminarayana Global Music Festival, India tour with Dr L Subramaniam, Kavita Krishnamurti, Froy Agre and Chris Rhyne - Bangalore, Chennai, Mysore, Kolkata, Mumbai, Delhi.
- 2013 - Concert with Dr L Subramaniam and Kavita Krishnamurti - Mahua, Gujarat, India.

- 2013 - Concert with Dr L Subramaniam, Kavita Krishnamurti and the Royal Oman Symphony Orchestra - Royal Opera House of Muscat, Muscat, Oman.
- 2013 - Concert with Dr L Subramaniam and Kavita Krishnamurti - Milan, Italy.
- 2013 - Concert with Dr L Subramaniam and Kavita Krishnamurti - Conservatory of Vicenza, Vicenza, Italy.
- 2013 - Concert with Dr L Subramaniam and Kavita Krishnamurti - "Europalia", Den Haag, Netherlands.
- 2013 - Concert with Dr L Subramaniam and Kavita Krishnamurti - 'Europalia', Brussels, Belgium.
- 2013 - Concert with Dr L Subramaniam and Kavita Krishnamurti - 'Festival of India', Beloselsky-Belozersky Palace, St. Petersburg, Russia.
- 2013 - Concert with Dr L Subramaniam and Kavita Krishnamurti - 'Festival of India', Moscow House of Composers, Moscow, Russia.
- 2013 - Concert with Dr L Subramaniam and Kavita Krishnamurti - Berwaldshallen, Stockholm, Sweden.
- 2013 - Concert with Dr L Subramaniam and Kavita Krishnamurti - Riga, Latvia.
- 2013 - Concert with Dr L Subramaniam and Kavita Krishnamurti - Modern Church, Stykkisholmur, Iceland.
- 2013 - Concert with Dr L Subramaniam and Kavita Krishnamurti - Teatro Fernan Gomez, Madrid, Spain.
- 2013 - Concert with SubraMania - Bangalore, India.
- 2014 - Lakshminarayana Global Music Festival, India tour with Dr L Subramaniam, Kavita Krishnamurti, Hubert Laws and Oysten Baadsvik - Bangalore, Chennai, Allepey, Ahmedabad, Mumbai, Delhi.
- 2014 - Concert with Dr L Subramaniam - Upvan Arts Festival - Thane, India.

## **MUSIC**

### **Teaching**

- 1989-91, 1992-94, 1996-2002 - Taught piano, music appreciation, aural training and did exam accompaniments at the Bangalore School of Music, Bangalore, India.
- 1994-95 - Taught piano and did exam accompaniments at the Kodaikanal International School, Kodaikanal, India.
- 2005-2012 - Taught piano, aural training, music appreciation and did exam accompaniments at the St. Marks Academy of Music, Bangalore, India.
- 2012 - Taught piano at the Furtados School of Music, Bangalore, India.
- 2012-2014 - Taught piano at the Subramaniam Academy of Performing Arts (SAPA), Bangalore, India.
- 2018 Director of the St. Mark's Music Academy

## **MUSIC**

### **Composition**

- Composed music for 'instinct' deo ad film - Bangalore, India.
- Composed music for Mathew & Ghosh architects presentation AV - Bangalore, India.
- Composed music for theatrical production of Brecht's 'Caucasian Chalk Circle', Bangalore directed by Rehmat Jamal - Bangalore, India.
- Composed music for theatrical production of Thornton Wilder's 'Out Town', directed by Allen Nause. - Bangalore, India (1993)
- Composed and wrote Easter cantata for SATB choir titled 'Behold the Man', commissioned by the 'Glorious' choir. Bangalore, India (1995)
- Composed music for theatrical production of Poile Sengupta's 'Keats was a Tuber' directed by Ashish Sen. - Bangalore, India (1996)

- Composed music for the musical 'Yavamajakka' with text by Poile Sengupta. (2000)
- Composed music for theatrical production of 'Cupid's Archery' directed by Prasanna. (2005)
- Composed music for theatrical production of 'The Prophet and the Poet', directed by Vijay Padaki. (2008)
- Composed music for my own film, a short documentary titled 'passport photos' (2010)
- Composed original piano compositions (2016)
- Composed a piano piece for the India Pavilion at the London Design Biennale (2021)

## **Radio/Podcasting/Voice-over**

- Hosted Weekly classical music program for All India Radio and Radio Midday - Bangalore, India.
- 2016 - Authored a series of music podcasts for teabox.com - Bangalore, India. (available on SoundCloud and iTunes)
- 2017 - Did the voice-over for the book promo of 'Eye Spy Indian Art' by Khoda and Pai. Premiered at the Jaipur Literature Festival 2017.
- 2020 - Edited a season of podcasts called 'Secrets of The Gap' for author/speaker, Mimi Nicklin.
- 2021 - Edited a series of podcasts for Rujani Tea.
- 2021 - Did voice-over for a series of videos for Rujani Tea.
- 2021 - Recorded an audio play for the Bhasha Centre
- 2021 - VO for Fundraiser for Fathima - Shishu Mandir
- 2021-2022 (ongoing) - Editing podcast pieces for Tea Biz, an international online journal on tea.

## **THEATRE**

### **Acting**

- 1992 - Acted in and co-directed Mahesh Dattani's "Final Solutions" - Bangalore, India.
- 1993 - Acted in David Hare's "Map of the World", directed by Abhijit Sengupta - Bangalore, India.
- 1996 - Acted in Loy Saldanha's "The Undertaker", directed by Hartman D'Souza - Bangalore, India.
- 1997- Acted in Poile Sengupta's "Keats was a tuber", directed by Abhijit Sengupta - Bangalore, India.
- 1997 - Acted in Athol Fugard's "The Island", directed by Hartman D'Souza - Bangalore/Chennai, India.
- 2015 - Acted in Kirtana Kumar's and Konarak Reddy's "The Wedding Party" - Bangalore, India.
- 2017 - Acted in David Mamet's "Oleanna", directed by Jagdish Raja - Jagriti Production
- 2019-2021 - Took part in online play readings for the group 'Usher', curated by Aditya Sondhi.
- 2022 - Acted in a rehearsed reading of 'The Crucible' - Jagriti Production
- 2022 - Acted in a 'Hamlets Live', part of a series of live monologues online for the Science Gallery, Bangalore, directed by Chanakya Vyas.

# THEATRE

## Directing

- 1992 - Directed a double bill production of Mahesh Elkunchwar's "Raktapushp" and "**Reflection**" - Bangalore, India.
- 1993 - Directed "Yanonomamo" an environmental musical by Peter Rose and Anne Conlon - Bangalore, India.
- 1997 - Directed Murray Schisgal's "The Typists" - Bangalore, India.
- 1997 - Created and directed a piano, dance and poetry fusion performance called "Tarantella" - Bangalore, India.
- 1998-Wrote and Directed "Illusion of Dawn", an adaptation of the play "The Hungry Earth" - Bangalore, India.
- 1998 - Directed Bill Manhoff's "**The Owl and the Pussycat**" - Bangalore, India.
- 1998 - Directed "The Andrew Lloyd Webber show", a concert production - Bangalore, India.
- 1999 - Directed William Inge's "The Disposal" - Bangalore, India.
- 1999 - Directed Jean Anouilh's "Episode in the life of an author" - Bangalore, India.
- 2001 - Directed John Campo's "Party on Avenue B" - Bangalore, India.
- 2001 - Directed Edward Albee's "**The Zoo Story**" - Bangalore, India.
- 2001 - Directed Mahesh Elkunchwar's "Reflection" - Bangalore, India.
- 2001 - Directed and Performed in a revival of Loy Saldanha's "The Undertaker" - Bangalore, India.
- 2002 - Directed Martin Sherman's "Bent" - Bangalore, India.
- 2002 - Directed Bill Manhoff's "The Owl and the Pussycat" - Bangalore, India.
- 2003 - Directed "Songs of Protest", a concert of protest music, at the National Theatre Festival in Rangayana - Mysore, India.
- 2003 - Directed Badal Sircar's "Procession" - Bangalore, India.
- 2003 - Directed Vijay Tendulkar's "Kamala" - Bangalore, India.
- 2003 - Directed Harry Gibson's "Filth" - Bangalore, India.
- 2003 - Directed Yasmina Reza's "ART" - Bangalore, India.
- 2004 - Directed "The Bodycatcher", an original devised piece - Bangalore, India.
- 2004 - Directed "Khel" an original devised piece in Hindi - Bangalore, India.
- 2004 - Directed "Dancing on Glass" by Ram Ganesh Kamatham - Bangalore, India.
- 2004 - Directed and performed in Stephen Sewell's "**The Secret Death of Salvador Dali**" (International Artists Festival) - Bangalore, India.
- 2004 - Directed Ronald Harwood's "The Dresser" (Deccan Herald Theatre Festival) Bangalore, India.
- 2004 - Directed Harry Gibson's "Filth" (Rangashankara Theatre Festival 2004) - Bangalore, India.
- 2004 - Directed Poile Sengupta's "Inner-laws" - Bangalore, India.
- 2004 - Directed Vijay Padaki's "Afterwords" - Bangalore, India.
- 2004- Directed Stephen Sewell's "The Secret Death of Salvador Dali" (Suchitra Theatre Festival) - Bangalore, India.
- 2006 - Directed Harry Gibson's "Filth" (Prithvi Theatre) - Mumbai, India.
- 2008 - Invited to perform at the La Paz International Theatre Festival in Bolivia, South America. (Performance did not take place due to visa issues)
- 2008 - Directed Loy Saldanha's "The Undertaker" - Bangalore, India.
- 2013 - Directed Yasmina Reza's "The God of Carnage" - Bangalore, India.
- 2015 - Directed Yasmina Reza's "Art" as part of the sesquicentennial celebrations of Bishop Cotton Boys' School - Bangalore, India.

# THEATRE

## Soft-skills training using theatre

2005-2008 - Conducted **theatre-based management training workshops** for:

- Premier Evolvics - Coimbatore, India
- Modelytics - Bangalore, India
- Motorola - Bangalore, India
- Pantaloon - Mumbai, India
- Tata Chemicals - Haldia, India
- Hewlett and Packard - Bangalore, India
- Accenture - Bangalore, India
- Yahoo - Bangalore, India
- Hutch (now Vodafone) - Bangalore, India
- HSBC Bank - Doha, Qatar
- Asian Paints - Mumbai, India

# FILM

## Directing

- 2006 - Wrote and directed "guilt", a short fiction film - Bangalore, India.
- 2008 - Wrote and directed "the encounter in a basement", a short fiction film - Bangalore, India.
- 2010 - Wrote and directed "passport photos", a short documentary film - Bangalore, India.

**passport photos** was screened at 14 International Film Festivals in 11 countries. It was nominated for 4 awards including 'Best Documentary'.

## Screenings

Ibn Arabi Film Festival – **Spain** – Jan 2011

Dawson City International Short Film Festival – **Canada** - April 2011

2<sup>nd</sup> Vientiane International Film Festival – **Laos**, May 2011

Kimera International Film Festival – **Italy** – June 2011

MCM 7<sup>th</sup> International Short Film Festival – **Netherlands** – June 2011

Outbox International Short film Festival – **Lebanon** – June 2011

Australian Refugee Film Festival – **Australia** - June 2011

'I've seen films' International Film Festival – **Italy** – October 2011

Yasujiro Ozu International Short Film Festival – **Italy** – October 2011

26<sup>th</sup> Independent Film Festival – **Germany** – October 2011

Free Net World International Film Festival – **Serbia** – October 2011

Tibet Film Festival – **India, Switzerland** - October 2011

Insight Film Festival – **UK** – December 2011

CWIFF 2014 - **India** 2014

- Crewed and acted in student films at the Prague Film School. Czech Republic.
- Conceptualised and directed a documentary titled 'Spaces' at the Prague Film School, featuring Hana Abrahamova. Czech Republic.
- Conceptualised and Directed an 'Independence Day' promo for Teabox, an online retailer of high-end tea based in Bangalore, India.

- Conceptualised and Directed two social media promos for the Bangalore-based NGO Shishu Mandir.
- Edited 20 sec promo for Teabox - Tea bag launch. Bangalore.
- Conceptualised and directed 6 films for the Delhi-based NGO Parag as part of their Library Educators Training program. Bangalore.
- Conceived, directed and produced a corporate film for Samasta Microfinance Ltd., Bangalore.
- Created 6 customer video profiles for Samasta Microfinance Ltd. Bangalore.
- Conceptualised and directed a corporate film for Turtle Torque. Kodaikanal.
- Created 18 videos for a Leadership Series for Samasta Microfinance Ltd. Bangalore.
- Conceptualised and directed the brand film for TibFin - Gang-Jong Finance Private Ltd., an enterprise of the Tibetan Government-in-exile. Dharamsala, Himachal Pradesh.
- Created social media video work for Mimi Nicklin - author and Regional Managing and Chief Creative Officer of RAPP Advertising, Dubai.
- Conceptualised a scratch video for a book trailer for Mimi Nicklin, Dubai.
- Created a brand film for World Toilet Organisation, Singapore (ongoing)
- Video work for Rujani Tea, Assam.
- Conceptualised and produced a fundraiser video - 'For Fathima' - for Shishu Mandir

## **FILM**

### **Acting**

- Crewed and acted in student films at the Prague Film School. Czech Republic.
- Acted in an ad produced by Lazaro Advertising, Bangalore
- Acted in a Netflix series titled 'Soup' directed by Abhishek Chaubey, starring Manoj Bajpayee and Konkona Sen.

### **Other:**

Conducted a 6-month music theory course for employees of an Italian-based Music Publishing company in Ernakulum, Kerala.

Conducted numerous public theatre (basic acting) workshops

2009-13 - Was Organist-in-charge at St. Mark's Cathedral - Bangalore, India.

Co-founded the theatre group 'Rafiki' (1996)

Co-founded and director of the theatre group 'black coffee' (1999)

### **Currently**

Co-Founder/Director at Copac Media LLP