

## **BIOGRAPHIES OF ARTISTS**

### **THE LOST POST INITIATIVE**

The Lost Post Initiative is a theatre and performing arts collective largely working with themes around gender. Much of the work looks at the female performer's body as a site of protest and possibility. Works include *Nobody Sleeps Alone*, *A Brief History of Your Hair*, *No Rest in the Kingdom*, and *i am not here*, among others.

### **DIRECTOR – DEEPIKA ARWIND**

Deepika Arwind is a playwright, director and performer, who has worked in the theatre for the last 14 years. She runs The Lost Post Initiative, theatre and performing arts collective that works collaboratively with diverse artists, largely around gender and women on stage. Her work has been presented in many parts of the world including Germany, Austria, USA, France, Uganda, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Singapore and all over India. She has been nominated for—and won—several awards, and fellowships, for her work. Her current touring productions nationally, internationally (and now digitally) are *No Rest in the Kingdom* (produced by Sandbox Collective) and *i am not here* (supported by Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan Bangalore), and most recently *Pyaare 2020-ji* (created for Serendipity Arts Virtual). She is the author of *Sarayu*, published by Le Cosmographe Éditions, France, in 2018.

### **DEVISER/PERFORMER – RONITA MOOKERJI**

Ronita Mookerji is an Independent Performing Artist/ Choreographer/Teacher exploring and practicing Contemporary Dance. She has been trained in *Bharatanatyam* for over 25 years and she did her *Arangetram* (graduation) in 2006 in Kolkata, and still continues her training. She is also trained in *Odissi*, and graduated with Honours from Attakkalari's Diploma in Movement Arts and Mixed Media in 2009. During the Diploma programme, she trained in *Kalarippayattu*, *Bharatanatayam*, Classical Ballet, Contact Improvisation, and Contemporary Dance Technique.

### **DEVISER/PERFORMER – SHARANYA RAMPRAKASH**

Sharanya Ramprakash is a theatre-maker who works in both English and Kannada language theatre. She is one of the founders of Dramatist Anonymous (Dramanon) in Bengaluru, which she runs along with three other artists. Over the last 12 years, she has directed, acted, and produced several works that have had performances both nationally and internationally. Sharanya is a 2014 Inlaks Foundation scholar, India Foundation for the Arts (IFA) grantee 2015, Theatertreffen International Forum 2016 scholar, and member of Lincoln Centre Director's Lab 2018. Her latest work *Mythology Upon the Table* with director Baboo Liao was presented at the Taipei International Arts Festival 2019 (TIFA 2019), and is scheduled for an international tour. Her recent play *Akshayambara*, which won an award for the Best Original Script at the Mahindra Excellence in Theatre Awards (META) 2016, has been touring from 2018 to 2020.

### **LIGHTING DESIGNER – PRITHAM KUMAR**

Pritham Kumar has specialised into technical theatre after working as an actor for many theatrical productions. As a lighting designer, he has travelled the world with theatre and dance performances and worked with companies from all over India and abroad. His latest effort in this endeavour took him aboard the world's largest passenger ship to work in an aquatheatre, underwater with performers. He lives a parallel life in commercial kitchens as a head chef and is currently leading one of Goa's biggest food brands in their latest offering. Only time may tell where all this takes him.

### **SOUND DESIGNER – NIKHIL NAGARAJ**

Nikhil Nagaraj (°1990, Bangalore) is a sound designer, engineer and musician. His interest explores the amalgamation between electronic and acoustic music, combining

traditional Indian music styles with contemporary classical and electronic concepts in his compositions and transformations with spatial sound to create immersive experiences through the use of sensors and 3D soundscapes. Since 2016 he focuses on gestural and algorithmic compositions in both his writings and research activities also contributing to a few media labs and artist collectives worldwide. The combination of aesthetic, technical and scientific aspects of this interdisciplinary approach have encountered a positive reception and his technical training in sound and computers is the basis for a fearless dealing with technology in general.

**PRODUCTION ASSISTANT – AKASH NARENDRAN**

Akash Narendran freelances with corporate facilitation, playback theatre, and singing lullabies (really!). He is passionate about social justice movements; and is a future filmmaker. He also studies Transactional Analysis in its application to psychotherapy.

**PRODUCER – VEENA APPIAH**

Veena Appiah is a theatre practitioner who has been heading productions for more than 20 yrs now. She is based in Bangalore and has worked in both English and Kannada language theatres. She is passionate about work that involves putting up a show and loves watching magic happen from the wings.