

CONTRIBUTORS' BIONOTES

Contributors

Ashutosh Apte Independent artist, writer, director, columnist, designer, teacher, and Editor of the Bombay Art Society's Journal. His book publications include [Aptyachi pane], and Ishwar-Nashwar. Has several art exhibitions to his credit and Installations across India and Abu Dhabi. Conceived and initiated socially relevant art public events. Designed and executed India's first sexuality and health information art gallery at a red-light area in Mumbai, Poetry Garden with the support of Saphale Grampanchayat and wall paintings at the Crematorium walls of Saphale spreading awareness regarding Body and Organ donation by city artists and school children (to name a few)

Aanand Chabukswar is an Applied Theatre Practitioner working in the field since 1993. He has been a part of the team at the WCCL Foundation that pioneered the Arts-Based Therapy (ABT) model in India. He has designed and teaches Applied Theatre at the Savitribai Phule Pune University. His earlier writings have appeared in Routledge publications Social Theatre and Dramatherapy, International Handbook of Dramatherapy and the International Journal of Psychosocial Rehabilitation. He is the founder of the Applied Theatre School (www.appliedtheatreschool.in). He continues to work within India and outside, teaching and facilitating theatre and its applications in self-development, education, and therapy.

Srajana Kaikini is presently an Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Krea University. Her works span across philosophy, writing, teaching and curatorial/artistic practice, reflected in her formal education in architecture, aesthetics, curation, philosophy alongside a continuing engagement with music, dance and design.

Nikhil Katara is from Mumbai, India. He started his journey in theatre with his own production titled *The Unveiling*. He has a degree in Philosophy from Mumbai University and has written for *One India One People Magazine*, *Free Press Journal*, and the journal *Sambhashan* on a regular basis. His articles and stories are a part of four anthologies. He teaches the Bachelors in Vocational Studies course, Theatre & Stagecraft at Wilson college. He is the Artistic Director of Readings in the Shed and has directed and co-written the play *The Bose Legacy*. He co-directed and acted in a film titled 'Between You & Me' which won a grant from the Asia Europe Foundation and was a part of the Steve Aronson Film Festival. He is also a part of the writer's room at Driving Home Films.

Chandrika Kumar is an Assistant Professor at Doon University, Dehradun. He studied German language, literature and philosophy at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi and obtained B.A. (Hons), M.A. and M.Phil. in German Studies from there. Currently he is pursuing his doctoral studies from the University of Mumbai. Martin Buber, Marshall Rosenberg and the languages of peace are his areas of research. He has published articles on literary and cultural studies as well as some literary translations. For advanced studies and research he has received fellowships from the University Grants Commission, New Delhi, the Weimar-Jena-Akademie, Weimar, The DAAD (German Academic Exchange Forum), the Alexander von Humboldt-Foundation and the Goethe Institute.

Biraj Mehta is an independent researcher and former faculty at Department of Philosophy, Wilson College. She has completed her post-doctoral research project on the topic "Maratha Nussbaum" *Cosmopolitanism: A Critique* from Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi and Department of Philosophy, University of Mumbai. Submitted "The Disabled Subaltern of India: A Foucauldian Perspective", UGC approved minor research project. Areas of interest include Greek Philosophy, Socio Political Philosophy, Disability Studies, Contemporary Western Philosophy (Continental philosophy), Aesthetics, Theories of Human Rights.

Kaiwan Mehta (PhD) is a theorist and critic in the fields of visual culture, architecture, and city studies. He is currently the Dean at Balwant Sheth School of Architecture, at SVKM's NMIMS University. He was the Managing Editor of *Domus India* for over a decade, and from July 2017 to March 2022, he was Professor and Programme Chair of the Doctoral Programme at the Faculty of Architecture, CEPT University,

Ahmedabad. Mehta writes on architecture and city issues and has curated many significant exhibitions, including co-curating, along with Rahul Mehrotra and Ranjit Hoskote, the Tata Trusts supported “State of Architecture” and “State of Housing” exhibitions in 2016 and 2018 respectively. He is also the author of books: “Alice in Bhuleshwar: Navigating a Mumbai Neighbourhood” and “The Architecture of I.M. Kadi” as well as curator of “The Architecture of Practice – Research, Reflections, and Reformulations – RMA Architects 1990–2020” He is currently working on other architecture biographies – the works of architects Sen Kapadia, as well as Jeetendra Mistry.

Xavier Menezes is an Assistant Professor at the Department of English, R.D. National College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Bandra, Mumbai- 400050. He is a graduate of Saint Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai, and has done his M.A. from the University of Mumbai. His fields of interest include the art produced by authors in marginal spaces and identities, the intersections of revolutionary ideas and literary genres, and the ways in which artists texture contemporaneity and experience into their chosen mediums. In addition to research, he has also written short stories and poetry.

Jivitesh Patil is a dedicated philosopher with a Ph.D. from the University of Mumbai, awarded in March 2023. With eight years of teaching experience, he served as an Assistant Professor at various esteemed institutions. Since last 5 years, he has been teaching in the Department of Philosophy, University of Mumbai. His expertise encompasses, Philosophy of Mind, Analytic Philosophy, Epistemology (Indian and Western), Consciousness (Indian and western), Indian Ethics, Shramana Tradition, Metaphysics, Empiricism, Yoga Epistemology, David Hume, J Krishnamurti, Wittgenstein. He has published 7 papers in renowned journals and presented papers at national and international conferences.

Ramu Ramanathan is a playwright and director. He has scripted plays such as Cotton 56, Polyester 84, Comrade Kumbhakarna and Mahadevbhai. Eight of his plays have been anthologised in the book 3, Sakina Manzil And Other Plays. He is also, the author of the poetry collection My Encounters with a Peacock and To Sit on a Stone and other Shorts and co-editor of Babri Masjid, 25 Years On...Ramanathan writes on theatre and culture in newspapers and periodicals. He has been associated with the printing industry for three decades as a journalist. He is the editor of Print Week and What Packaging? magazines.

Sanjay Ranade: After working for a decade in news and public relations with institutions like The Times of India and the Ministry of Power, Government of India, Sanjay Ranade was called upon to set up the Department of Communication and Journalism in the University of Mumbai in August 2003. Ranade has a Bachelor's degree in Commerce, a Masters in Counselling Psychology, a Masters in International Relations and Strategic Studies and a Doctorate in Politics. Ranade is a psychologist practicing in the Indian psychology tradition and Director, Anthroposophic Psychology and Research Association (APARA), India.

Pathik Roy teaches English at St. Joseph's College, Darjeeling, West Bengal, which also happens to be his alma mater. His research interests are Gender Studies, Postcolonial Theory, Film Studies and Culture Studies generally. He has many invited lectures to his credit and has extensively published in various literary/academic journals and contributed many chapters in various books that are associated with his area of interest. His doctoral thesis was on the American literary and cultural milieu in the post 9/11 years focussing specifically on the interface between trauma and the politics of commemoration. He has successfully completed two UGC sponsored Research projects one of which was on the representation of the Darjeeling culturescape in Bengali cinema from Satyajit Ray to Anjan Dutta while the other explored select folk literature of the Rabhas of North Bengal from an ecological and gender perspective.

Sneha Subhedar has been in the teaching field for around 15 years. She is currently working as an Assistant Professor, in the Department of Mass Media at K.C College. She also has a Masters in International Relations and Strategic Studies. She is currently pursuing her Masters in Hindu Studies. Her research focus is on the intersection of culture, community and power structures.