

VIKRAM IYENGAR

Arts Leader and Connector

AA17, Sector 1
Salt Lake
Calcutta 700064
India

Mobile: +91-9830468110
www.vikramiyengar.in
iyengar.vikram@gmail.com



Vikram Iyengar is an arts leader and connector based in Calcutta, India, and working internationally. He is a dancer-choreographer-director, curator-presenter, and arts researcher-writer. Co-founder and artistic director of Ranan Performance Collective, he also initiated and leads the Pickle Factory Dance Foundation – a hub for dance and movement practice and discourse. His scope of work spans practice, discourse, critique, ideation and management, and revolves around the central tenet of creating deep connections with and through the arts.

Date of Birth: 24 December 1975; Calcutta, India

Major Qualifications and Awards

Academics

July 2002 University of Wales, Aberystwyth, MA in Theatre and the World, Distinction
September 2000 INLAKS Scholarship, MA in Theatre and the World, University of Wales, Aberystwyth

Dance / Theatre

2015 Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar from Sangeet Natak Akademi, Government of India for the field of Contemporary Dance
2014 Grantee, Arts Practice programme of India Foundation for the Arts, Bangalore
2006 Best Director and Best Costume Design for *Crossings* at the Mahindra Excellence in Theatre Awards, Delhi. *Crossings* also won Best Supporting Actress and Best Music
2003-2005 National Junior Fellowship in the Performing Arts (Dance) from Sangeet Natak Akademi, Government of India to develop two dance and theatre projects
1995-1997 National Scholarship to Young Workers in Cultural Fields (Kathak), Department of Culture, Ministry of HRD, Government of India

Leadership and Advocacy

2017-2018 International Arts Leaders Programme of the Australia Council for the Arts
2017, 2019, 2020 Global Fellow, International Society for the Performing Arts, New York
2017 Kick Start: Creative Tracks, Visiting Arts delegation, Cardiff
2013-2014 ARThink South Asia Fellowship for Arts Management, Delhi
2009 An India Finalist for British Council's Young Performing Arts Entrepreneur Award
2006 Shortlist for British Council's Creative Future of India entrepreneurial award

Artistic Work and Career - highlights

Production work, residencies and performance collaborations in India and abroad

2020 (forthcoming) Performer in Preethi Athreya's *Bird*
2019 *Inter/Sections* – a collaboration with architect and actress Anubha Fatehpuria as part of Goethe Institut's *Five Million Incidents* programme
2019 *Egin* – a two-week international artist residency around the theme of climate change in Snowdonia, north Wales with National Theatre Wales
2018 *Kathak/Cynghanedd* – a research residency with poets Sampurna Chattarji (India) and Eurig Salisbury (Wales), with Literature Across Frontiers, Wales
2018 Artist-in-residence at St. George's Cathedral, Perth, Australia

VIKRAM IYENGAR

Arts Leader and Connector

AA17, Sector 1
Salt Lake
Calcutta 700064
India

Mobile: +91-9830468110
www.vikramiyengar.in
iyengar.vikram@gmail.com

-
- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 2018 | Choreographer and Performer for Adam Simmons' music concert <i>The Calling</i> with an ensemble of 16 musicians. Premiered in Melbourne, Australia. |
| 2017 | Performer in Preethi Athreya's <i>Conditions of Carriage</i> . Performances in India and UK |
| 2016 | <i>Imagining Improvisation</i> , a residency co-facilitated with German dancer, Anika Bendel |
| 2014 | Choreographer on Helena Waldmann's (Berlin, Germany) <i>Made in Bangladesh</i> . Six international tours in Europe and Asia. |
| 2014 | <i>Across, not Over</i> , a solo choreographed by Preethi Athreya. Performances in India, Austria, the UK, and South Africa. |
| 2014/2016 | Performer with David Rolland (France), Padmini Chettur and Preethi Athreya (India) for <i>L'Etranger au Paradis Indien</i> . Performances in India and France. |
| 2011 | <i>The Edge</i> project with Transport Theatre, UK under the British Council Connections Through Culture programme. Residencies and field visits in India and the UK. |
| 2004-2016 | Around ten major productions created for Ranan. Performances in India and abroad. |
| 2000-2003 | Various projects with Wales based director Richard Gough in England, Wales and Italy. |
| 2000-2002 | Various projects with Italian performance maker Firenza Guidi in Wales, Italy, India. |
| 2003 | Co-choreographer with Debashree Bhattacharya for the German film, <i>Shadows in Time</i> directed by Florian Gallenberger. |

Curation, Administration and Leadership Roles

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| Nov-Dec 2019 | Producer and Curator for Widening Circles: Pickle Factory Season 2: 42 days celebrating the diversity of dance and movement practice, with artists and guests from India and abroad |
| January 2019 | Member of selection panel for the Made in Scotland showcase, Edinburgh Fringe Festival, 2019 |
| Feb-March 2018 | Overall coordination and curation for Pickle Factory Season 1 – a five-week encounter with dance and movement work in Calcutta |
| January 2015 | Co-curator of 'Joining the Dots', the conference section of at the IGNITE Festival of Contemporary Indian Dance, Delhi (Gati Dance Forum, Delhi) |
| 2013-current | Founder and Director of the Pickle Factory Dance Foundation, Calcutta – a hub for the practice, discourse and presentation of dance and movement work |
| August 2013 | Co-curator of the dance related exhibition, <i>What Remains</i> in Calcutta (School of Media, Communication and Culture, Jadavpur University, Calcutta) |
| May-June 2009 | Coordinator for the International Choreography Seminar (Padatik, Calcutta) |
| 2004-current | Co-founder and Artistic Director of Ranan Performance Collective, Calcutta |
| 1997-2000 | Administration and choreography assistance to Smt. Rani Karnaa at her dance academy, Samskritiki Shreyaskar, Calcutta |
| 1992-1998 | Volunteer work for SPIC MACAY (Society for the Promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture Amongst Youth), Delhi, Chennai, Calcutta |

Workshops and Teaching

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| June-July 2017 | Guest Faculty for Choreographic Practice, Department of Performing Arts, Presidency University, Calcutta |
| 2006 till date | Various engagements with Jadavpur University, Calcutta including guest seminars, and faculty refresher courses. For the Departments of English, and Comparative Literature, and School of Media, Communication and Culture |
| February-May 2003 | Tutor at the Department of Theatre, Film and Television Studies, University of Wales, Aberystwyth teaching Asian and Intercultural Theatre at BA and MA levels |

VIKRAM IYENGAR

Arts Leader and Connector

AA17, Sector 1
Salt Lake
Calcutta 700064
India

Mobile: +91-9830468110
www.vikramiyengar.in
iyengar.vikram@gmail.com

A range of workshops conducted for dancers, actors, musicians, students and more for a range of organisations in India and abroad. Workshops include:

An Introduction to Kathak

An insight into the underlying techniques and concepts of Kathak touching on both pure dance and expressional aspects.

The Theory of Rasa

An introduction and practical analysis of this theory of aesthetics from the Natyasastra.

Intercultural Performance: Context, Fusion and Confusion

An interactive seminar-cum-demonstration-cum-workshop on the phenomenon of Intercultural Performance concentrating on voicing and discussing views about this genre, examining questions of mis/understanding, mis/representation, authenticity and socio-cultural politics.

The Invisible Pulse: Rhythm and Tempo / Syllables and Silence

Unravelling the intricate Tala (rhythm) system of Indian (Hindustani) classical music and dance.

Walking Tall

Workshops for dancers, actors and movement artists focussing on the body awareness, isolation work, and the relationship of body, space and movement connected by underlying rhythms.

Workshops conducted at Universities of Wales, Canterbury and Plymouth; Edge Hill College, Ormskirk; the Aberystwyth Arts Centre; Elemental Earth, Wales, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, London; the Centre for Performance Research, Aberystwyth; International Student Drama Festival, Sheffield; STRUT Dance, Perth; Western Australia Academy of Performing Arts, Perth; National Theatre Studio, London; The Work Room, Glasgow; Courtyard Dancers, Philadelphia; Ranan; the Ranan Workspace; Project Prometheus, Calcutta; the Centrestage Theatre Festival, Calcutta; Kolkata Youth Theatre Festival; The Creative Arts, Calcutta; Thespo India, Mumbai; Studio Safdar Delhi.

Research and Writing

2020	(forthcoming) contributing writer to Oxford Handbook on Indian Dance
July 2018	Contributing writer for <i>Write Art Connect</i> , online arts journal published by Serendipity Arts Foundation
July 2017	Contributor to the Marg arts journal special issue on Contemporary Dance in India, (Marg Foundation, Mumbai)
December 2013	Co-editor of the Purush festival blog (Arangham Trust, Chennai)
2009-2015	Co-editor of <i>e-Rang</i> , the online theatre journal of the India Theatre Forum
April 2010	Blog Editor and Coordinator for 'The Director's Forum' (Centre for Performance Research, Aberystwyth)
2008, 2006, 2004	Research and collation of material for exhibitions and yearbooks on theatre personalities Habib Tanvir, Prithviraj Kapoor, Satyadev Dubey (Prithvi Theatre, Mumbai)
2003	Researcher, Cultural Ballast project (Centre for Performance Research, Wales)
1998-2000	Assistant Editor, Seagull Theatre Quarterly, Calcutta

Writings and translations from Bengali to English, and paper presentations in various dance and academic conferences around the world. Articles have appeared in *Jadavpur Journal of Comparative Literature*, *Dance Matters*, *Hindustan Times*, *Tehelka*, *The Little Magazine* to name a few.

Relevant Links

www.vikramiyengar.in
www.picklefactory.in