**Sachin Shanker Mannath Balashanker**

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**CAREER GOALS**

To be a global ambassador of music through research, collaboration, teaching and performance

**EDUCATION**

* **MA Music Education** from Kingston University, London (2013-14)

*Thesis: Indian Music Pedagogy in the UK: Approaches and Possibilities*

* **BA Music Honors (Vocal Performance)** from Middlesex University, London (2013)
* **Diploma in Western music** from KM Music Conservatory, Chennai, India (2012)
* **Foundation Certificate in Western Music** from KM Music Conservatory, Chennai, India (2010)
* **Bachelors in Electronics and Communication Engineering**, Kerala University, India (2009)

**HONOURS, AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS**

* **The AR Rahman Scholarship**, Middlesex University, 2012
* **LPR Varma memorial award** for Carnatic music, 2004
* **CCRT Cultural Talent Search scholarship** for Carnatic music from Ministry of Culture India, 1999-2007
* **Winner** - Kerala State School Youth Festival for Carnatic vocals, 2002
* **Winner** - Kerala University Youth Festival for Carnatic vocals, 2006
* **Winner** - South Zone Inter-University Youth Festival, Thirupathi for Carnatic vocals in the year 2007.

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

**Teaching/Music Education**

* **Faculty in Voice (Western Classical)** KM Music Conservatory, Chennai, India (February 2015- May 2019) – affiliated to Middlesex University, London, UK
* Taught Weekly individual lessons to Vocal Students – Diploma Level Students
* Module Leader for Music Education, Diploma 2nd Year
* Developed personalized repertoire to meet individual students’ goals
* Organized annual Studio Recitals
* Conductor Choir for Annual Day Functions
* Conducted and Directed various ensembles including a musical ‘Nalacharitham’
* Conducted and Directed All World Choir focusing on World Music
* **Music Coordinator** at Kids Central International School, Chennai from (June 2015- present)
* Created and Implemented Music Curriculum for Grades 1-8
* Interviewed Music Teachers
* Weekly Class Observations and Feedback
* Teacher Training sessions for IGCSE Curriculum
* Designed and setup music room and library
* **Assistant to Chief Program Designer for Music (ACPD),** Teaching For Artistic Innovation, Sublime Galleria, Bangalore from July 2016- July 2017
* Designed Lesson Plans for Grades 1-10
* Created Frameworks for Assessments
* Led Teacher Training Workshops
* **Guest Speaker** at Kingston University (London) for Music Education PG students on the topic of “Understanding Unfamiliar Musics”, November 2014
* **LEAP in India –** Trainer (2017- Present)
* Music Lessons at Bala Vidya Mandir School, Adyar, Chennai
* Workshops at Sprouts School, Chennai
* Soloist for concerts featuring Leap Choir
* **Vocal Coach India –** Founder, Trainer (2018- Present)

- Conducting Vocal Workshops across India

* **Indian classical music lessons** (Carnatic and Hindustani music) for students of age group 5yrs – 50yrs at Milton Keynes, United Kingdom from March 2013- December 2014
* **Visiting Faculty on Music Technology and Composition** at Sound Engineering Academy, Trivandrum, India from July 2010- July 2012

**Western Classical Solo Performances**

* Franz Schubert’s *Ganymed* for **Ein Abend mit Gesang**at Burgh House, Hampstead, April 2013
* *En Ferment Les yeaux* from the opera Manon, for the concert **Mostly Mozart** at Middlesex university, March 2013
* Handel’s *Ombra Mai fu* in **Pasticcio Madras**, a musical, 2012
* Schumann’s *Dichterliebe* at **Ability foundation concert**, Chennai, 2011

**Chamber Ensembles**

* Member of **KMMC Chamber choir** that performed at Nikolaisaal hall, Germany and toured all over India with Academy award winner A R Rahman, German Film Orchestra Babelsberg and Potsdam choir, August 2012
* Member of **Singers Ensemble**, Middlesex University (2012-2013)

**Selected Concert Performances**

* India Day Concert – University of Southampton, UK, March 2019
* Kala Ghoda Festival, Mumbai, January 2019
* Amir Mahal, Chennai, July 2018
* IIT Madras, Chennai, July, 2018
* Dakshin Chitra, Chennai, February, 2018
* Ghazal Concert, Aurodhan, Pondicherry, 2017
* Concert, Alliance Franciase, Pondicherry, 2017
* Ghazal Concert, ICCR Kolkata, India, June 2015
* Founder and lead singer of **Niche the Band (**Fusion genre), which toured several cities in India, 2011 - 2012.
  + *Prayaag - Dancing beyond Limits, Kerala*, 2012
  + *Hemu Gadhwi Hall, Gujarat,* 2012
  + *Smith and Jones Music ka Tadka,Mumbai,* 2011
  + *Museum Theatre Chennai,* 2011
* Ghazal Concert sponsored by Sound engineering Academy, at Trivandrum, India, May 2011
* Lead vocalist of **KM Sufi Ensemble** founded by Dr. A R Rahman, performed at
  + *Party hosted by Parmeshwar Godrej for Oprah Winfrey, Mumbai,* 2012
  + *Infosys Awards, Bangalore,* 2011
  + *Mirchi Music Awards, Chennai,* 2011
* Carnatic song for the tele-serial *ThyagarajaSwamikal* aired in Doordarshan, 2000

**Composer for Film and TV**

**Feature Films**

* Roudram (2018) – Original Score, Malayalam Film Directed by Jayaraj
* Kamsa (2018) – Original Score, Theme Song – British Film
* Lake of Fire (2017) – **Original Score (Shorlisted for Academy Awards)** – Hollywood Film
* Swayam (2017) – Original Score, Songs – Indo-German Production
* Unarvu (2016) – Original Score, Songs – Children’s Feature Film – Track ‘Unaru’ was featured as the Track of the Week in BBC Asian Network (April 2016)

**Documentaries**

* Kadamman (2018) – Directed by Jayaraj – For Govt. of Kerala
* Rebirth (2017) – Film on Autism – Directed by Jayaraj – **special mention at National Film Awards**
* Our Story (2014) – Funded by Heritage Lottery Fund, UK

**Independent Artist/Singer**

* Debut Studio Album – **Ghats of Gondwana** (World Music), 2019

*Composed, Arranged and Performed all the 7 tracks in the album*

* Global Ghazal Project (2017- Present) – Reinventing the Ghazal Genre in music
* Bhajane Matrave (2017) – Jain Song – Performed by 200 singers in Karnataka
* Kanthi Theme song (2015) – Premiered at Archbishop Lanfranc Academy, Croydon, UK
* Tribute to Swathi (2013) – Released by Qyuki (founded by Shekhar Kapur and AR Rahman)
* Released first Solo Album *Bhasmatheertham*, 1999

Related Experiences

* Interview with Ashanti Omkar, BBC Asian Network, 2019
* Performed at BBC London studio for **BBC Hindi Network,** 2012
* Composed and arranged the theme song for **International Federation of Indian Dance (IFID)** based in Moscow, 2011
* **Playback Singer** of song *Melayay Megham* from the feature film *Ashwaroodan*, 2006
* Graded Light music artiste at **All India Radio** (AIR)
* Title song for **UNICEF** Educational Documentary *Minimum levels of learning,* 1993

**SKILLS**

* *Computer* – Apple certified Logic Pro, Finale, Sibelius, Proficient in Microsoft Office suite
* *Language* – Fluent in English, Hindi, Tamil and Malayalam

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

* **Head Volunteer**, International Conference on Optoelectronics, Information and Communication Technologies (ICOICT) in Thiruvananthapuram, 2009
* **Executive Member**, Alumni Association, SCT College of Engineering, Trivandrum
* **Convener**, NIRVAAN'09 inter-collegiate fest with the participation of more than 150 engineering colleges, 2009
* **Founding member** of Arts Club in SCT College of Engineering, 2008