

KANIKA PARWAL

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EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE | *MPhil in Education (Arts, Creativity and Education)* 2022-2023

- **Secured a Distinction with Note and was awarded the College Master's Prize by Homerton College for my thesis** 'The knot that's (k)not- An onto-epistemological study of moving through an entangled world'. In a posthumanist study of movement and visual arts practices entailing knots, the research challenged the assumption of knots being static nodes towards instead entailing movement, furthering the study of new materialism as an evolving pedagogical process.
- **Awarded the Postgraduate Research and Training Grant 2023** by Homerton College supporting my graduate field work studying the development and facilitation of a dance residency at Sadler's Wells.

ASHOKA UNIVERSITY | *PG Diploma in Liberal Studies (Young India Fellowship)* 2017-18

- **Secured 3.55/4 CGPA; Awarded the Rosy Blue Foundation Scholarship**
- Relevant coursework: Art Appreciation; Whose Heritage Is It; Women, Society and Changing India; Designing Innovation; Foundations & Heart of Leadership; Advanced Group Dynamics; Critical Writing

UNIVERSITY OF DELHI | *Bachelor of Commerce (with Honors)* 2014-2017

- Secured First Division; Project Head of Enactus- Social Entrepreneurship society.

WORK EXPERIENCE

2024 AERI SYMPOSIUM, UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE | *Research Assistant* July'24-Ongoing

- Curating the programme for the upcoming 2024 AERI symposium hosting 100+ leading global scholars in the field of art education, entailing research paper presentations, panel discussions and book chats.
- Liaising with the presenters, vendors, Steering Committee members and volunteers for managing logistics such as registration, fee, food, accommodation, IT requirements, website information etc.

BLUEBRIDGE EDUCATION SUMMER PROGRAMS | *Teaching Assistant* (July- Aug) 2024 & 2023

- Facilitating sessions on cultural studies, language, global leadership, entrepreneurship, critical thinking and innovation for international high school and university students at the University of Cambridge.

INDIA ART FAIR'24 | *VIP Collectors Program, Program Assistant* Jan- Feb'24

- Led a team of 15 volunteers to curate and manage exclusive viewings, gallery walk-throughs, auctions and other networking events for senior national and international patrons at the 15th IAF edition.

SLAM OUT LOUD | *Curriculum Advisor; (prev.) Arts Facilitator* Sep'21- July'23

- **Reviewed visual and performing arts modules** across themes of gender, identity, climate change, social responsibility etc. through a social-emotional learning enhancement framework, as **part of monthly advisory committee meetings** with leading educators and researchers across the world.
- **Facilitated weekly workshops on arts-based activities for 30 children**, aged 10-15 years from low-income communities in Pune, Maharashtra, via community video calls and radio sessions for 1 year.

9.9 EDUCATION | *Associate* June '19 – July'20

- Led the programming, admissions, and marketing for the founding years of the LSEF-UMass Scholarship, offering dual master's degrees at **JK Lakshmipat University, Jaipur, India and UMass, Amherst, USA.**

- **Administered applications and interviews of 200+ applicants**, program scheduling, domestic and international faculty visits, and student affairs in offline and online mode post Covid-19.

SERENDIPITY ARTS FOUNDATION | *Junior Editor*

Aug '18 – Feb '19

- **Developed print, digital and radio content** like guidebooks, advertisements, website & social media campaigns, enhancing reach from **7K to 20K+ followers on Instagram and 50K+ page likes on Facebook** for South Asia's largest multidisciplinary arts festival, Serendipity Arts Festival 2018.
- **Created concept notes for 90+ projects** engaging 1500+ artists from across the globe in performance, visual and culinary arts for the 8-day festival in Goa, with a footfall of 400,000+ visitors.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

NAUGHTY (K)NOTS | *Workshop & Artist Collective*

April 2024- Ongoing

- **Facilitating workshops and interactive reading sessions on my arts-based pedagogy of (k)nots** exploring the theme of entanglement and relationality amidst humans and non-humans and the power structures that control and restrict them. Previous workshops: Possibilities Studies Conference'24, University of Cambridge; 'Into Rehearsal' Oxbridge Group; Foundation for Indian Contemporary Art.
- **Developing an Artists Collective of practioners across disciplines** of movement, fibre-art, sound, design and ecology in New Delhi, India, to **create a fluid space for sharing, enhancing and co-creating our practices and pedagogy** under the theme of entanglement and multispecies storytelling.

CAMBRIDGE VR/AR SOCIETY | *Member*

Jan'23 – Jun'23

- **Designed a jigsaw puzzle experiment** on the platform Unity to study the nature of movement in educational gaming simulations. Unlike a standard puzzle, the experiment eliminated any pre-determined goal and restrictions on movement and spawning of pieces, to explore **what free movement thinking can trigger towards a critical analysis of puzzling problems**.

DECOLONISE CAMBRIDGE MUSEUMS | *Fitzwilliam Museum Representative*

Jan'23 – Jun'23

- **Launched a Spotify podcast** exploring and moving through some of the permanent exhibitions in the Asian galleries of the Fitzwilliam Museum, examining the works with a decolonial lens.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY SOUTH ASIAN ARTS SOCIETY | *Participatory Performance*

Nov'22

- **Developed a participatory performance as research** on the Bollywood song *Kinaare*. Using the theme of a shore as a metaphor, it explored and challenged the liminal space between an artist and the spectators as seated in an intimate space, studying the transitional subjectivities of the roles.

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE VOLUNTEERS 2018 | *Delegate*

July-Aug'18

- **Participated in a 3-week residential study on heritage preservation** of the World Heritage Monument Champaner-Pavagadh Archaeological Park in Vadodara, Gujarat, India.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING MODULE, ASHOKA UNIVERSITY | *Book Research Assistant* Sep '17 – June '18

- Assisted in **designing arts-based activities for the book- *A Trickster's Guide to Happy Living* by Simran Bhui (Rupa Publications)**, focused on building children's creativity and critical thinking abilities.
- **Piloted the activities with 300+ students** across low-income government schools and set up open mic events and interactive art pop-ups across 8 university campuses in Delhi for survey and research.

REFERENCES

DR. TYLER DENMEAD

Associate Professor, University of Cambridge
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DR. ELEANOR DARE

Senior Teaching Associate, University of Cambridge
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