

Brief CV

Vidyanidhee Vanarase, (also known as Prasad), completed his post graduation from the National School of Drama (NSD), New Delhi. He has been involved in theatre activity since his childhood. He has designed and directed more than 50 plays in various languages.

He has worked in Marathi, Hindi, Konkani, Kannada, Brad-Bundeli, English and Gibberish languages. He has translated and adapted plays in Marathi. He has gained proficiency in three interrelated areas – Design and Direction, Administration and Management of arts and Applied Arts. His versatility has enabled him to work with amateurs, students as well as seasoned professionals.

He is associated with several theatre organisations of international repute for the last twenty years. He has travelled extensively in Europe, Asia and the Middle East for performing, teaching and curating.

His plays have been performed in various parts of the country in regional and national theatre festivals. His plays have extensively travelled internationally as well. He has performed in Contacting The World 2006, in Manchester, UK, LIFT 2008, London, UK, Colombo International Theatre Festival 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 in Colombo, Sri Lanka, World Festival of Theatre Schools 2012 hosted by UNESCO Chair – ITI in Bucharest, Romania and several other festivals in Poland, Romania, Spain, etc to name a few.

He has been involved in theatre training for the past 30 years and has worked as visiting faculty / guest director at several universities and theatre institutes in India and abroad. He also serves as a member on several Boards of Studies of universities in India.

Since 2005, he was involved in developing a new university, FLAME University, where he initially worked as an Associate Dean for the FLAME School of Liberal Education, the first liberal education programme in India. Later, FLAME decided to initiate a School of Performing Arts and he took the responsibility of setting up the new school, which included everything from planning to execution. He worked as Dean of the school during the formative years.

He has won several awards including Award for the Best Director on Experimental Stage by Natya Darpan, Mumbai and Best Director Award by Kala Gaurav Pratishthan, Pune at a very early stage of his career. He is a recipient of Charles Wallace India Trust Arts Award for Professional Visits to London International Festival of Theatre, UK. He has received the Bal Gandharva Puraskaar - Bahu Aayami Rangakarmee given by the Pune Municipal Corporation. Recently he was awarded with the prestigious “Tanveer Natyadharmee Award” for his contribution to Indian Theatre.

He is a Founder Director of International Association for Performing Arts and Research (IAPAR). IAPAR is the only Indian Founding Member Institution of ITI/UNESCO-UNITWIN Network for Higher Education in Performing Arts. He is the Secretary of the Indian National Centre of International Theatre Institute – UNESCO. He is the Festival Director of IAPAR International Theatre Festival, Pune, India since 2016. He also works as the Executive Council Member of International Theatre Institute (ITI - UNESCO).