

CURRICULUM VITAE

MARLON AMARESH ARIYASINGHE

marlona@stanford.eduWeb: www.marlonariyasinghe.com**EDUCATION**

Ph.D. Candidate, Theatre and Performance Studies, Stanford University. [PhD Minors in Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity and Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies].	2023-2028
MA in English Language and Literature, University of Geneva.	2016
BA (HONS.) in English, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.	2010

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS**Editorial projects**

Liyanage, Saumya, Honcharova, Lyudmyla, Ariyasinghe, Marlon (eds). “Lamp in a Windless Place: Developing an Actor Training Methodology through Sri Lankan Combative Art Angampora.” <i>Mise en Abyme</i> , VIII, Issue 2, (July-December 2021).	2021
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Articles/Paper publications

“Performing things: Specto-ontology in Sri Lankan Kōlam.” <i>Performance Research</i> 31 (1).	Accepted
“Fugitive Sites: Tamil Memorialization in Post-War Sri Lanka.” <i>Journal of Visual and Performing Arts</i> 4 (1), UVPA 20 th Anniversary Edition.	2025
"Kalu Skin, Kalu Masks: Performing Blackness in Simon Nawagattegama's <i>Sudu Saha Kalu</i> (1979)." <i>Journal of Dramatic Theory and Criticism</i> 37, no. 2 (2023): 11-26.	2023
“Can We Know the Dancer from the Dance? Embodied Metaphors in Angampora.” <i>Mise en Abyme</i> , VIII, Issue 2, (July-December 2021).	2021
“The Migrant Writer as Historian: A Glissantian Reading of the Construction of Sri Lankan History in <i>Running in the Family</i> , <i>When Memory Dies</i> and <i>Cinnamon Gardens</i> . ” <i>Phoenix: Sri Lanka Journal of English in the Commonwealth</i> , XIII-XIV (2016/17), 72-82.	2016
Ariyasinghe, Marlon. “Expatriate depictions of the village in <i>Estuary</i> and <i>The Lament of the Dhobi Woman</i> .” <i>Phoenix: Sri Lanka Journal of English in the Commonwealth</i> , 10-11 (2013), 89-96.	2013

Reviews

Ariyasinghe, Marlon. “Transoceanic Blackface: Empire, Race, Performance. By Kellen Hoxworth. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2024. Pp. 280 + 20 Illus. \$100 Hb; \$36 Pb.” <i>Theatre Research International</i> 50, no. 1 (2025): 94–95. https://doi.org/10.1017/S0307883324000427 .	2025
Ariyasinghe, Marlon. “Chinaman” in <i>The Literary Encyclopedia: Sri Lankan Writing</i>	2019

and Culture, 10.3.4 Ed. by Birte Heidemann (September 2019).
<https://www.litencyc.com/php/sworks.php?rec=true&UID=38944>

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

José Esteban Muñoz First-Time Presentation Award, American Society for Theater Research (ASTR) - (\$800).	2025
SPICE grant for <i>South-South Assemblages</i> Working Group (\$1000)	2025
Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies PhD Student Summer 2025 Research Grant (\$1000)	2025
University of Calgary Artistic Research Award: “Honourable Mention” Workshop “Angam Mechanics: Developing a performer’s bodymind through embodied repertoire” at Performance Studies International, London, 2024.	2024
RAISE: Research, Action, and Impact through Strategic Engagement Doctoral Fellowship (\$9,000 project funding, 3 quarters of Tuition support, and stipend)	2024
Arts + Justice Student Grant, The Stanford Arts Institute (SAI). (\$650)	2024
EDGE: Enhancing Diversity in Graduate Education Doctoral Fellow, Stanford University. (\$12,800)	2023
5-year Doctoral Fellowship, Theatre and Performance Studies, Stanford University.	2023
Globus Cohort Fellow at the 9th World Summit on Arts and Culture, Stockholm, Sweden. (\$5000)	2023
Jackman Junior Fellowship, University of Toronto (\$15000, Declined)	2023

INVITED LECTURES/TALKS (Selected)

Hues of Rajasinha: Colourism, Casteism & Nationalisms in Sri Lankan Puppetry Collective for Historical Dialogue & Memory, Colombo, Sri Lanka. 23 July.	2025
Hues of Rajasinha: Colourism, Casteism & Nationalisms in Sri Lankan Puppetry University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. 2 September.	2025
Hues of Rajasinha: Colourism, Casteism & Nationalisms in Sri Lankan Puppetry University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka. 4 September.	2025
Speaker at “Artistic Freedom in an Era of Rising Nationalism,” 9th World Summit on Arts and Culture, Stockholm, Sweden. 5 May.	2023

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Hues of Rajasinha: Colourism, Casteism & Nationalisms in Sri Lankan Puppetry.” Global Asian Performance and Alternative Modes of Generation Working Session. ASTR Conference. Denver, CO, 8 November.	2025
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“Performative Things: Gendered Violence and Revenant Resistance in Sri Lankan Kōlam.” FGSS Decolonizing Gender & Sexuality Conference. Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Stanford University, 1 May 2025.	2025
“Racialized Other in Sri Lankan Rukada Natya: Race, Caste, and National Identity.” Poster presentation. RITM Race, Social Justice, and Democracy Plenary. Afro-American Cultural Center, Yale University, 25–26 October, 2024.	2024
“Performing Counter Memory: Theatre as a Communal Space for Memorialization.” 53rd Annual Conference on South Asia. University of Wisconsin–Madison, 22–25 October, 2024.	2024
“Trysts with the supernatural: (re)performing Sri Lankan Kolam.” Assemble. 29th Performance Studies International Conference. University of London, 20-23 June, 2024.	2024
“Migrant Writer-Historian: A Glissantian reading of the construction of Sri Lankan History in <i>Running in the Family</i> , <i>When Memory Dies</i> and <i>Cinnamon Gardens</i> .” A Translocal World? Exploring the Postcolonial Today. 8 th SLACLALS conference. Kandy, October 2016.	2016
“The Vicious Cycle of Moral Hazard in Kate Jennings’s <i>Moral Hazard</i> and William Shakespeare’s <i>The Merchant of Venice</i> .” Economies of English. SAUTE 2015. University of Geneva, April 2015. https://www.unige.ch/saute2015 .	2015
“Expatriate depictions of the village in <i>Estuary</i> and <i>The Lament of the Dhobi Woman</i> .” The Postcolonial in Transition. 7th SLACLALS conference, Sri Lanka Foundation Institute, Colombo, June 2013.	2013

TEACHING AND PEDAGOGY

FNA 3041: Sri Lankan Theatre (Co-instructor) University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.	Fall 2025
Graduate Writing Tutor, Hume Center for Writing and Speaking, Stanford University.	2024 to present
Instructor of English, English Language Teaching Unit Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka.	2010-2011

Theater Workshops Conducted (selected)

<i>Angam Mechanics: Developing the Performer’s Bodymind through Embodied Repertoire.</i> Martial arts and performance workshops were conducted across multiple institutions, conferences, and festivals:	2023-2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka. 4 September University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka 2 September Mid-America Theatre Conference (MATC), Atlanta, USA 6–8 March Performance Studies International (PSi), University of London, 20-23 June University of Visual and Performing Arts, Sri Lanka. 15 February and 30 August Academic Thespians Theatre Festival, Colombo, Sri Lanka. 23 July 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2025 2025 2025 2024 2023 2023

- Freedom Gallery, Pannala, Sri Lanka. 28–29 April 2023

SERVICE

Conferences Organized

Organizing Committee: FGSS Decolonizing Gender & Sexuality Conference. 2025
Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Stanford University, 1 May 2025.

Secretary of the Sri Lanka Association of Commonwealth Language and Literature (SLACLALS). 2010-2023
The following international conferences were organized during my tenure:

- ‘Post-colonial or Postmodern?’ 19-20 October. 2010
- ‘The 21st Century Post-colonial’ 5-7 August. 2011
- ‘The Postcolonial in Transition’ 28-30 June. 2013
- ‘A Translocal World? Exploring the 29-30 October. 2016
- ‘Continuing Postcolonialism’ 21-22 July. 2023

Co-organizer, *SLAM 2010: A literary conference*, 27-28 November. 2010

Other

Graduate Secretary, Theatre and Performance Studies, Stanford University. 2025-2026

Graduate Mentor, Enhancing Diversity in Graduate Education, Stanford University. 2025-2026

Professional Development Coordinator, TAPS, Stanford University. 2024-2025

South Asia Working Group Fellow at the Center for South Asia, Stanford University. 2023-2024

LITERARY PUBLICATIONS

Ariyasinghe, Marlon. *Froteztology*. Sri Serendipity Publishing House. Galle, 2011.

Dinesh Kumara, Kasun. *Under The Aborted Sky*. Trans. Marlon Ariyasinghe. 2012.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Senior Assistant Editor, Himal Southasian Magazine 2021-2023

Team Member/Editor AHEAD DOR HEMS 73: 2021-2023
“*Lamp in a windless place: Developing an Actor Training Methodology through Sri Lankan Combative Art Forms*,” University of the Visual and Performing Arts, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Senior Writer, Smart Media (Pvt) Ltd. 2016-2021
Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Director/Workshop Coordinator, Emmet Theatre Company, Switzerland. 2014-2016
<https://unige.ch/dife/culture/>

Assistant Metteur en Scène, Théâtrechamp. 2014-2016
Thônex, Switzerland.

Teacher of English Literature/Drama, Gateway College Kandy, Sri Lanka. 2011-2013

PERFORMANCE AND DIRECTORIAL HISTORY [Click here to access the artistic portfolio.](#)

DIRECTING CREDITS

The Last Noel by John Herbert. 2025
Mid-America Theater Conference (MATC), Atlanta. March 6–8, 2025.

Exorcism written and directed by Marlon Ariyasinghe. Nitory Theater, 2025
Stanford University. February 13-15. [Watch trailer here.](#)

Twelfth Night, Sri Lanka. 2019

Awards:

Winner: All-island Ashley Halpe Memorial Shakespeare Drama Festival 2019.
Best Actor, Best Actress and Best Supporting Actress.

Assistant Director: *Et si c'était moi?*, directed by Anouchka Sommaruga. 2016
Produced by Théâtrechamp, Geneva, January-February 2016.

The Clean House, Sarah Ruhl. 2015
Produced by Emmet Theatre Company, Geneva, December 2015.
[Watch trailer here.](#)

Assistant Director: *Ça me saoule!* and *Melting Pot* 2015
Directed by Anouchka Sommaruga, produced by Théâtrechamp, Geneva.

Antigonick by Anne Carson 2014-2015
Produced by Emmet Theatre Company, Geneva.

Other Performances:

October 2014: "Version Originale," La Fête du Théâtre.

May 2015: Festival d'Ateliers-Théâtre at Théâtre, La Comédie, Geneva.

Rizana, performed by the Lionel Theatre troupe. 2013

A Winters' Tale in Theatre Fest 2012 all-island drama competition 2012
organized by the University of Canberra and Edexcel in association with
Trinity College London.

Awards: Runners Up (all-island)

Best Actor, Best Actress, and Best Supporting Actress.

A Winters' Tale in the All-Island Inter-School Shakespeare Drama Competition 2011
organized by the Colombo YMCA and the Rotary Club of Colombo.

Awards: 3rd Runners Up (all-island).

Antony and Cleopatra in the All-Island Inter-School Shakespeare 2008
Drama Competition (Colombo YMCA and the Rotary Club of Colombo).

ACTING CREDITS

Samsāra: Ritual Performance art 2025
Stanford University

<i>The Gift of the Maggies</i> by Franky Gonzales Mid-America Theater Conference (MATC), Atlanta. March 6–8, 2025.	2025
‘Old Man’, <i>Strangers In The Night</i> , directed by Tracy Holsinger. Produced by Mind Adventures theatre company, Colombo, Sri Lanka.	2022-2023
‘The Boss’ <i>The Apartment</i> (2021). A short film directed by Sahan Fernando.	2021
Awards: Jury Award for Best Film (11th Agenda14 Film Festival) Most Outstanding Performance (Bandhuka Premawardhana) Special Jury Mention for Editing Independent Shorts Awards - Best Drama Short, Bronze award (March 2022)	
<u>Benedick</u> in <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> , directed by Ben Crystal. Produced by the <u>Geneva English Drama Society</u> .	2014
Actor in <i>Emerson in the Wild</i> , directed by Nicholas Weeks. Produced by Emmet Theatre Company, Geneva.	2014
<u>Leontes</u> in <i>A Winters’ Tale</i> . Produced by Emmet Theatre Company, Geneva.	2013-2014
Colonizer 1 in <i>The Commode</i> by Dhanuka Bandara.	2011-2012

OTHER SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

Photo and Video Journalism:

Extensive coverage and analysis from the ground of the Sri Lanka protests in 2022. Appearances in DW, BBC World, BBC World Radio, WION (India), National Public Radio (US), NTD News (Canada), CTV (Toronto), Arirang Global Insight (South Korea), Salaamedia (South Africa), Asharq News (Middle East), W Radio (Colombia) and many other TV and Radio channels across the world as well as providing footage and visual material for Reuters and many other news outlets.

Selected Work and Appearances:

- “Despite Wickremesinghe’s Arrest, Sri Lanka’s Politics Is Stuck in Its Old Loop” *Himal Southasian*, August 26, 2025.
- “The Man Who Would Oust a Dynasty.” *Journal of Democracy*, September 2024.
- “Sri Lanka Enters a Presidential Election Like No Other Before It.” *Himal Southasian*, September 17, 2024.
- “Notes on the Sri Lankan Struggle.” *Himal Southasian*, August 9, 2022.
- Shapiro, Ari, Ashish Valentine, and Justine Kenin. “Witnessing Sri Lanka’s Protests Firsthand.” *NPR*, July 12, 2022.
- DW News. “How Sri Lanka Plans to Overcome Its Economic Crisis.” *YouTube Video*, 6 July 2022.

Language proficiency:

Writing, speaking reading proficiency in English, Sinhala, and French.

Completed **Stage One** of American, British, and Sinhala Sign languages. 2022

Diplôme de Langue Française, Niveau B2 du Conseil de L'Europe.	2008
Diplôme D'Études en Langue Française (DELF) B2. Ministère De L'Éducation Nationale, France.	2008

** References available upon request.*