

Shreshth Khilani

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Education

Headlong Performance Institute — Currently enrolled in the Class of 2017

University of Pennsylvania — Bachelor of Science in Engineering (Computer Science), Philadelphia, May 2016

Noteworthy Shows

Documentation Intern — Katkatha Puppet Theatre's *Mahabharata*, New Delhi, August 2016

Documented the development process of a show for a contemporary puppet theatre group in India by taking photographs of various stages of the process and writing a blog about the show. Shadowed the devising and rehearsing process leading up to the show's premiere in Bangalore.

Director — *Red* by John Logan, Philadelphia, April 2016

Directed an intimate two-man show with the experimental theatre group at the University of Pennsylvania. Mark Rothko and his assistant work on the Seagram Murals in the show and so the production takes place in an actual workshop.

Scenic Designer — *The Who & The What* by Ayad Akhtar, Philadelphia, Spring 2015

Designed and built a multi-level, multi-location set that used Islamic Art and Architecture to draw a contrast between characters of the play.

Scenic Designer — *Tara* by Mahesh Dattani, Philadelphia, Fall 2014

Designed and built a three-level set that served as a playground for the thoughts of the lead character.

Scenic Design and Stage Manager — *Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo* by Rajiv Joseph, Philadelphia, Spring 2014

Served as stage manager while simultaneously taking time out to design and build another multi-level set. A concrete wasteland of 2003 Baghdad with a spiritual heart that was the stage.

Director and Technical Director — *Taramandal* by Neel Chaudhuri, Philadelphia, Fall 2013

Directed and oversaw tech for a very different production of *Taramandal* with a fresh cast and crew.

Co-Director, Co-Producer, and Scenic Designer — *Taramandal* by Neel Chaudhuri, Kolkata, Summer 2013

Produced under the banner of Paper Faces and co-directed a musical production of Neel Chaudhuri's play about failed hopes and dreams.

Co-Director, Co-Producer, and Scenic Designer — *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*, Kolkata, Summer 2012

Produced under the banner of Paper Faces and directed along with Aditya Krishnan and Sujoy Chakravarthi, a Broadway musical from the 70s about the revenge a barber seeks from the judge who wronged him and his family.

Stage Manager — *The Phantom of the Opera*, Kolkata, Spring 2011

Produced by La Martiniere Schools and directed by Katy Lai Roy. Managed the props, costumes, sets, and orchestrated the massive scene changes.

Noteworthy Courses

Advanced Scenic Design and Drafting (Independent Study with Professor Peter Whinnery) — University of Pennsylvania, Spring 2016

Concepts of Lighting Design — University of Pennsylvania, Fall 2014

Concepts of Scenic Design — University of Pennsylvania, Spring 2013

Leadership in Theatre

Chair, PenNaatak Theatre, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, 2014 – 2015 and 2015 – 2016 seasons

Served as chair for what used to be Penn's South Asian theatre group (now a global contemporary theatre group). Worked towards opening it up and making it accessible to students across campus while improving the quality of shows.

Board Member, One Acts Festival, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, 2014 and 2015

Co-founder, Paper Faces Theatre, Kolkata, 2011

Founded a theatre group during a year off between high school and college. Put up two major shows: one in 2012 and the other in 2013.