

VARUNKISHORE

musician + composer + producer

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EDUCATION

- 2026** [expected] PhD in Composition & Computer Technologies
University of Virginia
- 2019** Master of Music (MMus) in Creative Practice (Distinction)
Thesis: Drone Music, Fiction, and Composition as Apocalypse
Adviser: Dr Lisa Busby
Goldsmiths, University of London
- 2012** Bachelor of Music (BMus) in Popular Music Performance (Hons)
University of West London
- 2008** OCN Diploma in Contemporary Music Performance
'Best Overall Student' award winner
Tech Music Schools, London

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Digital instrument design and performance, experimental composition, process, improvisation, alternative/graphic notation, fiction, video

COMPOSITION / PERFORMANCE (selected)

- 2023** *this used to be something else (II)* | saxophone, percussion, electronics
performed by **Popebama**
February 2023
Charlottesville, USA
- untitled* | guitar, electronics, multichannel
performed at **Technosonics Festival** (University of Virginia)
February 2023
Charlottesville, USA
- 2022** *peculiar convergence chamber* | Zoom, tuba, saxophone, piano
performed by **Tokyo Gen'On Project**
April 2022
December 2022
performed in-person at **Digitalis** (University of Virginia) | harp, saxophone, cello
May 2022
Zoom
Charlottesville, USA
- 2021** *E[MYR]GENCE.200* | drone, ambisonics, analog synthesis, plate tectonics, climate
Dronetics (live) | drone, electronic, improvisation, text scores
performed at **Technosonics Festival** (University of Virginia)
November 2021
Charlottesville, USA

- 2020 **The Way Back** | video, drone metal, improvisation, electric guitar
- Beszelcoma (Redux)** | recorded performance, drone, improvisation, video, streaming
presented at **Soundwave Festival 3.0**
October 2020 Online
- Dronetics, Vol. 1 (Album)** | drone, electronic, improvisation, text scores
- 2019 **Beszelcoma (Album)** | drone, electronic, improvisation, graphic scores, fiction
- Cardinal Synth** | performance, drone, electronic, improvisation, experimental, instrument design
performed at **The Stretch**
October 2019 London, UK
- performed at **Jamsteady @ Topcat CCU**
performed at **REProduce Drones @ Zee's**
July 2019 Kolkata, India
- 2017 **Storm Still** | theater, literature, improvisation, soundscape, experimental
—2015 **Funded by the Goethe-Institut**
A two-person theatre production set during World War II, comprising one actor and a live soundscape. I improvised and composed music using electric guitar, analog synthesizers, drums, ebow, Tibetan singing bowls, and a computer.
- performed at **Goethe-Institut**
July 2017 Chennai, India
- performed at **ILF Samanvay Translation Series, India Habitat Centre**
July 2017 New Delhi, India
- performed at **Eastern Quadrangle, Victoria Memorial**
performed at **Padatik Little Theatre**
March 2017 Kolkata, India
- performed at **Tata LiteratureLive! Festival, National Centre for the Performing Arts**
performed at **Tata LiteratureLive! Festival, Prithvi Theatre**
October 2015 Mumbai, India
- performed at **Goethe-Institut**
performed at **Jatra Biroti**
June 2015 Dhaka, Bangladesh
- performed at **Goethe-Institut**
March & April 2015 Kolkata, India
- 2017 **A History of Clouds** | poetry, music, theater, spoken word
—2014 **Funded by the Goethe-Institut**
International performance project featuring compositions based on Hans Magnus Enzensberger's poetry. An actor performed parts of the poems while the ensemble played instrumental odd-time jazz, progressive rock, and electronic music.
- performed at **Calcutta School of Music**
performed at **Goethe-Institut**
performed at **Presidency University**
February 2017 Kolkata, India

performed at **National Centre for the Performing Arts**
March 2014

Mumbai, India

performed at **Goethe-Institut**
March 2014

New Delhi, India

performed at **Goethe-Institut**
performed at **GD Birla Sabhagar**
March 2014

Kolkata, India

2016 **Orbits** | installation, audiovisual, animation, visual art
An audiovisual piece featuring animated images of paintings by Faiza Huma and a score consisting of acoustic and electronic instruments.

installed at **The Harrington Street Arts Centre**
November 2019

Kolkata, India

CONFERENCES / WORKSHOPS / PRESENTATIONS

2023 **E[MYR]GENCE.200** | composition
Earth Day Art Model (Tavel Center, Purdue University)
April 21-22, 2023

Online

E[MYR]GENCE.200 | installation
Performing Meda Festival (South Bend Museum of Art)
January 14-March 19, 2023

South Bend, USA

2022 **'Bridging the Gap: Music Improvisation in URL and IRL spaces'** | paper presentation
in collaboration with Matias Vilaplana
South Central Graduate Music Consortium (Duke University)
September 17-18 2022

Durham, USA

E[MYR]GENCE.200 | composition
Composer's Salon, South Central Graduate Music Consortium (Duke University)
September 17-18 2022

Durham, USA

E[MYR]GENCE.200 | composition
New York City Electroacoustic Music Festival (Sheen Center for Thought and Culture)
June 20-26, 2022

New York City, USA

The Way Back | composition
SEAMUS 2022 National Conference (Western Michigan University)
March 30-April 2, 2022

Online / Kalamazoo, USA

2021 **Beszelcoma #7** | composition
Composer's Salon, South Central Graduate Music Consortium (University of Virginia)
September 25-26, 2021

Charlottesville, USA

Arts for Juniors: Elektronische Musik | presentation, history of electronic music
for **ThinkArts** in association with **Goethe-Institut**
April 23, 2021

Zoom

'Horizons of the Thinkable and the Creative Process' | paper presentation
'The End Times: Approaches to the Apocalypse': CUNY Graduate Center ESA Conference
March 12, 2021

Zoom

2017 **More than Meets the Ear: Active Listening in Practice** | workshop, analytical listening, sampling
Center for Writing & Communication (Ashoka University)
November 2017 Sonepat, India

Musical Storytelling | workshop, music for the written word (poetry, literature, theater)
India Habitat Center
November 2017 New Delhi, India

PUBLICATIONS

2022 '**Apocalyptic Process**', in *Interference Journal*, Issue 8, August 2022 **ISSN: 2009-3578**
<http://www.interferencejournal.org/apocalyptic-process/>

TEACHING

2023 **MUSI 3390 Intro to Music & Computers** | as Teaching Assistant
Spring 2023, University of Virginia
Charlottesville, USA

2022 **MUSI 2350 Technosonics** | as Teaching Assistant
Fall 2022, University of Virginia Charlottesville, USA

MUSI 3332 Musicianship I | as Instructor
Spring 2022, University of Virginia Charlottesville, USA

EMPLOYMENT / RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

2018 **Facilitator, Sound Production**
Designed and taught a music production curriculum at the high school level.

October 2017–May 2018 Noida, India

2017 **Owner, Seagull Sound** | recording studio, mixing, production, composition, performance
–2013 **Co-Curator, Seagull Foundation for the Arts** | workshops, masterclasses, events
Private teaching | guitar, composition, music theory, music production

Kolkata, India

INSTRUMENT DESIGN

2019 **Cardinal Synth** | Improvising drone synthesizer built in Max. Sound and mapping
evolve and change during performance, with unpredictable, randomizable parameter interaction.

PROFICIENCIES

Logic Pro, Ableton Live, Max/MSP, Arduino, Finale, Final Cut Pro, Photoshop, Illustrator, Indesign, QuarkXpress