

Shamshad Khan Biography

"..there is no convenient category in which to place Shamshad Khan. Her poetry is delicately worded yet strong in its messages. She presents her work with such physicality that to watch her truly engages the senses." Carmen Walter, Writing Magazine

Publications include:

"The Firepeople" (Payback Press 1998), "Velocity" (Black Spring Press, 2003), "Masala" poems for children (McMillan 2005). Short stories including (comma press). **Her solo collection "Megalomaniac"** (published 2007 by salt publishing www.saltpublishing.com (isbn 978 – 1-84471-312-7)) is currently on the Lancaster University undergraduate Literature course.

Performance work includes:

Megalomaniac – Verse theatre with live beat box and music from Jason Singh (of Nitin Sawhney Sound System) and Basil Clarke. This piece premiered at the green room, Manchester's centre for new performance in 2004 and was selected for presentation at the Decibel international showcase (2005) with a UK national tour (2005/06). **Manchester City Art Gallery**

Hard Cut – A poetic monologue with music. Selected for "National Review of Live Art", the UK's leading annual showcase of new contemporary performance (2002); performed for conference of women live art performers (Beurne, Switzerland 2003) and the Barcelona Literature Festival (2004); Khala Ghoda Festival (Mumbai, India 2006); Mexico City (2007).

Megalomaniac and **Hard Cut** are both directed by Mark Whitelaw, winner of the Lawrence Olivier Award 2004.

Commissions include:

BBC Radio 3 and the Manchester Museum installation (2003-05). Arts and Business (Oct 2005), Glasgow Hidden Gardens (Nov 2005)
Shamshad has presented programmes for BBC Radio 4 on British and American Muslim poets (2006); and on the Egyptian poet Busiri (2007).

Further information:

Shamshad is Co-editor of two anthologies of poetry. She was initiator of "Mushiara shake-up" a tour of South Asian women poets. Literature Advisor to the Arts Council England (North West) and was Shortlisted for an Arts Foundation Fellowship in performance poetry (2006). **Ilkley Literature Festival's resident poet autumn 08.**

Shamshad offers mentoring, creative writing and performance workshops for adults, children and young people. She has worked in schools, colleges, community centres, prisons and youth theatre (Contact, Manchester)

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