

# NITIN SAWHNEY

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## COMPOSER

Nitin Sawhney is one of Britain's most original and gifted music creators - over the last decade he has carved out a singular niche in British culture melding the musical barriers between East and West, between classicism and popularity, interspersing music from around the world to club-land-culture. His 4th album, **Beyond Skin** (released in 2000) was short-listed as one of the albums of the year for the **Mercury Music Prize** and it also won the prestigious South Bank Show Award. Its successor, 2001's **Prophecy** - recorded in five continents and featuring over 230 musicians - won Nitin further honours including a MOBO, an EMMA & a BBC Radio 3 Award. Nitin Sawhney's latest album – **Philtre** – was released by V2 in 2005.

Besides his own albums, Nitin Sawhney is massively in demand to score for film and television - film scores include **Pure** (directed by Gilles Mackinnon) & **Anita and Me** (directed by Metin Husseyin). For TV, his credits include Channel 4's **Bodily Harm** (starring George Cole & Timothy Spall), a new adaptation of **Twelfth Night** and Neil Biswas' drama **Second Generation**, both of which aired in 2003. In addition, **Kaash** - his collaboration with dancer Akram Khan (a fellow South Bank Show Award nominee) and sculptor Anish Kapoor - world-premiered at London's Queen Elizabeth Hall and has toured as far afield as China. His BBC Proms commissions have been received to great acclaim and among his recent album production credits is Varekai for **Cirque du Soleil** (their latest global touring show). Having completed **Lila Says**, for Passion Pictures, Nitin went straight to work on his recently finished score for Mira Nair's new feature film, **The Namesake** for 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox. He also recently composed a striking score for the Sony Computer Entertainments blockbuster video game, **Heavenly Sword**.

## FILM CREDITS

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### THE NAMESAKE

Fox Searchlight  
Director: Mira Nair  
Producer: Lydia Pilcher

### THROW OF DICE

Franz Osten (1929) silent film  
Orchestral score performed by the BBC Concert  
Orchestra  
UK Premiere March 2005 at London's Barbican Theatre

### LEILA SAYS

Passion Pictures  
Director: Ziad Doueiri  
Producer: John Battsek

## COOL MUSIC LTD

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**THE LEGEND OF THE  
TAMWORTH TWO**

BBC/Box TV  
Director: Metin Huseyin  
Producer: Matthew Bouch, Matthew Bird

**PURE**

Director: Gilles MacKinnon  
Producer: Howard Burch  
World Premiered November 2002

**ANITA & ME**

Director: Metin Huseyin  
Producer: Paul Raphael  
World Premiered November 2002

**DANCE OF THE SHIVA**

Epiphany Productions  
Director: Jamie Payne

**SPLIT WIDE OPEN**

Director: Derv Benegal  
Award winner at the Vienna Film Festival

## TV CREDITS

**NATURAL FANTASIA**

BBC Natural History Production  
Director: Sean Christian

**ROSE AND MALONEY**

Company Pictures/ITV  
Director: Metin Husseyin  
Producer: Catherine Wearing

**ENGLAND EXPECTS**

BBC Drama  
Director: Tony Smith  
Producer: Ruth Caleb

**SECOND GENERATION**

Channel 4  
Director: John Sen  
Producer: Catherine Wearing

**\*\*Ivor Novello Nomination 2005: Best Original Music for Television\*\***

**BODILY HARM**

Channel 4  
Director: Joe Wright  
Producer: Catherine Wearing

**12<sup>th</sup> NIGHT**

Channel 4  
Director: Tim Supple  
Producer: Rachel Gesua.

**STAYING ALIVE 3**

MTV – for World Aids Day

**FLIGHT**

BBC  
Director: Alex Pillai

**THE FIANCEE**

Director: Alex Harvey

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**IVOR THE INVISIBLE**

Channel 4  
Director: Hilary Audas  
Producer: Paul Madden.

**THE SIKHS**

BBC Documentary Series  
Director: John Das

## GAMES

**Heavenly Sword**

Sony Computer Ents  
Director: Ben Hibon  
Writer: Rhianna Pratchett.

## ALBUMS

**SPIRIT DANCE**

Spirit Dance (Nitin Sawhney's own label)

**MIGRATION**

Outcaste

**DISPLACING THE PRIEST**

Outcaste

**BEYOND SKIN**

V2 – North America /Outcaste – Rest of the World

**PROPHECY**

V2

**HUMAN**

V2

**PHILTRE**

V2

## AWARDS

**1996**

Sony Award for Goodness Gracious Me  
(Best radio series)

**1998**

The EMMA Award for *Displacing The Priest*

**2000**

Shortlisted for the annual Technics Mercury Music  
Prize for the album of the year – *Beyond Skin*

**2000**

The South Bank Award for Popular Music for *Beyond  
Skin*

**2000**

Festival for *Prophecy*

The BBC Asia Award for Music - part of the Mega Mela

**2001**

The MOBO Award for *Prophecy*

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<b>2002</b>	The Boundary Crossing Award @ the inaugural BBC Radio 3 Music Awards for <i>Prophesy</i>
<b>2002</b>	Staying Alive 3 for World Aids Day – winner of 2 awards @ Cable Positive's 1 <sup>st</sup> Annual Awards
<b>2002</b>	Shortlisted for the Media Personality of the year – RIMA Awards
<b>2002</b>	The EMMA Award for <i>Prophesy</i>
<b>2002</b>	The Muso Award for <i>Prophesy</i>
<b>2003</b>	Commission for Racial Equality Award
<b>2004</b>	Ivor Novello Award (nomination for Best Film Score for TV "Second Generation" C4)

## DOCUMENTARIES

<b>ITV1</b>	Faith and Music, 60 minute documentary on Nitin Sawhney Transmission - Autumn 2005
<b>BBC4</b>	Francesca Kemp – aired June 2002 (includes film shot at December 2001's Albert Hall concert together with footage of scoring Kaash & other work in progress film / TV projects)

## COMMERCIALS

<b>NIKE</b>	Tackle (Wieden & Kennedy)
<b>SEPHORA</b>	Rockerfeller Center (DDB Needham NY)

## MUSIC FOR THEATRE/DANCE

<b>THE WAITING ROOM</b>	Composition for the Royal National Theatre – premiered on The South Bank, Spring 2000
<b>KAASH</b> - world premiered May 2002 at during 2002 / 2003	With Akram Khan (choreography) & Anish Kapoor (design) London/Queen Elizabeth Hall & currently touring globally
<b>VAREKAI</b>	Production of Cirque Du Soleil album for show of the same name (2003)

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**HE MAHABHRATA**

New musical for the theatre for CenterStage AG– in pre- production, due to open in The West End, London 2003 / 2004

**TRUST**

for the Royal National Theatre (2005)

New work written, directed, and scored by Nitin Sawhney

**THE MAHABHARATA**

With writer Stephen Clarke and director Stuart Wood. New musical for the theatre for CenterStage AG - in pre-production, due to open at Sadler's Wells, London 2006

**ZERO DEGREES**

Global tour 2005/2006

With Akram Khan, Sidi Larbi, and Antony Gormley  
World premiere July 12<sup>th</sup>, Sadler's Wells Theatre, London.

## COMMISSIONS

**URBAN PROPHECIES**

for the BBC Proms – World Premiere on July 18<sup>th</sup> 2000  
with Joanna MacGregor (piano)

**NEURAL CIRCUITS**

for Joanna MacGregor & The Britten Sinfonia –  
premiered UK Winter 2001

**CBSO 1&2**

for the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra  
Spring 2004

**THE CLASSROOM**

for the Britten Sinfonia – Autumn 2004

**TITLE TBC**

for the Nuance Ensemble – 2006

**TITLE TBC**

for the Metropole Orchestra, Netherlands – October  
2006

## REMIXES / PRODUCTION

**PAUL MCCARTNEY**

Remix of *The Fireman* (for MPL)

**JEFF BECK**

Covered *Nadia* from the *Beyond Skin* album (for Sony)

**KHALED**

Remix of *El Hababa Wine* (for Barclays France /  
Universal)

**MUNGAL**

Production of *Roshni & Awake!* from the album  
*Dreadlocks*  
(for Rituals / Virgin France)

**CHEB MAMI**

Production of *Khalouni, Yahamami, Ana Qualache &  
Tzazae* from the album *Dellali* (for Virgin France)

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<b>MONDO GROSSO</b>	Remix of <i>Now You Know Better</i> (for Sony Music / Japan)
<b>AMAR</b>	Production of the album <i>Outside</i> (for Blanco y Negro / Warners)
<b>NATACHA ATLAS</b>	Remix of <i>Manbai</i> from the album <i>Ayeshteni</i> (for Beggars Banquet)
<b>STING</b>	Remix of <i>1,000 Years</i> from the album <i>Brand New Day</i> (for Universal)
<b>CIRQUE DU SOLEIL</b> name (for BMG – Canadian release)	Production of the <i>Varekai</i> album from the show of the same November 2002 / international release – Spring 2003)
<b>FABRIC LIVE</b>	Nitin Sawhney mixes the quintessential club album of UK Super-club Fabric, 2004 (Fabric Records)
<b>OJOS DE BRUJO</b>	Spanish collective's forthcoming album 2006
<b>WILL YOUNG</b>	Writing for forthcoming album 2006 (BMG)
<b>RAGHAV</b>	Writing for forthcoming album 2006 (V2 Records)

## FESTIVALS

<b>ARTISTIC DIRECTOR</b>	For CultureShock in Manchester – May 2002
<b>ARTISTIC IN RESIDENCE</b>	Channel 4 TV's Indian Summer – two shows in the UK (Regents Park, London & Roundhay Park, Leeds)
<b>ARTISTIC IN RESIDENCE</b>	For 4 AfterShock Festivals in the UK / Australia 2003 – 2005
<b>ARTISTIC IN RESIDENCE</b>	Festival of World Cultures, Ireland (Autumn 2004)
<b>ARTISTIC IN RESIDENCE</b>	Monsoon Mela Festival, London (Summer 2004)
<b>ARTISTIC DIRECTOR</b>	For Aftershock Festival, The Sage, Gateshead, UK October 2005

## TOURING

<b>1996 / 1999</b>	Extensive UK & European touring as well as headline dates in South Africa and the Caribbean
<b>2000</b>	Headline British and European tours and Festivals & support shows for Sting in Britain & Europe
<b>2001</b>	From May to December – over 70 headline dates Throughout Britain, Europe, Scandinavia, Japan, Australia – culminating with a sold out show at London's Royal Albert Hall

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- 2002** Summer DJ sets in Europe, Canada & the UK
- 2003** Over 20 live dates, including headlining the Big Chill Festival UK, Glastonbury Festival One World Stage, and appearances at WOMAD UK and WOMAD Singapore. DJ Sets in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and New York (as well as all over Europe). Invited by the UN to perform at St. John the Divine Cathedral in Harlem as part of World Aids Day.
- 2004** DJ Sets at Shaanti, Fabric, Bern, Zurich, Portugal, Dubai, New York (Lincoln Center), Los Angeles (Hollywood Bowl), DC, and live shows across the globe
- 2004** Touring with the Britten Sinfonia across the UK and Europe as classical pianist
- 2005** UK and European Tours for the album Philtre + Aftershock Gateshead

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