

## ***Concise Curriculum Vitae - Saskia Kersenboom***

*born:* 03.02.1953, Utrecht, The Netherlands

*gender:* female; married to A. Szörös

### ***Current position:***

- 2005 onwards: Associate Professor of Theatre Studies, University of Amsterdam  
[www.uva.nl](http://www.uva.nl)
- 1994 onwards: director of *Paramparai Foundation* [www.paramparai.eu](http://www.paramparai.eu)

### ***Previous positions:***

- 1990-2005: Associate Professor of Cultural Anthropology, University of Amsterdam
- 2001-2004: Associate Professor at Musicology, University of Amsterdam
- 1987-1990: Fellow of Royal Academy of Arts and Sciences, Amsterdam
- 1986 - Temporary Teaching Staff at Liberal Arts Program, University of Utrecht
- 1984-1986: Dept. of Oriental Languages and Cultures, University of Utrecht, Research Grant ZWO/ NWO
- 1980-1984: PhD Researchpool Position, Dept. of Oriental Languages and Cultures, University of Utrecht

### ***Education:***

1984 - PhD Indology - Dravidian Languages and Cultures (*cum laude*); thesis title *Nityasumangali, towards the semiosis of the devadasi tradition of South India* promotor: Prof.Dr. K.V. Zvelebil

1979 - MA Indology and Theatre Studies (*cum laude*)

1977(>72) - BA Indology: Indian Languages and Cultures; Theatre Studies/ Dance History

1971(>65) - Gymnasium-A

### ***Fellowships /grants:***

1997 - UNESCO, Paris: Consultancy under United Nations Development Program to Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, New Delhi: Design/ Content Expert interactive CD-ROM '*Brihadishvara Temple of Tanjavur*'

1994 - Indian Council for Cultural Relations: Series of lectures in Chennai, Tanjavur and New Delhi „New Media as Knowledge Representation for the Humanities; workshop/ demonstrations of pre-publication *interactive CD Bhairavi Varnam* ( in: monograph *Word,*

*Sound, Image – the Life of the Tamil Text*, 1995, Oxford: Berg Publishers; CDi, Eindhoven: Philips Media)

1991-92 - Initiator & coordinator international Theme Group „*Orality vs. Literacy*” at Netherlands Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences (NIAS), Wassenaar

1987-90 - Fellowship KNAW – post doctoral research program „*Lost Generation*”

1984-85 - ZWO (now NWO) – emendation Tamil, Telugu and Sanskrit manuscript on music and dance repertoire in continuation of PhD research

1980-84 - Research-pool Position, University of Utrecht, preparation of PhD dissertation

1980-84 - ZWO (now NWO) two grants towards fieldwork in South India

1977-78 - ICCR (Indian Council for Cultural Relations): student exchange fellowship for study in Tamilnadu: music, dance praxis, Sanskrit, Tamil and Telugu literatures

### ***Publications:***

#### ***i. books (individually authored):***

- *Nityasumangali – towards the semiosis of the devadasi tradition of South India*, 1984, PhD dissertation Rijksuniversiteit Utrecht, p.378
- *Nityasumangali – Devadasi Tradition in South India*, 1987, reprints 1998, 2002, 2011, Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, p.226
- *Word, Sound Image, the Life of the Tamil Text*, with Interactive CD *Bhairavi Varnam*, 1995, Oxford: Berg Publishers, and Eindhoven: Philips Media, p.256;
- reprints *Word, Sound, Image, the Life of the Tamil Texts*, 2007 onwards on request at: A and C Black Publishers Ltd, UK

#### ***ii. books co-authored/ chapters:***

- *Bharata Natyam, A Reader*, 2010, ed. Davesh Soneji, New Delhi, Oxford, New York: Oxford University Press, Part I, p.53-69: 'The Traditional Repertoire of the Tiruttani Temple Dancers'
- *Ritual Matters, Dynamic Dimensions in Practice*, 2008 eds Christiane Brosius & Ute Huesken, London, New York, New Delhi: Routledge, Part IV.14, p.311-330: 'Ritual Differs: Beyond Fixity and Flexibility in South Indian Ritual'
- *Shiva Nataraja der Kosmische Taenzer*, 2008, Exhibition Catalogue ed. Johannes Beltz, Zuerich: Museum Rietberg, p.38-80: 'Dort wo Shiva Tanzt'
- *Performing Pasts, Reinventing the Arts in Modern South India*, 2008, eds Indira Viswanathan Peterson & Davesh Soneji, New Delhi, Oxford, New York: Oxford University Press, PartIII.6., p.197-225: 'Marabu, the Inherent Flexibility of the Karnatak Tradition: The Example of Bharata Natyam'

- *The Power of Performance, actors, audiences and observers of cultural performances in India*, eds Heidrun Brückner, Elisabeth Schömbucher, Phillip Zarrilli, 2007, New Delhi: Manohar, Part III.8, p.197-209: 'The Faculty of the Voice'
- *Intercultureel Drama ?*, 2006, ed Maaïke Bleeker, Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, p.100-06: 'Song of Songs as Polyphony – an Intercultural Experiment in Music, Poetry, Mime and Dance', with Rokus de Groot
- *Aesthetics in Performance, Formations of Symbolic Construction and Experience* 2005, eds Angela Hobart and Bruce Kapferer, New York, Oxford: Berghahn Books p.64-89: 'Songs of Love, Images of Memory'
- *Subjectivity*, 2000, eds Willem van Reijen/ Willem G. Weststeijn, Amsterdam-Atlanta: Rodopi, p. 315-330: 'It Takes Three to Epistemology'
- *Garland Encyclopedia of World Music*, 2000, eds James Porter & Timothy Rice, Bruno Nettl and Ruth M.Stone, New York: Garland Publishing., Vol.V, p.492-507: 'Descent of the Gods'
- *The Games of Gods and Men, Essays in Play and Performance*, 1997, ed. Klaus Peter Köpping, New Brunswick, London: Transaction Publishers, CH.8, p.191-203: 'Voice and Difference – the Ludic Ground of the Text'
- *Encyclopedia of Language and Linguistics*, 1993, ed. Keith Brown, Aberdeen: Pergamon Press, p.65: 'The Language of Indian Dance'
- *Roles and Rituals for Hindu Women*, 1991, ed. Julia Leslie, Ch.III.6, p.131-149: 'The Traditional Repertoire of the Tiruttani Temple Dancers', London: Pinter Publishers, re-edited, 1992, Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass
- *Rituelen*, 1989, ed. Suzette Haakma, p.67-91: 'Ritueel als esthetische methode', Utrecht: Studium Generale

**chapters in press/ forthcoming/ accepted for publication:**

- *Music and the Arts of Seduction*, forthcoming 2013, eds James Kippen, Frank Kouwenhoven, Wim van der Meer, Delft: Eburon Publishers, Ch.XXX ,p.15-30: 'Shringaranta – Eros Fragmented'
- *Brill's Encyclopedia of Hinduism*, forthcoming, 'Devadasis – Courtesans in Charge of Life', ed. Jean-Louis Ruyters
- *Pilgrimages and Sanctuaries: Art, Music and Rituals*, forthcoming – eds Angela Hobart and Thierry Zarcone, London: Sean Kingston Publishing; 'Lady of Great Bliss – pilgrimage at Matraverebely, Northern Hungary'

**iii. articles (main):**

- *Marg, A Magazine of the Arts*, Vol.62.,Nr.3, March 2011: 'Ananda's Tandava: „The Dance of Shiva” Reconsiderd', p.28-44
- *International Institute of Asian Studies, Newsletter*,#39, December 2005, 'The Prose of the World', p.10.
- *Etnofoor*, issue 9 nr.2, 1996: 'Anthropology as Performance', p.78-86
- *Ballet International*, No.11, 90, Vol.13/13: 'The Pulse of the Art',p.12-17
- *Indologia Taurinensia*, Vol.XV-XVI (1989-90): 'Natya – The Desi Yajna', p.187-205

- *Journal of Tamil Studies*, No.19, 1981: 'Virali – Possible sources of the devadasi tradition in the Tamil Bardic Period', p.19-40

**iv. multimedia:**

- DVD-interactive 'Eye to Eye with Goddess Kamakshi', 2008, with Thomas Voorter, in: *Shiva Nataraja der Kosmische Tanzer*, Exhibition Museum Rietberg Zuerich 2008
- DVD *Shiva Nataraja*, content expert, in: *Catalogue Shiva Nataraja der Kosmische Tanzer*, 2008, ed. Johannes Beltz
- CD-ROM interactive 'Devadasi Murai – Remembering Devadasis', 1997 with Sanjay Goel at Multimedia Laboratory, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, New Delhi,
- CD-interactive 'Bhairavi Varnam', representation, analysis in text, music and dance of the Tamil dance composition 'Mohamana' in *Bhairavi raga, rupaka tala*, 1995, Eindhoven: Philips Media; inserted in monograph *Word, Sound Image, the Life of the Tamil Text*, Oxford: Berg Publishers

**Exhibitions:**

- *Kali – the Black Beauty*: Design, research and co-curator at Museum Rietberg, Zuerich and British Museum London, forthcoming
- *Shiva Nataraja – der Kosmische Taenzer*, 2008-09, co-curator with Johannes Beltz, at Museum Rietberg, Zuerich

**Invitations/ guest professorships:**

- *University of Vienna*, 2011, Dept. of Indology
- *Univeresity of Warwick (UK)*, 2008, Dept. of Theatre Studies
- *Univeresity of Leiden*, 2003, Fac. of Arts and Sciences
- *University of Zuerich*, 2000, Dept. of Cultural Anthropology
- *University of Heidelberg*, 1998, 1994, 1993, Dept. of Social Anthropology
- *University of London*, 1996, 1993, Dept. of Social Anthropology
- *University of Leuven*, 1993, Dept. of Cultural Anthropoloy
- *University of Prague*, 1991, Dept. of Oriental Studies
- *University of Arhus*, 1991, Dept. of Cultural Anthropology
- *University of Hyderabad*, 1989, Sarojini Naidu School of Performing Arts & Communication
- *University of Michigan*, 1988, Centre for the Humanities
- *University of Michigan*, 1988, Dept. of Dance and Choreography
- *University of Wesleyan*, 1988, World Music Department
- *University of Tanjavur (India)*, 1986, Tamil University
- *University of Madras (India)*, 1985, Dept. of Tamil Studies

- *University of Paris, Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes*, 1985 Depts. of Cultural Anthropology and Oriental Studies
- *Hebrew University Jerusalem*, 1985, Dept. of Indology

***Invitations/ contributions to conferences:*** on request

***Artistic Curriculum Vitae:*** on request; cf. also [www.paramparai.eu](http://www.paramparai.eu)