

## **Name - Ajit Duara**

Having completed my MFA in Film Studies from Columbia University, New York City, in 1984, I came back to India and worked for a few years in the film department of two advertising agencies – Hindustan Thompson and Clarion advertising Agency - after which I began free lancing as a Film Critic, Film Script-Writer and as a Visiting Professor in Cinema.

I have been Visiting Professor at SIMC, since 2004, and am now Adjunct Professor here since February 2017.

## **Education**

MFA (Master of Fine Arts), Film Scholarship/ Criticism, School of the Arts,  
Columbia University, New York City - 1984

B.A. (English Honours), St. Stephens College, Delhi University, 1977

Indian School Certificate (ISC), St. Edmunds School, Shillong, 1974.

## **Publications as Film Critic**

Have been Film Critic for 'The Indian Post', 'The Independent', 'Gentleman' magazine.

Have written media articles for 'The Hindu', 'Times of India', 'The Illustrated Weekly of India' 'Deccan Herald', 'The Indian Express' and 'The Pioneer'.

Have appeared as Film Critic on Television Channel 'Star Plus', Program 'Jubilee Plus', for 87 weeks continuously, between 1996 and 1998.

Have written film reviews for BBC World, 'Film India Programme', for 13

weeks in 1999.

Film Critic of 'Open' magazine - 2009 to present.

### **Experience As Media Editor**

Have been Entertainment Editor for 'Gentleman' magazine - 1996 -2000

Editor of 'Update' Magazine of the IDPA (Indian Documentary Producer's Association) - 1996 - 1999

### **Experience As Script Writer for Documentaries**

Corporate Documentaries - 'Oil India' and 'Shipping Corporation of India'

Biographical Documentaries - 'Words From The Mist', film directed by Jahnu

Barua, on the work of Assamese writer, Indira Goswami, for the 'Sahitya Akademi', 2008

### **Experience As Script Writer for Feature Film**

'Heda Hoda', film for Children's Film Society of India (CFSI), International Award Winning Film, Directed by Vinod Ganatra, 2004.

### **Experience As Assistant on Award Winning Feature Script**

Jahnu Barua's 'It's a Long Way To The Sea', 1995

### **Experience As Researcher on Script for award winning documentary**

'Adoor- A Journey in Frames', a film on the work of Adoor Gopalakrishnan,

Directed by Rajiv Mehrotra, 1999

### **Experience of Conducting Workshops in Cinema**

Film Appreciation Summer Course at FTII - Class on 'What is Film Criticism?'

- every year, 1999 to 2009

Workshop on 'The Documentary Film' for PSBT (Public Service Broadcasting Trust), India International Centre, New Delhi, 2013, 2014, 2015.

### **Presently, Adjunct Professor at SIMC**

Teaching AV and Journalism students.

Courses include 'Film Appreciation',

'Advanced Film Criticism', 'Auteur Studies' and

'Entertainment and Lifestyle Journalism'