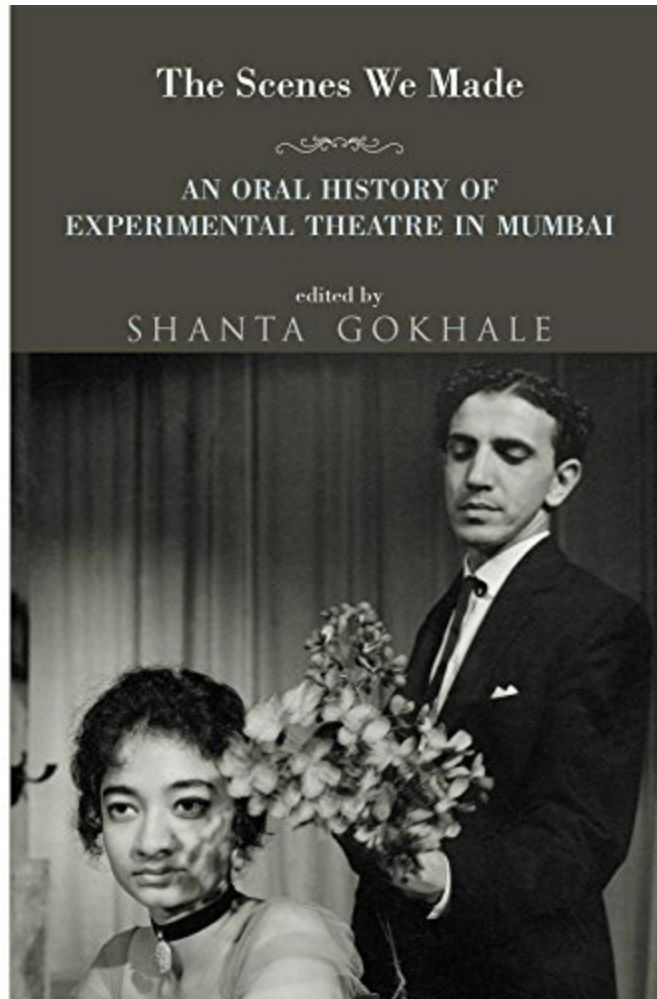


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The Scenes We Made: An Oral History of Experimental Theatre in Mumbai

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From Speaking Tiger Books : The Scenes We Made: An Oral History of Experimental Theatre in Mumbai before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Scenes We Made: An Oral History of Experimental Theatre in Mumbai:

Mumbai's theatre scene is a dynamic and creative space that has continuously inspired young theatre practitioners from the 1960s to the present day. It is filled with lessons learned and unlearned, techniques invented and reinvented. It is a space in which experimentation constantly takes place; where, as Shanta Gokhale says in her preface, 'the new' consciously opposes 'the old'; and results in the kind of theatre that forces

people to reconsider their definitions of 'theatre'. The Scenes We Made gives us a compelling account of the ideas and people that drove theatre in Mumbai for over five decades. Three spaces—Bhulabhai Desai Memorial Institute, Walchand Terrace and Chhabildas School Hall—provided the necessary impetus for theatre in Mumbai to flourish. These places saw influential visionary personalities like Ebrahim Alkazi, Vijaya Mehta, Satyadev Dubey and Sulabha Deshpande mould young theatre people, from playwrights, directors and actors to lighting and set designers. Plays like Band Darwaze, Aadhe Adhure, Hayavadana and Uddhwasta Dharmashala, amongst countless others performed in these spaces, broke new ground and continue to inspire the present generation. This book, the first to document the significant work carried out in these places, transports us back to a time of fearless experimentation in theatre. People, places and plays come alive through the memories of eminent theatre personalities. Full of fascinating information, insights and anecdotes, The Scenes We Made is a testimony to the never-say-die spirit of the theatre-walas, a spirit they share with cosmopolitan Mumbai.