

## VENITA COELHO

I lived in Bombay for several years and worked in television as a writer and director. Looking for an alternative lifestyle, I migrated to Goa. I now live in an old Portuguese house along with my four dogs. When I'm not writing, I'm painting and dreaming about the films I'll eventually make. And when I'm not doing any of that, I'm a beach bum.



VC

### For Pantaloon Film House :

- **Aahavan** - based on the Kargil conflict, this is a deeply researched realistic look at what happened.
- **Crorepati** - A comedy based on what happens when East meets West. It features a reluctant heir, three greedy lawyers and a Hitman who is into pain.
- **Ek Baar Phir** - A re-incarnation saga that is set in the era of black and white cinema in India.
- **Misr** - An Indiana Jones style adventure flick with a thrill a minute.

FILM

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### For Milan Luthria

- **Antheen** - An updated version of Romeo and Juliet.

### For Santosh Sivan

- **Khazana** - A children's film that features a ghost, hidden treasure and a camel with flatulence.

### For Sangeeth Sivan

- **Churaliya Hain Tumne** - A caper film that involves a missing fortune, the Great Circus Heist, and a hero who changes his name seven times.

*In development are 'Urvashi', 'Baarish', 'Nine' and 'Oochaiya'.*

- **Alternative Living** - My weekly column in the Midday is about Alternative living and alternative choices
- **A Tale of Two Cities** - my column with the Indian Express has been a regular feature for the last four years. It was earlier about the difference between North and South Bombay. Now it is about the difference between being a Mumbaikar and a Goenkar.
- **Five Minute Fiction** - I pioneered this fiction column in the Asian Age with a series of short stories with a twist in the tale.

## JOURNALISM

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### *As producer/writer/director:*

- **Intezaar**- This one hour film on human relationships was for the 'Rishtey' slot on Zee TV.
- **Wild Rose** - Set in the time of the Portuguese, this haunting story was shot for the X Zone slot on Zee TV.
- **Saath Phere** - Shot in Panhala, this story was based on an ancient legend of the Fort. It featured on the X Zone slot on Zee TV

## TELEVISION

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### *As writer/director:*

- **Anamika**- This five episode Thriller was for the 'Thriller at Ten' slot on Zee TV
- **Golden Moments**- Hosted by Jackie Shroff, this pilot episode explored the making of the film 'Sholay'.
- **The Thief and the Prince** - This erotic tale was for a french channel.
- **Meri Duniya** - Based on the format of Sesame Street, this was an educational programme for children.
- **Head Over Heels** - This was a programme of learning and exercise for Children.

**As a writer:**

- **Trikaal-** This daily soap won an **IAFA award for Best Series..** It was aired on HTV and re-run on DD.
- **Idaman-** Developed for Antah UTV this soap was aired in Malaysia and a major hit.
- **Commando** - This thriller series aired on Zee TV
- **Har Jawan Ki Kasam** - Based on the Indian Army this serial was on Sony Television
- **Taxi Driver-** This one hour thriller was on the Saturday Suspense slot of Zee TV
- **Kab Kyon Kahan-** This Tell Me Why programme tackled little known facts in the form of a quiz.
- **Jungli Toofan Tyre Puncture-** This childrens programme was on Zee TV
- **Avishkar-** This quiz was based on the great discoveries and inventions of Science.
- **Ek Sapna-**This was one of the first daily soaps on afternoon television.
- I founded and ran the Writers Workshop 'Kalamkari'

- **Pratham Media**
- **In House Productions**
- **Nimbus Sports and Television**

- **Punchatantra-** Based on the classic tales, this play was a modern take on them and included song and dance.
- **Smiley and Frubb on Space Station Scrxx** - This science fiction adventure featured quizzes, songs, dance and more
- **The Magic Box-** Wish for whatever you want and out of the box it jumps! This play was specifically designed to be interactive.

## **WRITER**

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## **CREATIVE DIRECTOR**

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## **THEATER**

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**Karishma** - I designed and structured this CD rom as a child's discovery of India.

## **MULTIMEDIA**

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Commercial documentaries include work for Phillips, Siemens and Mahindra and Mahindra.

## **DOCUDRAMAS**

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- Non Commercial work includes a documentary on **Osteoperosis** and one on the **Dalai Lama**.

## **ADVERTISING**

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- While still at college I founded and ran my own ad agency called **Apt Ads**.
- Copywriter with **Lintas Calcutta** for two years.

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