



Curriculum Vitae

Name: Thrity '3T' Vakil

DOB: 13th September 1965 b. Nairobi, Kenya

Address: Las Casas de la Selva, HC 63, Buzon 3879, Patillas, Puerto Rico.

Nationality: British

3t currently serves as Director of Tropic Ventures Sustainable Forestry & Rainforest Enrichment Project, a one-thousand acre reforestation and timber project in the mountains of Patillas, southeastern Puerto Rico. Tropic Ventures develops sustainable forest management practices with an economic approach to timber production. 3t also directs Endangered Species Conservation & Recovery within the Tropic Ventures forest, as well as habitat enhancement projects that benefit rare or endangered fauna. An Associate of the Institute of Ecotechnics since the early nineties, 3t has hands-on and hands-up experience in a range of fields: ecology, event management, arts, expeditions, and theater. In the mid 90's she served nearly three years as an all-round crew member, and as Assistant to the Expedition Chief, diving on coral reefs in remote parts of the Red Sea & Indian Ocean on the Institute's Research Vessel Heraclitus, also crossing the Atlantic and Mediterranean Oceans. 3t leads adult and teenage groups in the field, has worked with 60 International Earthwatch research teams in the rainforest since 2001, and has been a Principal Investigator in these teams since 2007. 3t's work has included measuring and monitoring hundreds of trees, planting trees, collecting seedlings, carrying out vine studies, along with homestead and volunteer management, forest-road maintenance, drainage and erosion control, watershed awareness, and creation of a sustainable forestry enterprise. 3t has been an invited speaker at several Universities in Puerto Rico, and in 2014, at the Earthwatch Summit in Boston.

2015 - Present: President, Puerto Rico Hardwoods Inc.

2013 - Present: Director, Ecotechnics Maritime Ltd.

2012 - Present: Founder & Member, Council for the Development of Agro-forestry in Puerto Rico (CADA)

2008 - Present: Fellow, World Academy of Art and Science

2007 - Present: Director, Institute of Ecotechnics, (U.S.A. Not-for-profit, U.K. Educational Charity)

2007 - Present: President, Tropic Ventures Education & Research Foundation, Patillas, Puerto Rico.

2007 - Present: Principal Investigator leading Earthwatch expeditions at Tropic Ventures, Patillas, Puerto Rico.

2007 - Present: Director, Tropic Ventures Rainforest Enrichment & Sustainable Forestry Project, Patillas Puerto Rico.

Life Work: Painter and digital artist: [*The Artwork of 3T Vakil*](#)

1999 - 2007 Tropic Ventures Rainforest Enrichment Project, Puerto Rico: Manager and active crew member of planning, selective felling, & hauling operations, sawing of wood, drying wood, marketing, selling. Responsible for homestead, logistics, safety, team management, & youth-group task coordination. Field assistant and Field Team leader in research areas with Earthwatch Institute volunteers, including: tree identification, tree surveys, tree planting, biodiversity studies, and frog studies. Web design.

Synergia Ranch, Santa Fe, New Mexico: Co-manager of Organic Fruit Farm. Design & implementation of drip irrigation system for 500 fruit trees and all aspects of tree care, including pruning, thinning fruit, application of organic treatments for pest control, disease and blight research, composting, harvesting, marketing & selling of fruit.

Website/graphic design.

Synergetic Press Publishing Company, Santa Fe, NM: Research Artist, web design, & marketing.

Institute of Ecotechnics, Global Ecotechnics: Web-design, Archive manager.

1999 – 2003 Co-chef on annual three-week International Bantu Dance and Drumming Festival at Synergia Ranch, New Mexico.

1997 - 1999 3T spent several months traveling, painting & exploring in East Africa. (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania & Zanzibar). She lived for short periods, in San Francisco, California, Ashland, Oregon, and Bellevue, Washington, working as a visual artist.

1995 - 1997 *the Indian Ocean and South East Asia Expedition - Coral Reef Research Expedition*. As Assistant to Expedition Chief, 3t sailed across the Atlantic Ocean, The Mediterranean, The Red Sea, The Arabian Sea, & Indian Ocean on board the RV Heraclitus, built by the Institute of Ecotechnics. Main coral reefs studied were off the coasts of Egypt, Oman, the Maldives, the Seychelles, and Kenya. Responsibilities included becoming an able-bodied seaman with practical hands-on experience in all aspects of seamanship: navigation, rigging, sailing, diving, basic engineering, maintenance, cuisine, team management, data entry, report writing, instigating cultural exchanges, performances, as well as presentations and fundraisers in nearly all of the ports visited on the expedition.

Research Vessel Heraclitus



The study of each coral reef comprised of four major diving and data gathering missions:

- ❖ Vita reef data on at least 2,000 coral colonies on the reef, identified to genus.
- ❖ Video/Photo transects on at least 5 x 20 meter 2-banded transect lines.
- ❖ Mapping of the reef outline and ecological zones within using GPS satellite technology.
- ❖ Identification and population counts for fishes and indicator invertebrate species.
- ❖ Collection of coral cores for Earth Observatory, NY.
- ❖ Turtle surveys.
- ❖ Trash & plastic surveys on isolated islands in the Red Sea and Indian Ocean.

1994 - 1995

- Member of The '**Zippy Pronoia Tour to US**', a road expedition across the US from New York to San Diego with 12 others, organizing 'raves' (performance and edutainment parties), interacting with cultural icons such as Paolo Soleri, Allen Ginsberg, Ken Kesey and the Merry Pranksters, Johnny Dolphin, The Biospherians, Terence McKenna, Wired magazine, John Perry Barlow, RU Sirius, Dee-Lite, Lady Miss Kier, and Goa Gil.

1993 - 1994

- Crew Member, ambient architect – Megatripolis, Heaven, London, UK.
- House Manager & Rentals - October Gallery, Bloomsbury, London, UK.
- Designer and Painter for Freuds Communications events, (The Big Breakfast, Channel 4)

1991 – 1993

- Exploration in India and Nepal.

1985 - 1991

- Ambient Architect (designer of spaces, settings, drapes, backdrops, lights, projections and costumed performers) – alternative arts/rave/information/fringe scene, UK.
- Co-founder of 'Dandy Fellows' – production design for rave & corporate ambient events, UK.

- Chief Scenic Artist for Apollo Leisure Theater Production Company, UK.
- Designer and Chief Scenic Artist for the Academy of Live & Recorded Arts, London, UK.
- Scenic Artist – London, West End theater, National Tours, and Repertory theater, UK.
- Apprentice Scenic Artist to Master Scenic Artist, Mary Coxon, England, Ireland, and Scotland, 2 years.

Education - 1980s:

BA (Hons) 3-Dimensional Theater Design – Trent Nottingham, UK.

Art & Design Foundation Diploma – Wimbledon School of Art, London, UK.

3 A-levels – South Thames College, London, UK.

7 O-levels – Pelham High School, London, UK.

Computer program skills: Adobe Photoshop, WordPress, Office, Quickbooks.

Languages: Main- English; learning Spanish; some French, Gujarati, Hindi, & Swahili.

Certified First Aid

Featured: [The Exquisite Corpse](#), [The Vaults of Erowid](#), [Psychedelika – Kultur, Vision, und Kritik](#), [The Straits Times-Stepping out of our Comfort Zones](#), [The Straits Times: Give our trees a chance](#), [Life Arts Media](#)

Scientific Publications:

NELSON M., SILVERSTONE S., REISS K. C., ROBERTSON M., VAKIL T., 2011. “Enriched secondary subtropical forest through line-planting for sustainable timber production in Puerto Rico.”

Bois et Forêts des Tropiques, #309 (3): 51-61

NELSON M., SILVERSTONE S., REISS K. C., BURROWES P., JOGLAR R., ROBERTSON M., VAKIL T., 2010.

“The impact of Hardwood Line-Planting on Tree and Amphibian Diversity in a Secondary Subtropical Wet Forest of Southeast Puerto Rico.” Journal of Sustainable Forestry, 29(5): 503-516.

Event co-organizer:

2012: The First Forest Products Assessment Symposium, April. Puerto Rico Department of Natural Resources.

2014: The Second Symposium and Exhibition of Forest Products December. International Institute of Tropical Forestry.

2015: Annual Meeting Institute of Ecotechnics, Synergist Conference, Santa Fe, NM, USA.

2014: Annual Meeting Institute of Ecotechnics, Synergist Conference, Aix-en-Provence, France.

2013: Annual Meeting Institute of Ecotechnics, Synergist Conference, Cadaqués, Girona, Catalonia, Spain.

2012: Annual Meeting Institute of Ecotechnics, Synergist Conference, Cadaqués, Girona, Catalonia, Spain.

Websites:

[Tropic Ventures Rainforest Enrichment & Sustainable Forestry Project](#)

[The Artwork of 3T Vakil](#)

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