

## **Kishori - Free to be me**

It was just another planet. I was like, 'have I just come back to India?' because I did not know that such a place existed. You come on this street, and you realise that, wow, this is a whole diaspora, an entire community and congregation of immigrants who have completely integrated, set up shops and a whole community, like lots of restaurants, and an entire community system which celebrates who they are and yet is living the wonderful British life. Like enjoying the privileges of being British, while continuing to really be true to who they were. I really resonated with that because I had finally come to realise that I wanted to be Hindu. I wanted to be Indian. I wanted to reconnect and be true to my culture. That is something that I could not really do in LA. It was very difficult because no one else around me was doing it. You very rarely see someone who expressed their cultural roots, who lived true to their religion or faith or ethnic background. But I saw that in England. So that was very shocking for me because I was excited. I was like 'oh, you can be very traditional and ethnic and celebrate your non-British culture and still be British'. That was very surprising to me.