DU alumnus **William Richmond Basaiawmoit**

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William Richmond Basaiawmoit
BA Eng Hons   St Stephen's

He's young and single, leads India's premier choir and hangs out with celebs.
But ***William Richmond Basaiawmoit*** *32, keeps his feet fixed on the ground even as he achieves new heights .*

…What many people don't know is that he was mentored by **Brother D'Souza**,of St Columba's School Delhi , also **SRK's** mentor. Something they've discussed whenever they've met.

He also didn't pick up singing at a Church choir. But William quotes The Holy Bible often, calling himself a spiritual believer with a non-religious equation with God. This is something the 32-year-old has in common with the members of the Choir he leads – though he wasn't there when they won India's Got Talent, 2010.

"Uncle Neil was part of the audience of a show I did. He came up to me after that and asked me to sing. And then I was in the choir! This was 12 years ago and Shillong Chember Chor already had a name and reputation, so it was a big thing for me," says William, who was 19 years old then.

A tenor, he was made the lead soloist shortly after he joined. "Heavy hangs the head that wears the crown," he says when we ask him about it. Yes, being the soloist means you are the face of the choir, but William knows he's nothing without the choir. **He's learned this modesty from his Choir family**. "Uncle Neil is very particular about that, so there's no googling ourselves," he smiles.

His most humbling experience as a member of the choir was when the choir won India's Got Talent while William was in Paris, studying Western classical music and opera. "I regret it but I also don't regret it. I am the frontman, doing all the stunts and moves, but this will always be a grounding thorn in the flesh – ***I need the choir, it doesn't need me,"*** he says.

" Young people are chasing after the wrong definition of 'fame' . We have stereotyped it as a number of Instagram of Facebook likes"