

8-10 December 2025 · Kathmandu · Nepal

# RECONFERENCE

RETHINK  
REWORK  
RECLAIM



[www.creaworld.org](http://www.creaworld.org)  
Email: [crea@creaworld.org](mailto:crea@creaworld.org)  
Facebook: [creaworld.org](https://www.facebook.com/creaworld.org)  
Instagram: [@think.crea](https://www.instagram.com/@think.crea)  
X: [@ThinkCREA](https://www.x.com/@ThinkCREA)

**Six years ago, in 2019, in these very premises, CREA hosted its first RECONFERENCE, a feminist conference with a difference. It was a different time, too, a time when the world had not yet lived through the COVID-19 pandemic and when our tagline – Rethink, Reimagine, Reboot – seemed like laughable whimsy.**

**Our second RECONFERENCE now, in December 2025, coincides with our 25th anniversary, and with a world changed forever by a pandemic, with a time history may remember as a political inflection point. We meet now to urgently review our ideas and work, and perhaps return to the drawing board to find inspiration to continue anew. We have designed RECONFERENCE to be a space that challenges what we believe, pushes us to imagine a different future and gives us a moment to collectively find our way through a too-often-cowardly new world. We hope we will all leave with new ideas and a strong resolve to better meet the future that awaits.**

**We're delighted to have you join us!**



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# THE S UM MIT

Over three days, we will dive deep  
into nine themes, through art,  
conversations, teach-ins  
and other interactive formats.

# Ableism

Ableism can be defined as a set of beliefs or practices that devalue and discriminate against people with physical, intellectual or psychiatric disabilities. But it is not a 'minority problem'. We will:

- RETHINK why ableism remains invisible in social justice movements.
  - REWORK spaces, dialogues and movements to be genuinely inclusive.
  - RECLAIM the voices, histories, art and archives of people with disabilities.
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# Caste

This structure of graded inequality enforces hierarchies through birth-based discrimination, violence and exclusion. We will:

- RETHINK how anti-caste resistance speaks to parallel struggles against domination around the world.
- REWORK that thinking, to develop intersectional strategies to combat pernicious exclusion.
- RECLAIM the democratic promise of equality, liberty, justice by foregrounding Dalit histories, struggle and strength.

# Decriminalization and Anti-Carcerality

Punitive approaches to violence have been shown to not only not deter crime but also take the biggest toll on those most marginalized. We will:

- RETHINK approaches to the role of law and incarceration as the default pathway to address harms.
  - REWORK our relationship with democracies that increasingly use criminal laws to curtail rights.
  - RECLAIM the public discourse through cross-movement allyship as well as cultural and literary interventions.
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# Gender-based Violence

Continuing the struggle to recognize gender-based violence as a systematic violation of human rights, rather than individual, private suffering. We will:

- RETHINK approaches to addressing gender-based violence solely through criminal laws.
- REWORK the weaponizing of biology to exclude gender minorities.
- RECLAIM a framework that protects everyone from violence.

# **Sexuality and Sexual & Reproductive Rights**

The right to bodily autonomy, to consent to sexual activity, to reproduce if and when we choose to should be core rights. We will:

**RETHINK** the ways that laws, markets, family and society constrain sexuality and reproductive rights.

**REWORK** a new vision of consent, mindful of the power that devalues non-normative bodies.

**RECLAIM** a vision of bodily autonomy and pleasure as a goal for all.

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# **Technology**

The pleasures and uses of digital technology are many but so are the dangers. We will:

**RETHINK** our fraught relationship with Big Tech and speculative AIs.

**REWORK** aspects of digital tech from feminist principles.

**RECLAIM** a more just digital future.

Just as oppression is systemic, resistance is interconnected. Guided by our partners, RECONFERENCE will guide participants through three urgent challenges for social justice. We will delve deep into other themes critical for movements, in this moment. We worked with partners to explore:

## **Climate Change Conflict, Migration & Refugee Rights Collective Care**

These are not separate crises – the stresses of climate change strain resources, intensify social fault-lines and displace people, particularly the most vulnerable. Armed conflict is often driven by struggles over natural resources, or target them for destruction, as a way of hurting people. Justice for humans is inseparable from care for the world. Through each and all of these intertwined themes, we will envision a more resilient, peaceful future.

RECONFERENCE will provide translation and interpretation in English, Hindi, Nepali, Spanish, French, Bengali and Arabic, and will offer selected sessions in International Sign Language and Indian Sign Language.

# Plenaries

# Day 1 morning, opening plenary

Performance by Nepali drummers

## Voices from Nepal

- Manisha Dhakal, Blue Diamond Society
- Pratima Gurung, National Indigenous Disabled Women Association Nepal
- Roman Gautam, Himal Southasian

Welcome by Geetanjali Misra, CREA

**“They tried to bury us, they didn’t know we were seeds”**

*RECONFERENCE opens with partners and collaborators sharing their thoughts on sustaining resistance in the face of rising authoritarianism, backlash and repression of rights.*

Moderated by Geetanjali Misra

- Solome Nakaweesi, Pan-African feminist and CREA Africa Advisor
- Bishakha Datta, Point of View
- Lina Abou-Habib, American University of Beirut
- Lydia Alpízar, IM-Defensoras
- Nidhi Goyal, Rising Flame
- Sealing Cheng, Chinese University of Hong Kong

# Day 2 morning plenary

Film: International Dawn Chorus Day, John Greyson

## **“Justice in the time of impunity, accountability in the age of failing institutions”**

*With insights from activists and movement leaders, we open day 2 of RECONFERENCE with the question: Who do we hold accountable when institutions fail us?*

Moderated by Shalini Singh, CREA

- Estefanía Vela Barba, Intersecta
- Sara Hossain, Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust
- Wanda Nowicka, Member of Polish Parliament
- Prachi Patankar, Foundation for a Just Society
- Niluka Gunawardena, Disability rights activist and Professor, University of Kelaniya
- Lobna Darwish, Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights

# Day 3

evening, closing plenary

## “The pasts behind us, the futures ahead of us”

*As RECONFERENCE draws to a close, CREA reflects on its 25 years as a feminist organization and imagines a collective vision for the future.*

Moderated by Ananya Patel, RECONFERENCE team

- Srilatha Batliwala, CREA
- Shohini Ghosh, Jamia Millia Islamia University

Acknowledgements and closing: Geetanjali Misra

# Conversations

# Azadeh Akhlaghi in conversation with Sabeena Gadihoke

Acclaimed for *By an Eye-witness*, a series of reconstructed photographs of deaths in Iran over the previous century (which showed at Reconference 2019), the artist talks to scholar Sabeena Gadihoke about her monumental new body of work, *Witness: A Nation's Scars of Time*, and the moment we now confront.





# Mother Mary Comes To Me

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Arundhati Roy



# Arundhati Roy in conversation with Shohini Ghosh

Arundhati Roy's new book *Mother Mary Comes to Me* is both a bestseller and a point of animated discussion. In a conversation with friend and scholar Shohini Ghosh, Roy will discuss the book, its many-layered preoccupations and her relationship to the art of writing.



# Joe Sacco in conversation with Geetanjali Misra

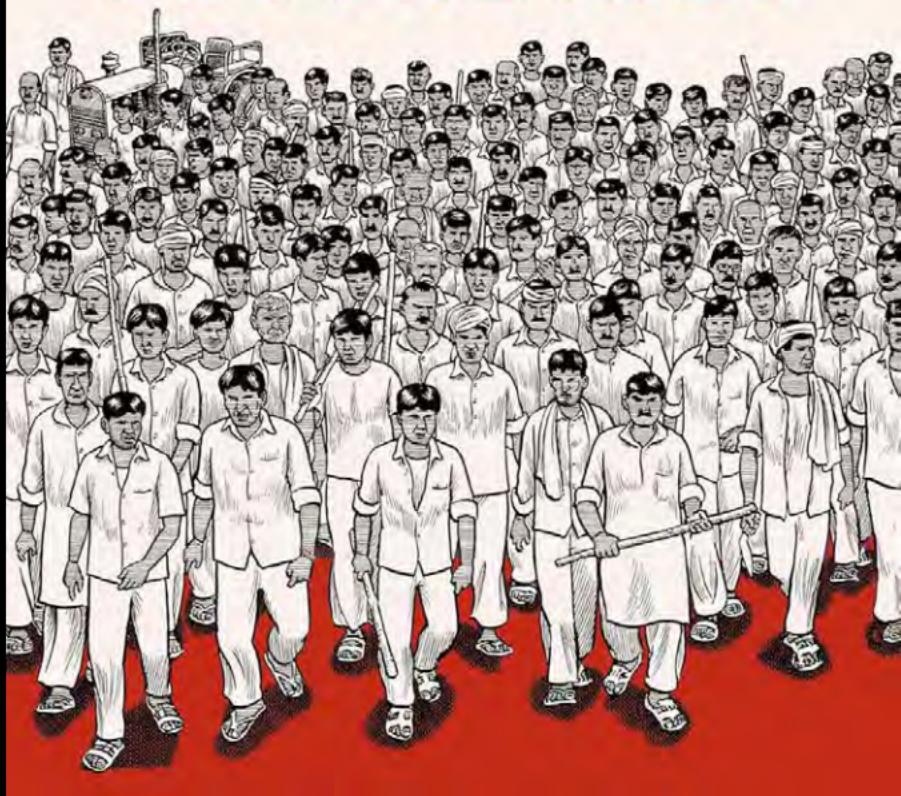
The world's best-known comics journalist is always to be found in his comics, but rarely on a public stage. Which makes CREA Executive Director Geetanjali Misra especially pleased to get him to discuss his work, which is only too relevant today as the workings of power, conflict, democracy and resistance take on a new urgency.



# JOE SACCO

AUTHOR OF *FOOTNOTES IN GAZA AND PALESTINE*

# THE ONCE AND FUTURE RIOT



Teachins

# **Challenging (Dis)embodiment, Reclaiming Disabled Joy and Pleasure: A Tribute to Anita Ghai**

**Rupsa Mallik, CREA**

A teach-in about reclaiming disabled joy and pleasure as a movement and practice grounded in disability justice framework, drawing on the seminal work by Anita Ghai (1958-2024), disability rights scholar from India.

The teach-in will be co-led by faculty of CREA's Disability, Sexuality and Rights Online Institute (DSROI). Anita was a founding faculty of DSROI.

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## **Deconstructing Ableism**

**Led by Rising Flame, facilitated by Prathama Raghavan**

Ableism is one of the least recognized yet deeply entrenched power structures shaping our societies, lives and movements. Within feminist and social justice spaces, disability is often addressed only through the lens of access, without interrogating how ableist norms of productivity, desirability, efficiency and "normalcy" define participation, existence and leadership. This teach-in will unpack ableism as a systemic issue while also equipping participants to reflect on their own biases and plan tangible anti-ableist practices in their organizations, activism and movements.

# Living the Coup: A Book Event

SEA Junction

On 1 February 2021, General Min Aung Hlaing led a coup d'état after the landslide victory of the National League of Democracy (NLD). From then, massive civil disobedience movements emerged as the people opposed the junta. Many were killed, detained, or driven out of their homeland, and over 2 million have been displaced. *Living the Coup* is a collection of the experiences of people of Myanmar from 2021 to 2024. The authors collect stories through online submission from all regions of Myanmar, combining stories, poems, visual materials and personal essays to capture daily life in this tumultuous time. Speakers at the session include the editors of the book, Rosalia Sciortino and Linn.

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# Migration, Precarity, Sexuality

Sealing Cheng, Chinese University of Hong Kong

What does being a migrant mean now? How are migrants' precarity shaped not only by border regimes, economic institutions, humanitarian initiatives, but also gender and sexual hierarchies? How does sexuality serve as a personal resource for navigating exclusionary borders and institutions? How are border regimes and individual desires co-constituted?

# **Movements and Why They Matter**

**Srilatha Batliwala, CREA**

The terms “movement” and “movement building” are considered sexier and more radical than the usual development or social change strategies. But do we really have a clear understanding of movements and how to build them? Do we know what makes movements distinct and different from organizations, projects, campaigns, and other modes of creating change? Or of what makes a movement feminist? And if we are committed to movement building as an approach, how can we measure our progress and impact?

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## **My Body, My Data: Bringing Bodies Back to Digital Governance Debates**

**Anja Kovacs**

Dominant discourses tend to construct our data as a disembodied resource. But in practice, the line between our physical bodies and virtual bodies is increasingly becoming irrelevant. Data is an extension of our bodies; data about people is embodied data. How will we need to approach aspects of our work and struggles where our bodies and behaviors intersect with the digital world, if we want to ensure our rights are protected in the age of datafication?

# **Narratives as Infrastructure: Deep Dive into Theory, Ecosystem and Practice**

**Juliana Martinez, Nebula Fund**

How narrative change operates as long-term cultural infrastructure rather than one-off efforts. The session will unpack key aspects of narrative and narrative change theory, explain three key "narrative zones" (politics, culture, social connection) and dive into four strategies to build and support a flourishing narrative ecosystem.

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## **ReWorking Data: Using Data for Gender Justice and Accountability**

**Global 50/50**

An interactive experience where participants use G5050's Resources for Change, including a self-assessment tool to critically reflect on their own organizations' practices and commitments. Working in small groups, participants will then explore how data can be mobilized for gender justice. By the end of the session, participants will have assessed their organizations against global benchmarks and will have co-created actionable next steps to advance gender justice.

# **Sex and Gender: Contentions and Challenges**

**Andrea Cornwall, King's College, London**

This teach-in will grapple with the contestations about sex and gender. It will look at the history of 'sex' and 'gender' as concepts, consider what biology and medicine, anthropology and history, have to teach us, examine the arguments that have become sites of contention, and explore the positions taken up by feminists in the current 'trouble with gender'.

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## **Sustaining Our Lives and Our Movements: Experiences of Protection and Care from Mesoamerica**

**Jelena Dordevic, IM-Defensoras**

In times of multiple crises, shrinking civic space, deepening authoritarianism and advance of the extreme right, women and LBTQI+ defenders and their organizations are committed to developing their own strategies to protect their lives and struggles. We will explore cases of responses grounded in feminist holistic protection and collective care for human rights defenders and their collectives in countries facing high levels of risk and of violence.

# **The Trouble with Pronouns**

**Madhavi Menon, Ashoka University, India**

From what wells of language, knowledge and sexuality do we derive our question about pronouns? Why do we ask people what their pronouns are and why do we specify our pronouns? What is the relation between pronouns and identity? Does identity change depending on the language in which we ask the question about pronouns? This session will look at the sexual, linguistic and colonial politics of the question around pronouns, and attempt to lay bare what is at stake.

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# **The Unbearable Oldness of Generative AI: Power, Habit and the Making of Meaning**

**Nishant Shah, Chinese University of Hong Kong**

Generative AI is reshaping our worlds in ways we feel before we fully understand. This session explores how AI disrupts habits, restructures meaning and alters the conditions under which voices, bodies and narratives become legible. We will examine the deeper transitions unfolding as AI enters our everyday lives and ask how these shifts reconfigure agency, recognition and belonging – and what forms of resistance, care and imagination feminists can bring to this unsettled technological moment.

# **Upper-caste Ideals: How Caste Determines Desire**

**Christina Dhanuja**

Desire has never been purely personal. It is often, if not always, shaped by structures of power that determine who is considered desirable, who may desire, and who can act upon that desire. This teach-in examines how caste determines not only material access and social status but also the very imagination of intimacy, aesthetics and liberation. It invites the audience to consider a Dalit feminist standpoint and to envision a feminism that interrogates caste as critically as it does patriarchy.

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# **Sex, Gender and the Calls to Biology and Nature**

**Alice M. Miller, Yale University**

Examining contestations over sex and gender with particular attention to how calls to science, nature and assertions of biological realities are deployed. What relationships between state, science and communities can serve health equity globally? Can we deconstruct and defend science at the same time? How can we best counter the misuse of science to reinvigorate claims to sex-based differences while holding onto the specific needs of differently embodied persons?

# Workshops

# **Breath Between the Fires: Queer Feminist Healing as Political Resistance** *(For SWANA participants)*

**Mahy Hassaan, Remie Abi-Farrage**

In the face of genocide, displacement and rupture by philanthropic systems, queer feminists across the SWANA region are reclaiming healing as a political act. We explore how mutual aid, embodied care and co-created rituals can become tools of resistance. Through creative practice, reflection and relational mapping, we build a collective space for grief, joy and feminist worldmaking – refusing urgency and reclaiming rest as resistance.

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## **Co-Creating Radical Collective Care in a World on Fire**

**Niyati Shah, Nicolette Naylor**

It is imperative for us to reimagine ways of building community, relating, fostering solidarity, collective action and care as feminists. This session will engage on a number of levels of inquiry and work to expand new and existing coalitions and frameworks of collective care.

# **Disrupting the Canon: Collective Practices of Memory and Power**

**Ezrena Marwan, Saru**

Reimagining the archive as a living, political space of resistance, tenderness and collective power. Exploring how listening, witnessing and recording stories of mental health, pleasure, grief and joy become acts of care and resistance. Drawing on Ezrena's work mapping Malaysian visual culture and co-leading the Liberatory Archives and Memory program at Whose Knowledge?, the session will share feminist, anti-colonial methods that challenge Western, patriarchal and capitalist narratives.

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## **Diary of Ruptures**

**Nida Mushtaq and Cassie Denbow**

So often we are taught to conceal what is torn. This diary seeks to invert this, as we collectively practice naming the ruptures experienced in this moment, and in our organizations and movements. Through a participative workshop and installation, Diary of Ruptures is a space for journaling and collage-making to explore three key themes – leadership, language, and labor – as pivotal elements shaping power and privilege (or its absence) within feminist spaces.

# Flip the Story

TARSHI

What happens when the languages we speak don't have words to express desire, pleasure, or identity without shame? Language shapes how we think, feel and talk about sexuality, gender and rights. Many everyday words carry stigma, judgment or exclude marginalized identities.

Through an interactive card game, participants will reflect on these words and explore TARSHI's alternative, affirming vocabulary that reframes sexuality from a rights-based and affirming lens.

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## Four Rooms and a Riot: Feminist Wellbeing as Political Practice

Hope Chigudu

This session is not a workshop. It's a riot. A ritual. A reckoning. Guided by the metaphor of four rooms – each representing a dimension of our activist lives – move through spaces of comfort, disruption, reflection and collective fire. Expect embodied exercises, poetic provocations and mischievous magic as we reframe wellbeing not as self-care alone, but as a deeply political, feminist practice.

# Gender, Sexuality and Mental Health from the Margins

**Mariwala Health Initiative**

The mainstream understanding of gender and sexuality is limited and often impacts the quality of services offered, especially to those from the LGBTQIA community. GSMHM uses a 'lens from the margins' instead to help broaden our understanding of the subject. This lens helps us recognize how matters of gender and sexuality are connected to equality and can be used to inform any work one does to contribute to a just society.

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## Pleasure and Danger: Through the Psyche lens

**Jaya Sharma**

Feminist struggles against the dangers of sexual violations have a long and brave history. Alongside addressing danger, we have also pushed each other to make room for pleasure. During our struggles for pleasure and against danger, feminists like Carole Vance have alerted us to the need to see the connections between the two. Taking this challenge to the pleasure-danger binary, the session will offer a space to take stock of where we are at today – what linkages between pleasure and danger are we alive to, what linkages do we want to further explore.

# Questioning Our Punitive Vision of Justice

**Estefanía Vela Barba, Intersecta**

Why is punishment so intertwined with our notion of justice? Which ideas and narratives have shaped this understanding? Have these views served us, or have they created more harm? In this workshop, critically examine and question the ideas of justice that feminists promote: Are our notions of justice tied to prisons? Cops? Criminal law? Why? What do we expect will happen by relying on these systems?

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## Radical Care in a World on Fire: The Entangled Table

**IM-Defensoras**

Caring for ourselves is a right and a necessity in the context of a world on fire due to the policies of dispossession, destruction and inequality. In this session, we want to learn about, share and record the many ways in which women and LBTIQ defenders protect themselves from violence. We invite our sister defenders, allies and friends to let loose their creativity at our entangled table.

# Reclaiming Language, Space and Stories

**Charu Narang, Misha Narang**

Exploring how language, space and storytelling can give power or take it away. Through shared reflection, participants will examine how spoken, signed and written languages shape identity, belonging and access, especially for Deaf women. The session invites participants to think critically about inclusion, accessibility and representation, and to imagine environments where everyone can communicate, lead and thrive with equal power and dignity.

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# Tech Cartographies

**Joana Varon**

The Internet is nothing like a cloud. It is a physical structure, geolocated and marked by power relations – and cables, satellites, antennas, servers, computers, cell phones, toxic waste, energy consumption. The magical narrative of 'the cloud' feeds an imaginary that exists in the absence of a place or territory. But the Internet is a territory in dispute. This workshop proposes a conversation about technopolitics to instigate critical visions about the relationship between technology and the environment and to foster alternatives for technological development that stem from the needs, characteristics and potentials of our territories.

# We Stitch What We Cannot Say: Embroidery as Archive, Protest and Feminist Fault Lines

Tilyan and Mahan Aslam

An experiential storytelling and stitching workshop that explores how women across South Asia have used embroidery as a language of resistance, memory and care. Rooted in Baloch women's cultural practices, the session connects these narratives with parallel traditions such as Kantha (Bengal), Phulkari (Punjab), and Ralli (Sindh). Together, we reflect on the feminist fault lines within these traditions whose resistance is centered, who is erased and how we can stitch towards more inclusive solidarities.

# Lightning Talks

**Aindriya Barua | ShhorAI, India**

Community-driven approaches to intersectional hate speech in the Indian context

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**Alyaa Musa | The Women's Storytelling Project for Sudan, Sudan and Uganda**

Women on Behalf of women: Documenting and filmmaking

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**Bharati Chaturvedi | Chintan, India**

Life in Urban India: Climate and the circular economy

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**Dipika Lama | National Indigenous Disabled Women Association, Nepal**

Intersectional Climate Advocacy: Young women with disabilities leading change

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**Ester Pinheiro | Independent Journalist, Brazil**

How can journalism be feminist?

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**Eunice Musiime | Akina Mama wa Afrika, Uganda**

Reimagining feminist leadership development

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**Gauri Nepali | Just Futures Pahal, Nepal**

Whose Narratives Are We Talking About? A lens on Dalit sexual minorities

**Grace Areba** | Disability Rights Activist, Kenya

When the Silence Speaks: A creative exploration of Deaf women, gender-based violence

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**Maliha Khan** | Women Deliver, United Kingdom

Why We Gather: The importance of feminist convenings

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**Mallika Dharmaraj & Swetha Uthayasuryan**

Trans writers, organizers and researchers, India

Knowledge Production and Digital Life for Hijra-Trans Women

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**Meena Seshu** | Sex Workers and Allies South Asia, India

Forced Labor and Slavery-like Practice?

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**Moira Perez** | University of Buenos Aires, Argentina

The Emotional Life of Punishment

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**Nandini Oza** | Narmada Bachao Andolan, India

Oral histories and sustaining resistance against environmental destruction and displacement

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**Nandita Shah** | Akshara Centre, India

Building a Caring City: Feminist advocacy for collective care

## **Nu Misra** | Revival Disability, India

When all tools fall apart, how do disability activists organize?

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## **Quimy de Leon** | Prensa Comunitaria, Guatemala

Journalism from Hope: The collective experience in Guatemala

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## **Revita Alvi** | Indonesian Association of Women with Disabilities, Indonesia

Beyond Ramps: Transforming justice systems for women with disabilities

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## **Sarah el Bouery** | American University Beirut, Lebanon

The Uneasy Ground We Stand On: Queer activism in precarious times

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## **Sarita Pariyar** | Just Futures Pahal, Nepal

Rethinking feminism through the lens of caste, globally

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## **Sheena Gimase Magenya** | Association for Progressive Communications, South Africa

The one thing you must remember about feminist technology

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## **Shelani Palihawadana** | Delete Nothing, Sri Lanka

Building a Gender-Just Internet: Let our stories lead the way

## **Shuvangi Khadka and Nangsel Sherpa**

**The Pomelo, Nepal**

In Her Footsteps: Lessons from a feminist oral archive

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## **Siddhant Shah | Access for All, India**

Access Unframed: Art, allyship and inclusion

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## **Sona Khatik | Just Futures Pahal, Nepal**

The next generation of Dalit women as thought leaders

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## **Sonia Wong | HER Fund, Hong Kong**

The challenges and strategies of localizing and practicalizing feminist care in organization and community work

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## **yasmine eid-sabbagh | Artist and Researcher,**

**Palestine**

Exploring the potentials of human agency through experimental (counter-) archiving practices

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## **Zara Rahman | Superrr, Bangladesh, UK**

Expanding our imagination towards thriving digital futures

# Strategy Circles

# **Disability Justice**

**Facilitated by Disability Rights Activists and Organizations**

A collaborative space led by disability rights activists – centering their leadership and lived experiences – to map shared values, identify barriers, build collective strategy and develop actionable steps to counter ableism.

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## **Feminist Faultlines: Rethinking reliance on punitive approaches to addressing gender-based violence**

**Facilitated by CREA; Global Health Justice Partnership,  
Yale University; Intersecta; RESURJ; Egyptian Initiative for  
Personal Rights**

An interactive and strategic conversation led by advocates critically reflecting on alternative approaches to catalyze shifts from punitive criminal legal responses to address gender-based violence and collectively re-envision rights-affirming approaches to achieve justice.

# **Feminist Holistic Protection**

## **Facilitated by IM-Defensoras**

A strategy circle on building a shared understanding of the framework for Feminist Holistic Protection and identifying ways it can be expanded and adapted in varied contexts, to respond to diverse constituencies of structurally excluded persons.

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# **Feminist Leadership and Movement Building**

## **Facilitated by Akina Mama Wa Africa**

A strategy circle on feminist leadership where participants explore how feminist values – equity, care, accountability and shared power – can guide transformative change. To identify opportunities, align visions and co-create strategies that challenge harmful systems and support inclusive, sustainable leadership.

# **Feminist Responses to Anti-Gender and Anti-Rights Mobilizations**

**Facilitated by Count Me In! consortium**

Countering weaponized sex-based rights rhetoric through an analysis of harmful narratives used against trans and gender-diverse people. Explore shared language and advocacy strategies that can affirm rights-based approaches.

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## **Sexuality and Sexual and Reproductive Rights**

**Facilitated by IPPF, ILGA World, Intersex Asia and CREA**

A cross-movement conversation that brings together diverse movements to co-create strategies to advance rights, challenge oppressive norms and build collective solidarity across communities.

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## **Sex Workers' Rights**

**Facilitated by Sex Workers and Allies South Asia (SWASA)**

Map how allies can support sex workers' rights by identifying shared goals, roles and resources. Highlight barriers – such as criminalization, stigma and unsafe working conditions – to prioritize targeted advocacy actions.

# **Storytelling, Media and the Art of Challenging Dominant Narratives in South Asia**

**Facilitated by The Queer Muslim Project**

A space for artists, activists and cultural workers to explore how storytelling, media and art challenge dominant narratives that marginalize queer and trans people. Participants will share practical strategies, identify common tools and values across creative mediums, and explore areas for collaboration to build joyful, affirming and justice-centered narratives.

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## **Tech Futures: What Are We Fighting for?**

**Facilitated by Superrr and Point of View**

A session to imagine and express the possible role of technology in our futures through a fishbowl-style discussion inviting participants to share their visions for what we're fighting for and co-create strategies on how to get there.

# **The Feminist Playbook**

**Facilitated by Women Deliver**

A consultation process to develop a Feminist Playbook – a bold, collective declaration and unifying roadmap – toward gender equality, rooted in care, solidarity and intersectional justice. The Feminist Playbook co-developed and validated by a wide cross-section of stakeholders will be launched at the Women Deliver conference, 2026.

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## **Transnational Feminist Solidarity**

**Facilitated by Ireen Dubel and Srilatha Batliwala**

A session discussing the strategic importance of collaboration between feminist activists and policy advocates from civil society organizations and academia.

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## **Where the Future was Built: The journey from Beijing to now and beyond**

**Facilitated by Sia Nowrojee**

Draw insights from the facilitator's journey archiving and documenting feminist convenings over 30 years, highlighting our collective history and expanding on the lessons it can teach us for advocacy today, and in the future.

# Performances

# A Queer Pansexual Feminist Proposal

Sonia Wong

How does a queer pansexual feminist do relationship – committed, monogamous, cohabited, domestic? How did it end up, here? Is this even, practicable? A Hong Kong queer artist invites you to a mini lecture-performance on the everyday drama of non-cis-hetero relationships, queernesses in practice, feminist consciousness and guilt and reflections on the unnatural (but potentially desirable) bliss of domesticity and marriage.





# Hairy Situation: A Comedy Show

**ALOK**

Over the past few years, transphobia has flared up like an allergic reaction which is why ALOK thought it would be an amazing time to hard launch their career in Hollywood. Now that's what we like to call impeccable comedic timing! Being trans and Indian is a textbook hairy situation but since textbooks are being banned all over the US we are no longer at liberty to say that. Flippant and fabulous. Wicked sharp and delightfully silly.

# Managing Death in Exile

## Sealing Cheng

This theatrical performance draws on ethnographic research with long-term asylum-seekers from sub-Saharan Africa in Hong Kong since 2012. The performance tells the story of Denise, who had to manage the illness, funeral and repatriation of ashes of her friend Rosie. Dying in exile means locating one's dead body in a transnational web of conflicting cosmologies, temporalities, kinship structures and national imagination.







# **Mexican Goddesses**

## **Las Reinas Chulas**

Specially written for RECONFERENCE 2025, the performance features Nora Huerta and Cecilia Sotres on behalf of the Reinas Chulas, and Claudia Arellano provides live music with original compositions. Two Aztec goddesses from pre-Colombian culture – Coyolxauqui, goddess of the moon, and Chicomecōatl, goddess of corn – will guide us on a journey of pleasure and fun to affirm the power of the collective, the strength of women and the importance of Indigenous cultures.

# Seconds before Coming

## Rishika Kaushik

The focus of the presentation will be the experience of pleasure and danger in children/ adolescents. The question that lies at center of this 30-minute presentation: How can we listen to our body? By sharing her breath work in a playmaking process, Rishika will invite the audience to witness breath from the lens of pleasure and danger. As they participate, they will notice the breath's response to desire: What makes them sigh or pant or gasp or exclaim? What takes their breath away? What does a 'sigh of relief' do for the body?





# Soul of the Party

## Ma Faiza

Ma Faiza's eclectic personality comes to life in her unique set tailored to RECONFERENCE's diverse global audience. Her quest for musical freedom transcends into her genre-defying sonic mixes, creating vibes that move your feet and touch your soul.





# **This Love Is Mine**

**Directed by Hashem Hashem**

A collective staged performance by a group of queer, trans and non-binary folks from Lebanon. Through a series of recited and recorded personal stories, the performers explore themes of queer and trans love, affection, safety,



romance, self-love and solidarity. The performance was first presented in Beirut, Lebanon, in May 2025 and directed by Hashem Hashem, a few months following the brutal Israeli war in Lebanon. The performance features live music and light design. It is performed in Arabic and English, with English subtitles.



# **Yeh Toh Ghar Hai Prem Ka: Songs of Home**

**Shabnam Virmani**

What house of love arises from the ashes of the one Kabir urges us to burn down? And what is the home that Marui never ever forgets, in the poetic imagination of Shah Latif?



Home, that deeply-longed-for ideal, erupts in the poetry of the mystics and Sufis as a powerful metaphor. Shabnam sings to life these age-old and yet-so-fresh poems, accompanied by Shreeparna Mitra.

films

# After the World Ends... It Begins Again

**Sukanya Roy, India**

20 mins / Sabar Bhasya, Bengali, English / 2025

The story of three generations of women from West Bengal's Kheria Sabar tribe, whose lives embody a quiet determination to resist cultural erasure. Most historical narratives about Sabar people focus on the violence that Sabar men suffered, a dark past which mustn't be understated. But this film asks: What other bodies have suffered more "invisible" wounds?



# **Amu Darya: River to a Missing Sea**

**James Chapman, Annie Liddell, Oscar Fraser Turner, Uzbekistan**

28 mins / English, Uzbek, Karakalpak / 2024

Exploring the memories of the Amu Darya, the Central Asian river that no longer reaches its original destination, the Aral Sea, the film delves into the oral histories of those most affected. Through tales of loss, adaptation and hope, the film offers the human story of an environmental disaster.



BAFTA  
QUALIFYING FESTIVAL  
BRITISH SHORT FILM

OFFICIAL SELECTION  
Carmarthen Bay  
Film Festival  
2025  
AWARD NOMINEE

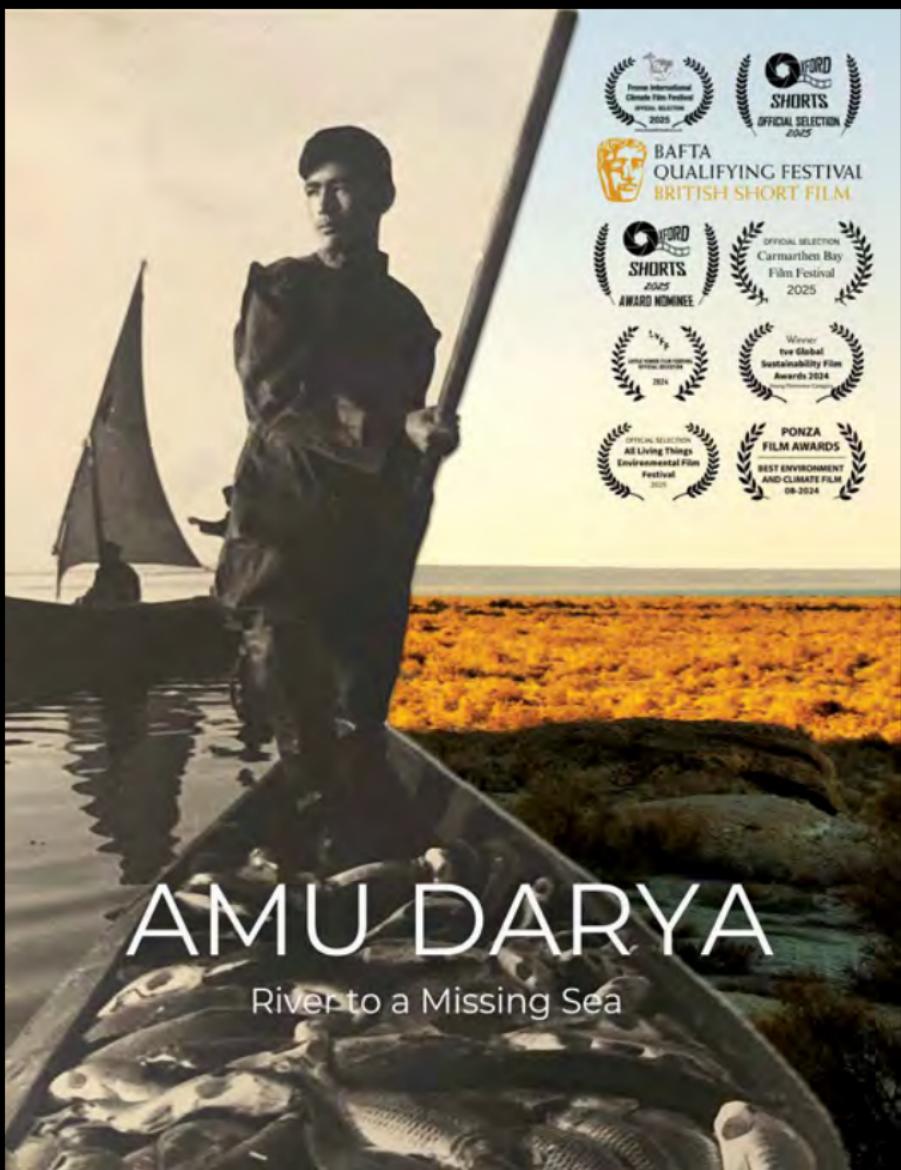


OFFICIAL SELECTION  
All Living Things  
Environmental Film  
Festival  
2024

PONZA  
FILM AWARDS  
BEST ENVIRONMENT  
AND CLIMATE FILM  
08-2024

# AMU DARYA

River to a Missing Sea





A FILM BY NEEL SONI

BAFTA STUDENT AWARDS  
DOCUMENTARY  
LONGLIST

# BABLI

*By Night*



WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY NEEL SONI  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS LEENA YADAV AND SWATI THYAGARAJAN  
EDITOR SHUBHIKA SHARMA DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY RAKESH RANA  
ORIGINAL SCORE ANUP BHAT SOUND DESIGNER ABHINAV AGNIHOTRI  
ANIMATOR AND POSTER DESIGNER AALIYA LUTHRA



PVR INOX

# Babli by Night

**Neel Soni, India**

24 mins / Hindi / 2024

This documentary follows the journey of Babban – a Muslim, transgender forest guard in Uttarakhand – as they confront societal indifference by seeking solace in nature while grappling with an unexpected HIV diagnosis. The film tenderly captures Babban's struggle to reconcile their identity and familial misunderstandings in rural India.

*The filmmaker will be in conversation with Aseem Chhabra.*

# **Black Butterflies**

**David Baute, Spain, Panama**

1 hr 23 mins / Spanish, Bengali, Turkana, French, Arabic, English / 2024

The film starts at a heartbreakingly present before returning to the main characters' pasts, lost forever. Three lives that, like thousands of inhabitants of the planet suffer the consequences of global warming, deserve to be brought to light.



# CODED BIAS

THERE IS NO ALGORITHM FOR TRUTH



A SHALINI KANTAYYA FILM



# **Coded Bias**

**Shalini Kantayya, USA**

1 hr 30 mins / English / 2020)

As artificial intelligence (AI) touches our daily lives, it is increasingly important to address its potential risks and harms. This multiple award-winning documentary sheds light on critical flaws in AI systems that threaten democracy and our basic rights, telling the story of Dr Joy Buolamwini, who uncovered biases in these systems while at MIT and subsequently founded the Algorithmic Justice League to combat AI-related harm.

# **Cut**

## **Royston Tan, Singapore**

13 mins / English / 2004

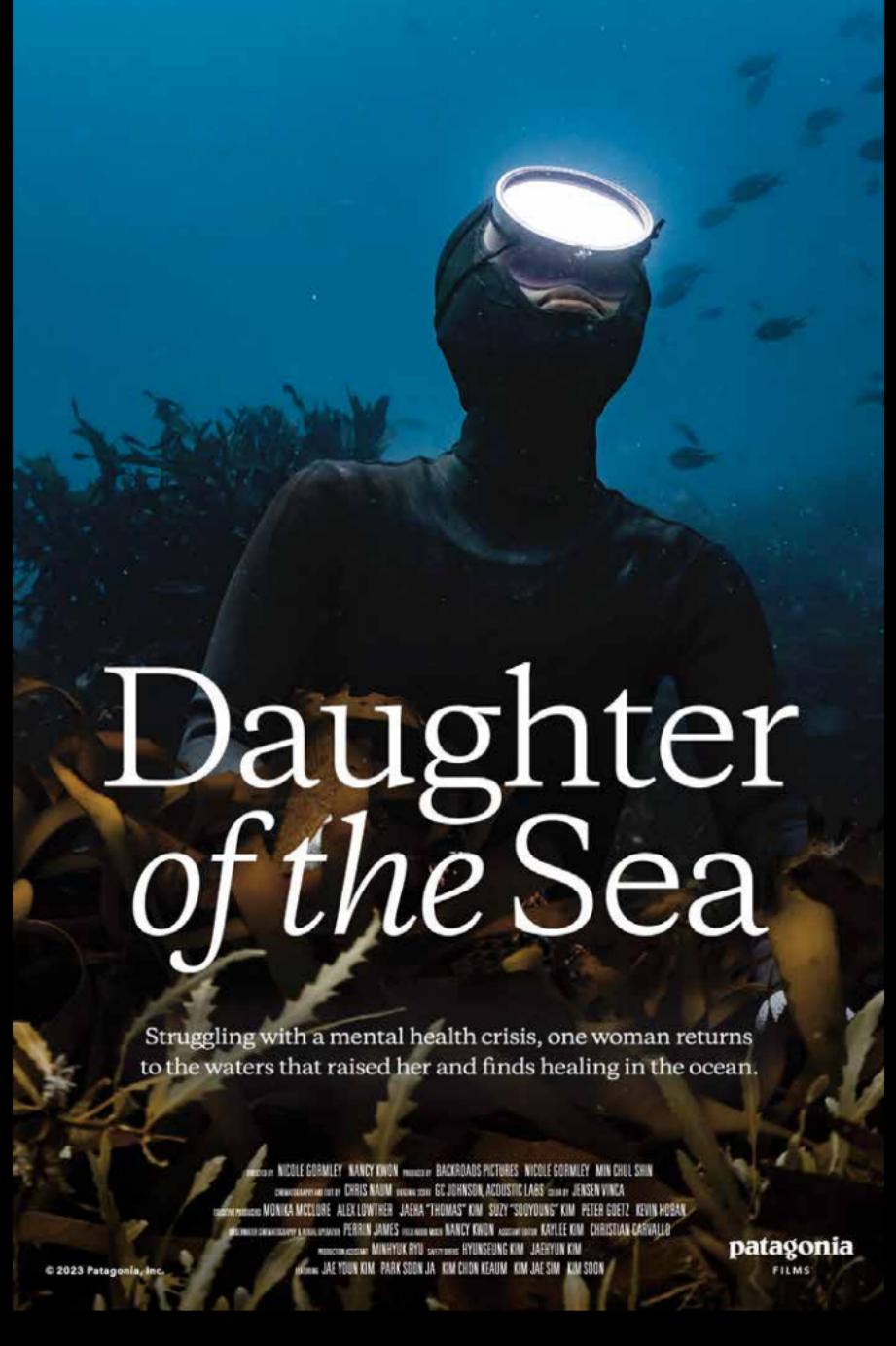
This hilarious film follows Mrs Censor's struggle to catch her breath as an obsessive fanboy pesters her about the art of editing. Hailed as a film lover with impeccable taste and brilliant editing skills, she is worshipped for her selflessness in protecting the citizens of Singapore from immoral ideas in film.

# **Daughter of the Sea**

## **Nicole Gormley, Nancy Kwon, Republic of Korea**

16 mins 45 secs / English, Korean / 2023

After Jaeyoun Kim moves to Seoul to pursue corporate work, she struggles with depression. She returns to tiny Mara Island, where generations of women in her family have worked as haenyeo, free-diving "mermaids" who harvest seafood from the ocean floor. A story of homecoming, and how nature can bring us back to self when we've lost our center.

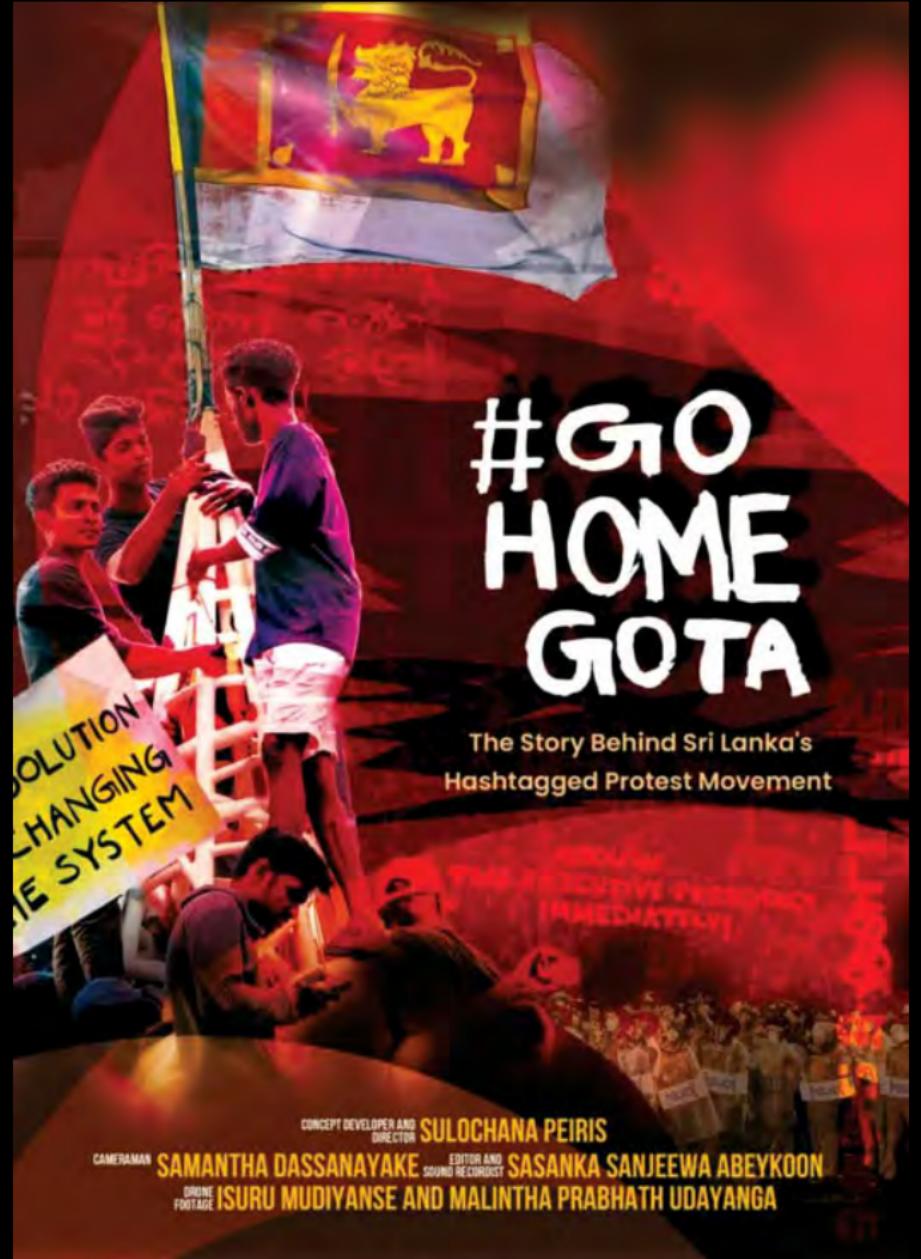


# Daughter of the Sea

Struggling with a mental health crisis, one woman returns to the waters that raised her and finds healing in the ocean.

WRITTEN BY NICOLE GORMLEY NANCY KIMON PRODUCED BY BACKROADS PICTURES NICOLE GORMLEY MIN CHUL SHIN  
CINEMATOGRAPHY AND EDITED BY CHRIS NAUM DIRECTOR OF MUSIC GC JOHNSON, ACOUSTIC LABS COLOR BY JENSEN VINCA  
EDITORIAL PRODUCED BY MONICA MCCLURE ALEX LOWTHIER JAEGA "THOMAS" KIM SUZY "SUZYOUNG" KIM PETER SUETZ KEVIN HOBAN  
CINEMATOGRAPHY AND EDITED BY PERRIN JAMES PRODUCED WITH NANCY KIMON ASSISTANT EDITOR KAYLEE KIM CHRISTIAN CARBALLO  
PRODUCTION DESIGNER MINTYUK RYU CINETHONIC HYUNSEUNG KIM JAERYUN KIM  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC JAE YOUN KIM PARK SOON JA KIM CHON KEUM KIM JAE SIM KIM SON

patagonia  
FILMS



# #GO HOME GOTĀ

The Story Behind Sri Lanka's  
Hashtagged Protest Movement

CONCEPT DEVELOPER AND  
DIRECTOR SULOCHANA PEIRIS

CAMERAMAN SAMANTHA DASSANAYAKE EDITOR AND SASANKA SANJEEWA ABEYKOON  
DRONE FOOTAGE ISURU MUDIYANSE AND MALINTHA PRABHATH UDAYANGA

# #GOHOME GOT A

**Sulochana Peiris, Sri Lanka**

51 mins / English / 2023

A look at Sri Lanka's 2022 Aragalaya protests from a movement-building and mobilization perspective, centering around interviews with core activists belonging to different ethnic, linguistic and professional backgrounds. These leaders discuss how they define and are working towards a "system change" which they envisioned through the protest movement.

# Gold mines damage green goals in Republic of Congo

**Juliette Chapalain, Republic of the Congo**

12 mins / English, French / 2025

This investigative report reveals how the Republic of Congo has granted dozens of mining permits in protected forest areas that are supposed to generate carbon credits under a World Bank climate funding program. Shot in the Sangha region in the Congo Basin, it exposes environmental degradation, river pollution and the exclusion of Indigenous communities from the forest.

# Homebound

**Neeraj Ghaywan, India**

119 mins / Hindi, English CC / 2025

Inspired by a true story, India's entry for the Oscars follows the journey of two friends – one Dalit and the other Muslim – across a country that often refuses to see them. From chasing a police job to working as migrant laborers in a textile mill to enduring the cruelties of a pandemic, their quest for dignity tests the strength of their friendship.

DHARMA  
PRODUCTIONS

DHARMA PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS  
A DHARMA PRODUCTIONS FILM

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MASAAN



FESTIVAL DE CANNES  
2025 OFFICIAL SELECTION  
UN CERTAIN REGARD



2025 INTERNATIONAL  
PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD  
SECOND RUNNER-UP



ISHAAN KHATTER

VISHAL JETHWA

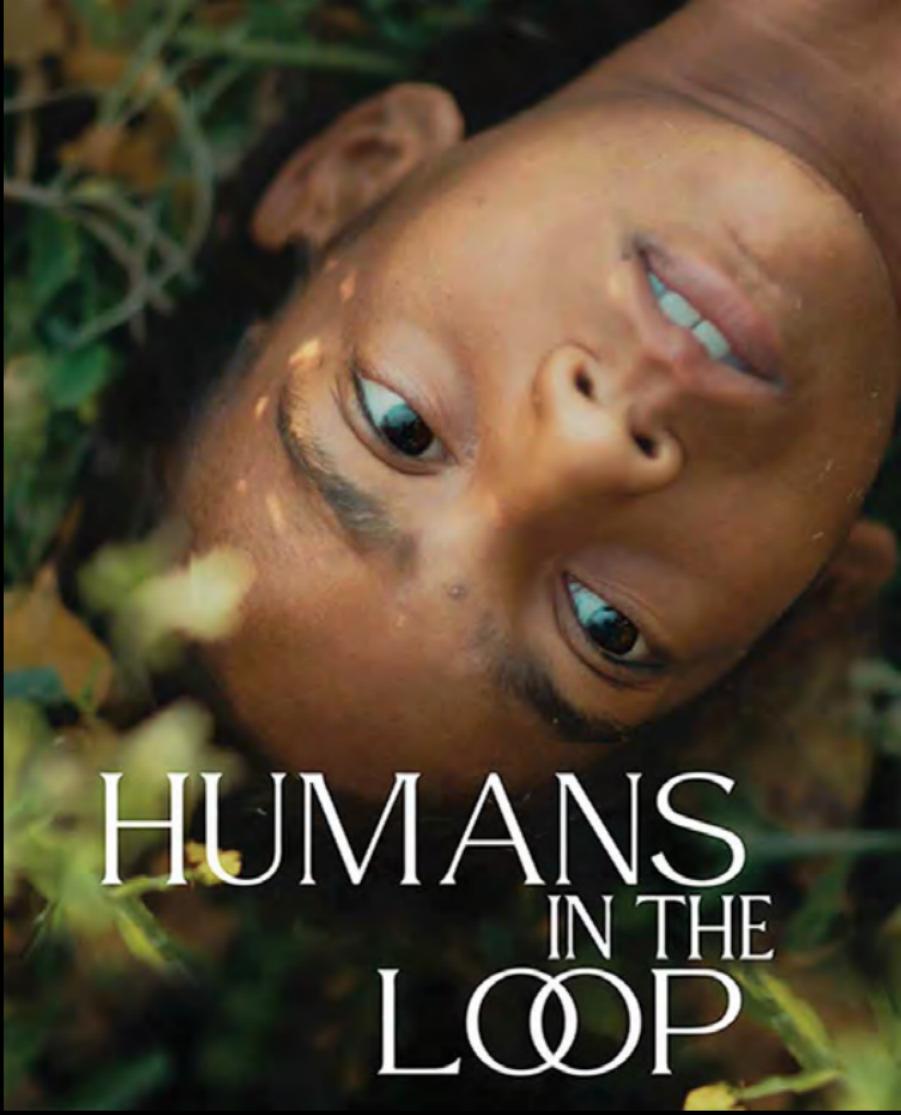
JANHVI KAPOOR

# HOMEBOUND

DIRECTED BY NEERAJ GHAYWAN







# HUMANS IN THE LOOP

# Humans in the Loop

Aranya Sahay, India

1 hr 14 mins / Hindi, Kurukh / 2024

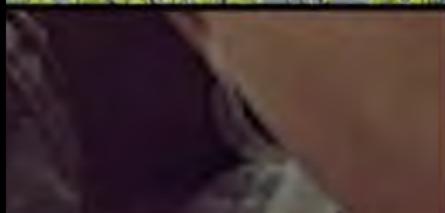
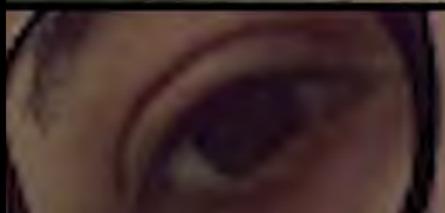
After enduring years of name-calling and taunts that echoed deep-rooted biases against her community, Nehma separates from her partner and returns to her village with her children. To support her family, she works as a data labeler. Nehma then begins to uncover the subtle yet persistent human biases embedded within AI systems, prompting her to question whether technology can ever truly reflect an Indigenous worldview.

# International Dawn Chorus Day

**John Greyson, Canada**

15 mins / English / 2021

On International Dawn Chorus Day (May 3, 2020), birds from six continents join a Zoom call. They gossip about storms and cats and wires and dates. They talk about Egyptian filmmaker Shady Habash, known for his satiric anti-dictator music videos, who died the day before in Cairo's Tora prison. They wonder about Egyptian queer activist Sarah Hegazi, incarcerated for flying a rainbow flag at a Cairo concert, living as a refugee in Toronto.



WORLD PREMIERE • BERLINALE 2021 (SHORTS COMPETITION) • 15 MIN



# INTERNATIONAL DAWN CHORUS DAY

A FILM BY JOHN GREYSON • EDITOR: KALIL HADDAD • SOUND: EVERETT MAJOR

CINEMATOGRAPHY: ANONYMOUS (Imbaba, Cairo), ANONYMOUS (New Cairo City), ANONYMOUS (Tora, Cairo), SOFIA BOHDANOWICZ (London), AA BRONSON (Berlin), JULIE BURLEIGH (LA), DEE DEE HALLACK (Vancouver), SHARON HAYASHI (LA), NELSON HENDRICKS (Montreal), APRIL HICKOX (Toronto), MICHELLE JACQUES (Victoria), NANCY KIM (Seoul), PRAHLA KHOSLA (Burnaby), LYNE LAPointe (Moose Jaw), STEPHEN LAWSON (Montreal), JACK LEWIS (Vancouver), CATHERINE LORD (Victoria), LORING MCALPIN (New York), ALEXIS MITCHELL (Glasgow), MARI MIZUNOCHI (Tokyo), KEN MORRISON (Carmel), DANIEL NEGATU (Vancouver), MARTHA NEWBORGING (Carmel), JANE PARK (Sydney), PAMELA RODGERSON (Toronto), SU RHYARD (Toronto), UDOR SHAMRIZ (Guelph), AMIL SHIVA (Der Es Salam), CHERYL SOURKES (Montreal), DHEYLANI SOW (Dakar), RICHARD TILLMANN (Bayfield), ALMERINDA TRAVASSOS (Prince Edward County), DAVID WALL (Toronto), BH Yael (Toronto)

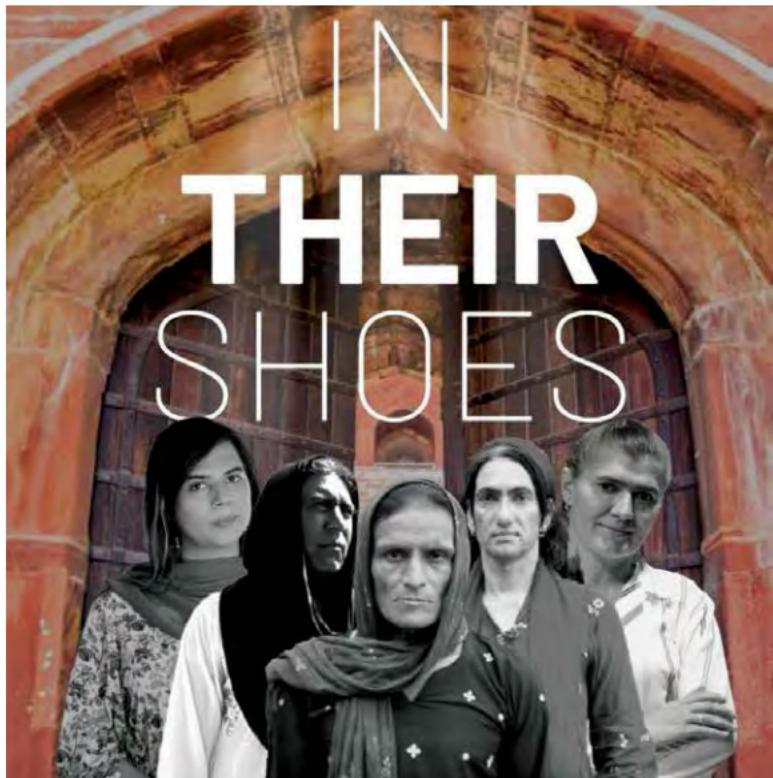
IN MEMORY OF SHADY HABASH & SARAH HEGAZI, AND ALL OF EGYPT'S PRISONERS

# In Their Shoes

Saro Imran, Pakistan

12 mins / English, Urdu / 2025

The film captures the overlooked realities of transgender communities during Pakistan's devastating 2022 floods. While millions were displaced, transgender people faced an even harsher struggle – excluded from relief camps, denied essential aid and left to navigate the impacts of climate change alone.



# Mikuba

**Petna Ndaliko Katondolo,  
Democratic Republic of the Congo**

1 hr / Kiswahili / 2025

A journey deep into the cobalt veins of Kolwezi, where the battle for a sustainable green energy future unfolds amid dust and heat. Amid this scramble, the film reveals the lives of local custodians – artisanal/small scale miners – who stand resolute as the guardians of ancestral wealth and wisdom.

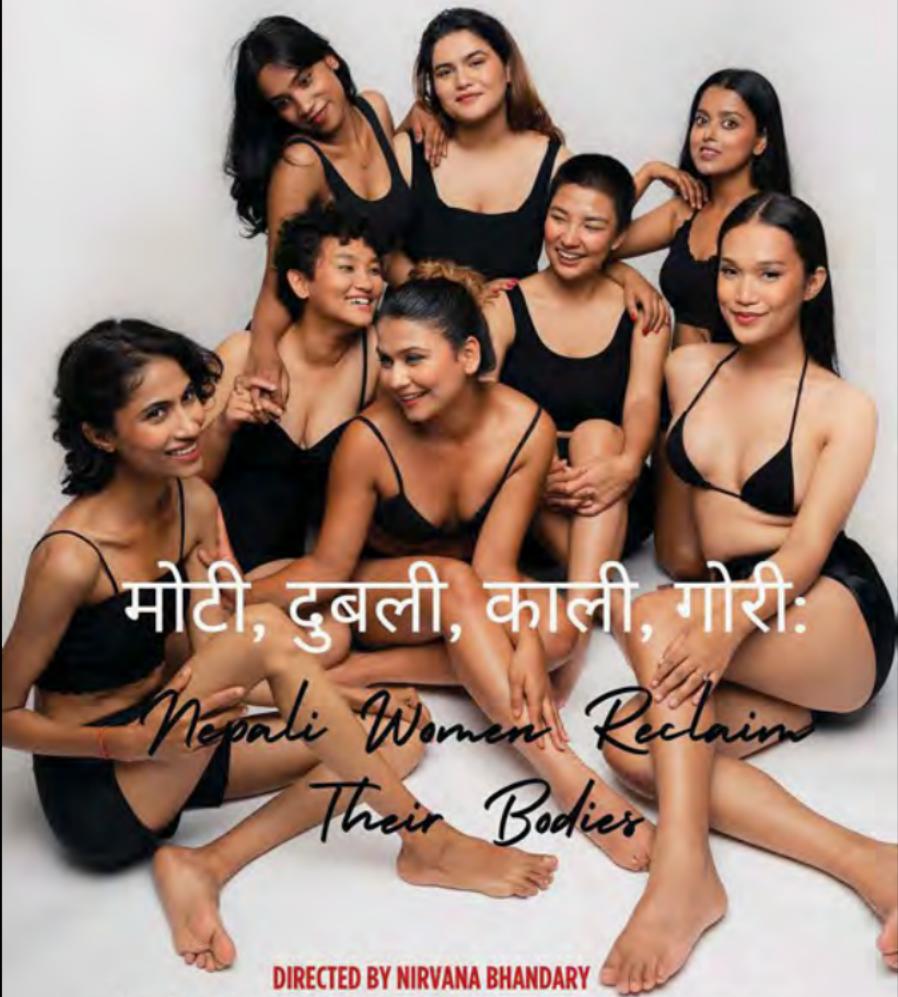


# **Moti, Dubli, Kali, Gori: Nepali Women Reclaim Their Bodies**

**Nirvana Bhandary, Nepal**

13 mins / English, Nepali / 2024)

Delving into the complex societal pressures confronting young Nepali women regarding body image and beauty standards, the film explores the diverse experiences of three remarkable women who faced bullying and discrimination for their ethnicity, skin color and body weight.



मोटी, दुबली, काली, गोरी:

*Nepali Women Reclaim  
Their Bodies*

DIRECTED BY NIRVANA BHANDARY

मोटी, दुबली, काली, गोरी: NEPALI WOMEN RECLAIM THEIR BODIES SUPPORTED BY SHANTA NEPALI FOUNDATION STARRING MUSKAN JHA SMARIKA PATHAK AND SHREYA GHIMIRE CINEMATOGRAPHY NEESHA KHALING RAI PHOTOGRAPHY SHRISTI MAGAR EDITOR AASHISH PUDASAINI PRODUCTION MANAGER HEENA KOIRALA POST PRODUCTION SHANTA NEPALI PRODUCTIONS WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY NIRVANA BHANDARY



# Silent flow



DIRECTION: PUSHPA JOSHI

FEATURING: NISHANT SAH & ANU SHAHI THAKURI CINEMATOGRAPHY: CHAKRA MAHARJAN  
SOUND: BHUWAN RAWAL & LIL BAHADUR KHATRI EDIT: GYARENDRA GOPALI & SANDESH PARIYAR

# **Silent Flow: Transmen's Journey Through Menstruation in Nepal**

Pushpa Joshi / Nepal / 15 mins / Nepali / 2025

This film explores the unseen struggles faced by two trans men, Nishant and Anu, as they navigate the emotional and physical complexities of menstruation in a deeply conservative society. In Nepal, where menstruation is still shrouded in stigma and linked exclusively to womanhood, these men's experiences illuminate the intersection of identity, body and gender.

# Slut Club

**Zoey Black, South Africa**

22 mins / English / 2025

A daring documentary short film that explores and connects to our sexuality by delving into the heart of Ms T's Slut Club, a pole dancing show in Cape Town created for women and the LGBTQIA+ community. With performers sharing their experiences of reclaiming their bodies and sexuality, finding empowerment through self-exploration and expression, the film acts a powerful tool of advocacy for sex workers.

*The filmmaker will be in conversation with Aseem Chhabra.*



# SLUT CLUB

A ZOEY BLACK DOCUMENTARY

ZOEY BLACK  
DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKER & PHOTOGRAPHER



GAMUT 1

PRODUCED & DIRECTED BY ZOEY BLACK EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS TIINA O'CONNOR AND ZOEY BLACK  
EDITED BY ZOEY BLACK ADDITIONAL FOOTAGE BY BAZ BAILEY STILLS PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANNA SMITH  
MUSIC BY ARIEL SHALOM ASSAF AVALON THE RALLIES RONIT YARIN PRIMAK ZISO SZNS

# SNOW LEOPARD SISTERS

MAIN MEDIA SPONSOR: CONAN LEOPARD DISTILLERS. IN ASSOCIATION WITH APPAREL WORK  
SOUNDTRACK PROVIDED BY: CONAN LEOPARD LAMA. ANTHONY LYNCH (VOCALS), KATE BRYANT (PIANO), JENNIFER DAWSON (PHILIP WATSON  
BAND), LINDY HERNANDEZ (ERINNE), ELLIOTT RANDALL, CATHERINE QUANTON, GABRIEL CLARKE, JOHN MCKENNA, FERG JOHNSON, RENAN GEURK, RUSH STURGES  
PROPS PROVIDED BY: ADAM CONSIDER, LIA PROPS, EMMA MASON-PERRY, KARA JOHN, ELAINE MANKINS. CO-PRODUCED BY BEN AYERS. PRODUCED BY JOANNA NAGASEBARA. YAN DAVIES (SHIRRING LAMA). LAMA TORQUE, JONES  
DIRECTED BY BEN AYERS. WRITTEN BY LINDY LOUGH CONAN LEOPARD LAMA



# **Snow Leopard Sisters**

**Sonam Choekyi Lama, Ben Ayers, Andrew Lynch,  
Nepal, USA**

1 hr 35 mins / English, Nepali / 2024

The film follows snow leopard conservationist Tshiring Lhamu Lama as she mentors 17-year-old Tenzin Bhuti Gurung, who is desperate to escape a forced marriage. Together, they journey through the treacherous yet breathtaking landscape of the Himalaya in search of the last remaining endangered snow leopards.



၁၁၁၅

## Thabyay: Creative Resistance in Myanmar

*Some take up arms while struggling to stay true to their commitment to non-violence. Others engage in "artivism," using music, poetry and art to bring about a peaceful and truly inclusive future for all people in Myanmar (Burma).*

written & directed by JEANNE HALLACY

producer GREGG BUTENSKY

editor ELIZABETH FINLAYSON

online edit ASIAWORKS TELEVISION

sound design AKRITCHALERM KALAYANAMITR

original music PHOE SAN

featuring

PHOE SAN, SUSANNA HLA HLA SOE,  
MAUNG SAUNGKHA, THET SWE WIN

TRT: 62 minutes

©2025 Kirana Productions

# **Thabyay: Creative Resistance in Myanmar**

**Jeanne Hallacy, Gregg Butensky, Myanmar**

60 mins / Burmese, English CC / 2025

This film follows four revolutionaries who are finding creative means to fight against the military junta. Some take up arms while struggling to stay true to their commitment to non-violence, while others engage in "artivism". Myanmar is one of the deadliest conflict areas in the world, yet little international attention is paid to the ongoing brutal oppression or to the courageous resistance to it.

# **The Ice Builders**

**Francesco Clerici, Tommaso Barbaro, Italy**

15 mins / English / 2024

In the high-altitude desert valley of Zanskar, in the Himalaya, local populations have always been dependent on glaciers which provided the water necessary for cultivation and life. But rising temperatures have caused water scarcity. In an unequal battle against climate change, the people of Ladakh construct artificial glaciers.



**The Ice Builders**



# The Perfect Neighbor

Geeta Gandbhir, USA

97 mins / English / 2025

The Emmy Award-winning director's latest documentary explores a tight-knit community experiencing relentless harassment by a neighbor whose hostility escalates into a fatal crime. Using police bodycam footage to reveal conversations between law enforcement and neighbors, the film confronts viewers with the stark realities of 'stand your ground' laws.

"POWERFUL &  
UNFORGETTABLE"

IndieWire

"THE FILM PLAYS OUT  
LIKE A THRILLER"

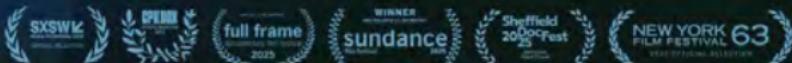
Acclaim

"A REVOLUTIONARY  
DOCUMENTARY"

IGN

A NETFLIX DOCUMENTARY

# THE PERFECT NEIGHBOR



ONLY ON **NETFLIX** | NOW PLAYING **R**

# Umma's Tongue – molten at 6000

Hannah Brontë, Australia

4 mins 50 secs / HD video, sound / 2017

A look at the destruction of the earth, featuring images of healthy natural environments and cutting to imagery of mining and damage to the planet, overlaid with First Nations women rapping and dressed in body adornment. The director described the work thus: 'If mother earth were a rapper then this is her new music video'.



# FILM LOOPS AND VIDEO EXHIBITS

## **Asha Ki Kiran / Empowered Paths**

These animated videos are presented by Asia Safe Abortion Partnership (ASAP), along with a board game, Snakes and Ladders for Safe Abortion. These resources are based on interviews and narrative data regarding women's experiences with abortion in South India, seeking to enhance safe abortion training, knowledge sharing and advocacy.

## **Criminalization through the Lens**

How do prisons affect the lives of people, their families and communities? What's the impact of the carceral system and other mechanisms of criminalization? Intersecta's production of a series of clips highlight how different systems of oppression based on punishment and criminalization affect communities. The takeaway: criminalization has done more harm than good and has further exacerbated the unequal conditions in which some populations live.

## **Disability Art: A Montage**

Disability art centers the creativity, perspectives and lived experiences of disabled people. It challenges narrow definitions of ability and beauty. This montage by disabled artists helps illustrate the way disabled artists are shaping a new cultural narrative on how they are represented.

# **Nairobi Principles: Reading/ Signing**

The Nairobi Principles on Abortion, Prenatal Testing and Disability provides position points that are grounded in fundamental human rights standards that can be used to forge alliances across broader issues emerging at the intersections of gender, sexuality, sexual and reproductive health, diversity and disability. In this video disability rights activists read and sign the Nairobi Principles to reaffirm their commitment and participation in forging cross movement alliances.

## **Resistance Videos**

A rotating selection of short film loops featuring visuals from historic movements that have shaped collective action across generations. Drawing from moments such as the Narmada Bachao Andolan, global disability rights mobilizations, the Aurat March, and Kenya's marches against femicide, these loops trace legacies of resistance and imagination that continue to inspire movements today.

# **Sins Invalid: Vagina Manifesto and Mistress Asthma**

In *Vagina Manifesto*, Maria Palacios explores the intersections of sexuality and disability, confronting the 'anti-vagina propaganda' that has long policed women's bodies and their sexualities. She calls forth a world where we "liberate ourselves and our daughters from the darkness of a history that condemns our vaginas to silence and shame." In *Mistress Asthma*, Alex Cafarelli transforms the stage into a darkly playful exploration of climate crisis and capitalist extraction. Through seductive threat and BDSM-inspired aesthetics and power play, *Mistress Asthma* guides the audience through an escalating encounter that exposes climate catastrophe as the result of an abusive relationship.

# **Still, We Rise: A celebration of disabled resistance, joy, and imagination**

This video exhibit by Rising Flame centers disabled resistance, challenging the dominant narratives that portray disability through lenses of tragedy or inspiration and instead celebrates disabled people's creativity, leadership and collective power. Through videos from the organization's archives and new callouts, the exhibit shares moments of challenge and celebration, victory and vulnerability.

# **This is Gender: Photography on the Frontlines of Justice**

This video exhibit brings together the work of 85 artists from This is Gender, a global photography initiative from Global 50/50 that mobilizes visual storytelling to confront how gender is framed and contested. The installation challenges colonial, patriarchal and heteronormative framings that have long reduced gender to stereotype and spectacle. Presented as a continuous video work, it brings these perspectives into relation, revealing the diversity of gendered experience across cultures, contexts and power structures. Curated by Imogen Bakelman.

## **The Women's Storytelling Project for Sudan**

Filmmakers from Sudan and Uganda partnered with Musawah organization to train young Sudanese women affected by the ongoing war both in Sudan and in the refugee camp in Uganda. The result is five short videos – Tasneem, Sarah, Sabra, Omnia and Huda – documenting the women's struggle to access marriage and divorce rights.



# HUDA OMNIA SABRA SARAH TASNEEM

SHORT FILMS BY  
SALWAN SALAH, ONAB ADLAN,  
AREEJ ADAM, JUWARIAH OSMAN,  
FATIMA ISMAIL, ASMAA ISMAIL,  
AYAA MOHAMED, ROGIAH BADR,  
ESRA ELRASHEED,  
TRTEEL YOUSIF, RASHA MOHAMED

PRODUCED BY  
ALYAA MUSA, ELSADIG MOHAMED,  
ERIC MUKALAZI

#FreeOurFamilyLaws

The Women's Storytelling Project for Sudan

# Book Launches

# Feminist Fables

by Srilatha Batliwala

This is a volume of stories that emerged out of a lifetime of feminist activism and thought. CREA Senior Advisor Srilatha Batliwala has worked at the rural grassroots and among the urban poor in India, collectivizing women and learning important lessons from them. These fables distill those insights, and bring them alive.





# Liquid Borders. Dissident Bodies

by Anita Khemka

The idea for this photobook came from Anita Khemka's carefully staged portraiture made at CREA's Renew: South Asia Sex Workers' Summit held in Kathmandu in May 2024. Khemka continued the work, photographing sex workers of the region first in Kolkata, during Durga Puja, and later in Sri Lanka, and then again in Kathmandu. This beautiful volume is CREA's first production of a photobook.



Avantika Das, India



Poonam Thakuri, Nepal



Rina, Bangladesh

# Art & Installations

# **Albright Ayoyi Alitsi**

## **The World We Hold**

A wall-hanging crochet piece crafted by disabled artists from Lola Crotchet Organization in Nairobi. Made entirely by hand and leg, the artwork features a smiling globe embraced by solidarity hands in blue, green, light brown and pink. It is a visual and tactile celebration of disabled joy, survivor-led artistry and global care. This piece invites viewers to witness not just beauty, but the systems of dignity and emotional safety that disabled survivors build every day.

# **Apnavi Makanji**

## **Appropriation Disinformation: Nature and the Body Politic**

In this series, Makanji negotiates with the artificial notions of ownership of natural resources through political borders by using historical maps, overlaid with collaged organisms. They see maps as cartographies of conquest that do not reflect reality, nature, vulnerability, other species or terrain. Makanji also looks at the altered migration patterns of species driven by climate change, highlighting the interconnectedness of these issues. Maps, colonial instruments of extraction, are subverted by being covered with the very subjects that they efface.



# Aravani Art Society

## Together, We Return to Ourselves

Structures of exclusion often push communities away from their own sense of belonging, dignity and identity. They create distance – between people and opportunity, between individuals and their own voice, between communities and the world that should hold them with care. *Together, We Return to Ourselves* is the countermovement to these structures. It suggests that healing and reclamation happen not in isolation, but in collective strength. When we gather, create and speak in shared spaces, we begin to dismantle the systems that once kept us apart. We return to our stories, our agency, our visibility and our power.

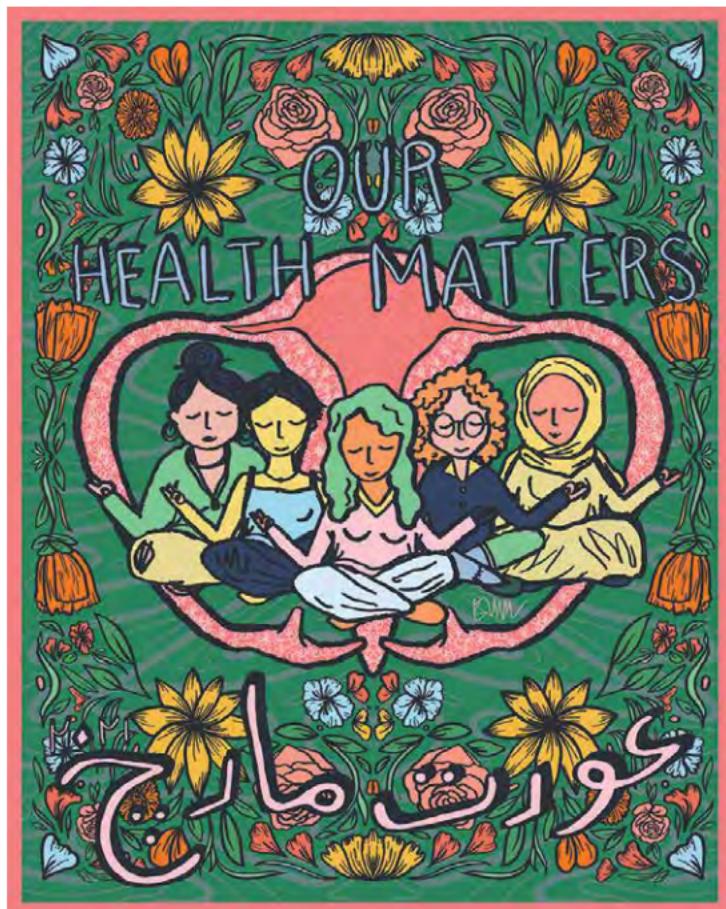




# Aurat March

## Posters

Since 2018, the Aurat March has reshaped Women's Day in Pakistan into a defiant act of feminist presence, as women reclaim streets across cities through collective organizing and solidarity. On display are posters from the 2018 Aurat March in Lahore.



8 MARCH



# اورت مارچ

#AURAT MARCH 2019

#AuratMarchLahore

 @AuratMarch

  @AuratMarchLahore



From *By an Eye-Witness*



# Azadeh Akhlaghi

## Witness: A Nation's Scars of Time (selected panels)

Following her acclaimed *By an Eye-Witness* series of reconstructed photographs of 17 mysterious deaths in Iran over the previous century – which showed at Reconference 2019 – Azadeh Akhlaghi will discuss her forthcoming/new body of work, *Witness: A Nation's Scars of Time*. A selection of panels, including 'Mother of Tabriz', from the monumental new work will be on display.



From *By an Eye-Witness*



# Baaraan Ijlal

## Hostile Witness

'A Series on Silenced Narratives': This ongoing series of paintings explores stories of erasure. Baaraan archives against forgetting through paintings of fragile buildings in Bhopal, Delhi, Lucknow, Kolkata, Mumbai and Banaras, as well as the inhabitants of these buildings – now cast out by time, bureaucracy, and development. 'The Partition Chapter' is a new addition to the *Hostile Witness* series. Between dusk and dawn on the 14th/15th of August 1947, the sky over the South Asian subcontinent bore witness to the birth of new nations, divisions and deaths. Between then, now and forever, the sky has watched the erasure of lives, abandoned homes and the silencing of millions of women's stories.



# Errik Irwan

## Latent Threats of Problematic People

A commentary on the political upheavals, social inequalities and the threat of militarization looming over Indonesian society by the Indonesian comic artist and illustrator known for his popular online comic strip *Gump n Hell*. The comic strip uses only social media as a means of publication ([facebook.com/gumpnhell](http://facebook.com/gumpnhell) or [instagram.com/gumpnhell](http://instagram.com/gumpnhell)). Irwan inserts pop culture icons as a form of satire from political figures in Indonesia in several of his comics.

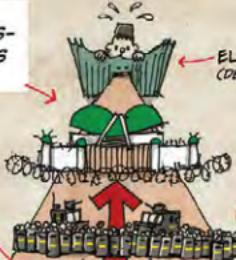
# LATENT THREATS OF PROBLEMATIC PEOPLE



1 HARD TIMES, RAMPANT CORRUPTION, SOCIAL DISPARITY, BUT ELITE RULES WITH NO EMPATHY.

2 THE PEOPLE GATHER TO ADDRESS CONCERN VIA PROTEST TO THE RULERS.

3 CONSTANT EFFORTS TO DEFLATE THE MOVEMENT BY DILUTING FOCUS.



LAW ENFORCEMENT (PROTECT, DEFEND, & SERVICE THE RULERS BUT TREAT CIVILIANS WITH BRUTALITY)

4 SITUATION IS MANIPULATED TO BECOME HORIZONTAL CONFLICTS. CIVILIANS ARE PITTED AGAINST EACH OTHER VIA RACE, RELIGION, & ETHNIC ISSUES.

BURN!  
TERMINAL  
SHOP  
BLAZER

TRAINED & ORGANIZED

5 MASS MEDIA FRAMING, FOCUSING ON IMPACT OF PROTEST INSTEAD OF THE MESSAGE.

6 NATIONAL MEDIA FOCUSES ON FEAR MONGERING.



7 MILITARY SUMMONED FROM BARRACKS TO SQUASH PROTESTS.

PLAYING HERO  
MARTIAL LAW

CIVIL SUPREMACY

8 BY AUTHORITY OF PUBLIC SECURITY & ORDER, MILITARY IS GIVEN POWER (& MORE TAX PAYER MONEY) TO MANAGE CIVILIAN LIFE.

9 IF MILITARY SOLIDLY SUPPORTS THE PRESIDENT, THEN PRESIDENT CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION...



..TO CENTRALISE ABSOLUTE POWER.

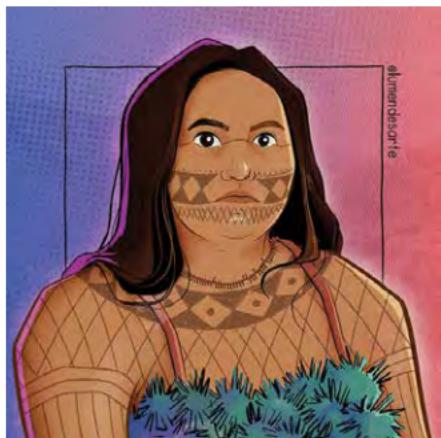
10 PRESIDENT COULD DISOLVE PARLIAMENT, SET CONSTITUTION AS THEY LIKE, & BECOME RULER FOR LIFE.

(COUPLED WITH THE CLAIM THAT THIS IS BASED ON THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE)

11 HOWEVER THE MILITARY COULD ALSO RUN OVER & KICK THE PRESIDENT OUT, APPOINT A PUPPET (E.G. VP), OR APPLY A JUNTA MILITARY SYSTEM.

TRANSLATED BY H.A.   
f = @gumpnhell





# **Ester Pinheiro and Luciana Mendes**

## **Environmental Crimes in the Amazon Force Indigenous Women to Migrate**

This work brings to light the stories of ten Indigenous women from Brazil and Colombia, who have been forced to migrate, threatened or displaced. Through storytelling by Pinheiro and illustrations by Luciana Mendes, the work highlights how Indigenous women carry their lands, cultures and resistance within them, acting as guardians of their communities and ecosystems. This project amplifies Indigenous voices, celebrates women's leadership and exposes the intersection of environmental and social injustice. It invites audiences to reflect on the human and ecological cost of territorial exploitation and the resilience of Indigenous women defending the Earth.

# **Ho Chi Minh Islam & Md. Sajib Mia**

## **The Revolution Had Faces**

This photography and installation project documents a historic moment in Bangladesh when transgender, hijra, intersex, non-binary and queer (THINQ) activists took to the streets demanding equality amidst a wave of political and religious upheaval. Curated by Ho Chi Minh Islam and photographed by Md. Sajib Mia, the exhibition captures the courage, fear and unity that shaped a new chapter of Bangladesh's gender-diverse movement. Each frame is a living archive – where placards became prayers and bodies became battlegrounds of identity, faith and freedom.



# Joana Varon

## Tramas - tecnologia tramas territorios

An action-research project of the Decolonial Feminist Coalition for Digital and Environmental Justice. Through testimonies of resistance in various Latin American countries, it seeks to unravel the complexity of contemporary processes of digital extractivism and thus show how the production chain of digital technologies generates multidimensional impacts on communities and territories.





LAILA



Salma El-Tarzi

## Selected comics

The comic titled *The Climate is Changing, Will I face a Natural Disaster* highlights the multilayered gendered climate hardships that women and queer people in the SWANA region struggle with and the intersectional layers of injustices they fight. *Laila Soueif* is a story of love, solidarity and resistance, of an icon of hope and determination – one mother who inspires generations of freedom fighters in the region.



# IM-Defensoras

## Feminist Holistic Protection: A Graphic Display

This artwork seeks to present a visual and compelling depiction of Feminist Holistic Protection (FHP), a political approach for care and protection among women and LBTIQ+ defenders developed by the Mesoamerican Initiative of Women Human Rights Defenders. Developed by IM-Defensoras in partnership with Mexican artist and graphic designer Carolina Mota.



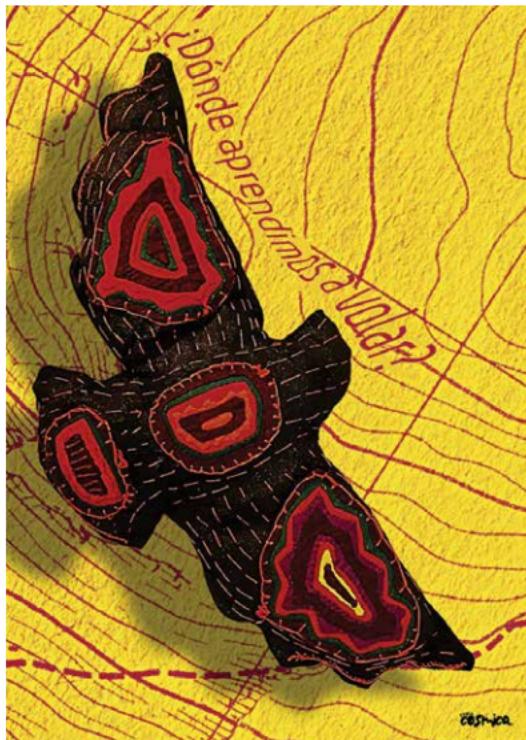


# Laura V

## ¿Dónde aprendimos a volar?

## Where did we learn to fly?

To fly is to reclaim freedom – to become all the things our weary feet could not. We fly toward home, toward hope, toward the promise of a future we are owed. This art piece affirms the power of communities in the face of displacement and exile – realities engineered and normalized by systems designed to strip us of our right to belong. It invites us to center the power and dreams that forge wings.





# Mahmud Rahman

## Photographs from 'Unmentionable': Rohingya Refugees in Cox's Bazaar

The context of the exhibition was the impact of the latest attacks against Rohingyas in Rakhine State, which started in 2017. The large-scale destruction of Rohingya villages under the guise of military counter-insurgency operations has driven the population across the border into Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. This has become one of the most serious humanitarian crises in the world today. An estimated 655,000 Rohingya have joined other refugees from previous waves bringing the total to an estimated 867,550 Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh who are traumatized, have lost their livelihoods and live in grim conditions.







## Boyhood meets the algorithm



# MenEngage Alliance Global Youth Reference Group

## Are (All) Boys Really Like That?

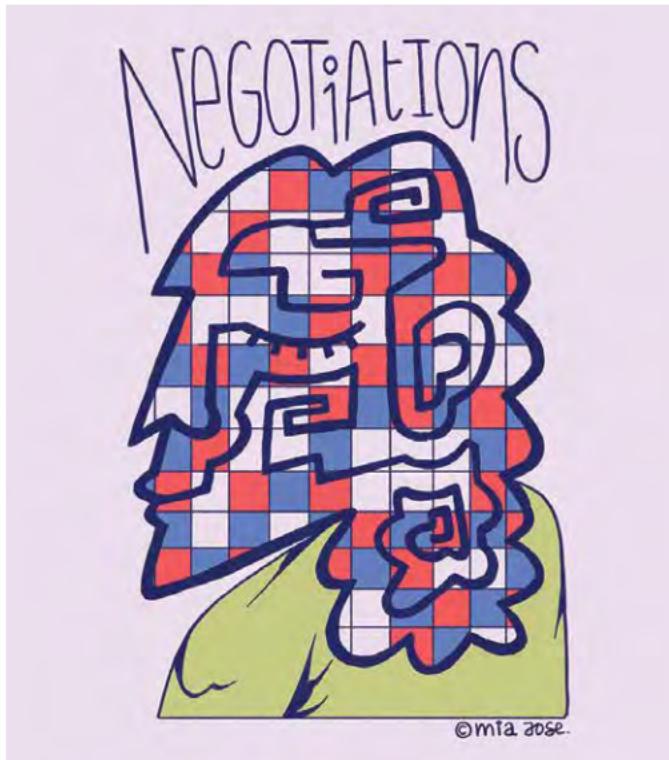
This is the first of a three-part comic strip series made through a virtual collaborative process by members of MenEngage Alliance Global Youth Reference Group.

The comic emerged from discussions among members of the group in response to the Netflix miniseries *Adolescence*. Group members analyzed the show's portrayals of masculinity from a feminist perspective, reflecting on what was captured, what was missing and what must be addressed to challenge patriarchal masculinities, misogyny and the manosphere.

# Mia Jose

## Negotiations

A multimedia project which dissects the power of physical spaces like family homes and public transport to box queer bodies into the palatable. While using the lens of a transfeminine person, it also forces the audience, both cis and trans, to question the conditioned policing they do of themselves. Having different points of entry like illustrations, comics and dioramas, this work believes that trans bodies can only be free once cis bodies stop policing themselves.





# Nida Mushtaq and Cassie Denbow

## Diary of Ruptures

So often we are taught to conceal what is torn. This diary seeks to invert this, as we collectively practice naming the ruptures experienced in this moment, and in our organizations and movements. Through a participative workshop and installation, Diary of Ruptures is a space for journaling and collage-making to explore three key themes – leadership, language and labor – as pivotal elements shaping power and privilege (or its absence) within feminist spaces.





# Nu

## When All Tools Fall Apart, How Do Disability Activists Organize?

This audio archive seeks to document the stories of grassroots disability leaders whose lives and labor often remain unrecorded. Through fragments of conversation, sound and memory, the installation holds space for disabled and queer individuals whose experiences complicate neat narratives of progress or resilience. The installation will become a living audio archive, one that values hesitation, silence and contradiction as much as clarity.

# Intersecta

## Guess Who?

Punishment, prohibition and criminalization have become universal answers to many social problems, including violence against women. As feminists, we have often applauded these answers, without reflecting on their consequences and how they feed the systems of oppression that we seek to dismantle. In fact, when it comes to punishment and criminalization, feminists and conservative groups can have a lot in common. Can you tell them apart?

¿CONSERVATIVE?



¿OR FEMINIST?



LET'S PLAY

GUESS WHO?

INTERSECTA

# Osheen Siva

## Soil, Skin, and Song: Tapestries of Caste, Body and Defiance

This tapestry, inspired by Gogu Shyamala's *Tataki Wins Again*, reimagines Dalit women's defiance of caste and gender norms. Centered on the protagonist Balamma, it visualizes layered violences: a landlord tugging her hair and a farmer weighing upon her, exposing oppression both outside and within the community. Drawing from Bama's karukku, the double-edged palm frond symbolizing suffering and strength, the work becomes a living surface of dualities: wound/weapon, ritual/resistance, fragility/force. Rooted in the artist's agrarian lineage, the tapestry posits intersectionality as a space of resistance, illuminating Dalit women's intertwined struggles across caste, class and gender.



காந்தி-பாஷா பு.பு. பு.பு.



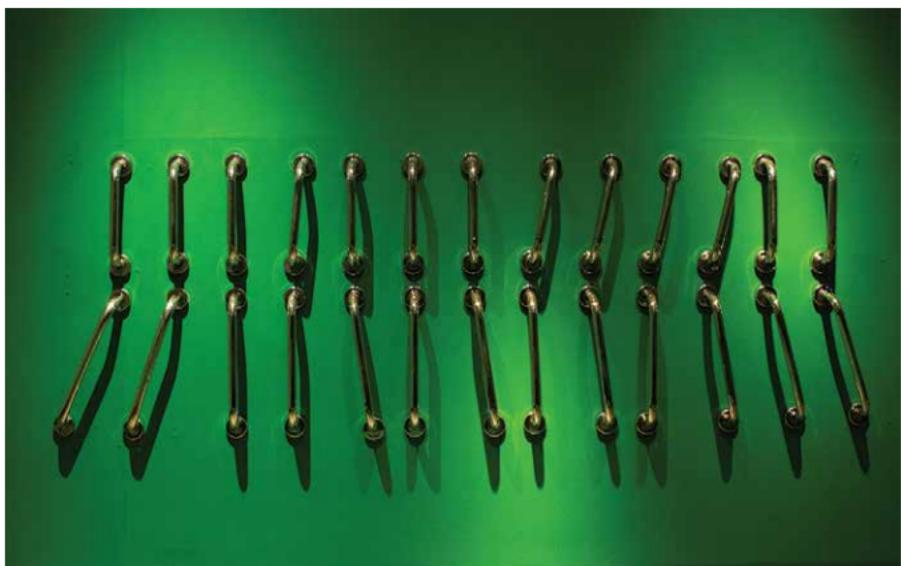
# Resting Museum

## Minimal Locomotion (After Muybridge)

This series of grab bars is a dysfunctional body's nod to Eadweard Muybridge's work, *Animal Locomotion*, which first used photography for the scientific study of anatomical movement and time in humans and animals in the 19th century. The work shows a walking sequence of a knock and locked hypermobile knee (joint).

## Spineless Sit-ins Are Hard on the Back: I, II and III

In their essay on disabled body-minds and political protest, artist Johanna Hedva asks, "how can you throw a brick through a window when you can't get out of bed?" What then, is the political validity of the disabled/sick body-mind, particularly if it cannot take to the streets in protest? This rest lounge urges visitors to rethink the ableisms in the English language like the word 'spineless' and how much a political 'sit-in' demands from the body as opposed to sitting for rest.





# Robert Hamblin

## Bower My Bae

Animals only mate in heterosexual ways and exclusively for procreation. Not true! The truth will be revealed in Robert A. Hamblin's human-sized bower nest amongst blue shimmering flowers, stories and bottle tops. Periwinkle eyes, purple petals and plastic are the wooing tools of the Satin Bower Bird, one of nature's finest artists. Plastic? What's going on here? And is it true that the bower bird builds a nest for weeks, only to have a split second of fun with an all-elusive female? Doesn't he feather up with his guy-friend-studio assistants too? And why should we all know this? Will it help us care more?

# Samit Das

## Land Known and Unknown

The artistic engagement with land and landscape, when approached through a critical and empathetic lens, transcends mere aesthetic pursuit to become a profound act of social and political commentary. This essay explores the intricate interplay of theoretical concepts, historical injustices and artistic potential, underscoring the profound responsibility and transformative power of art in the context of land and Adivasi struggles. Land is not simply a physical space; it is a dynamic, memory-laden entity, a "nexus of contested meaning" where history, identity, power and resistance converge.



# **Ta Mwe**

## **Symbols of Presence**

This documentary series portrays young people participating in Myanmar's Spring Revolution, against the backdrop of the military's crackdown on protests and suppression of free speech. Despite facing consequences such as having their tattoos burned and being imprisoned, these youths defiantly express their commitment to freedom and democracy through body art. The artist has concealed their identities using flowers and bouquets, which also serve as a metaphor for these youths being akin to the blossoms of spring.

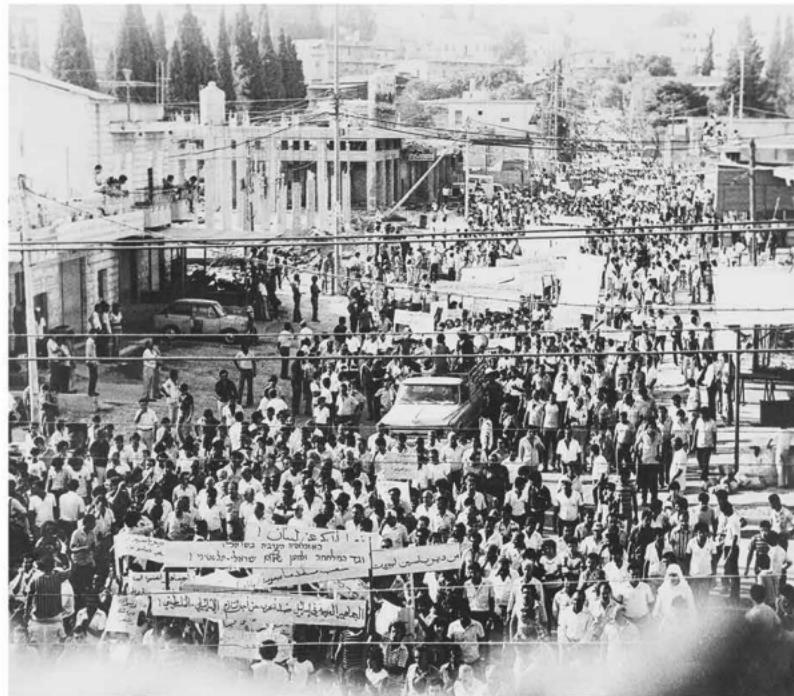


# IN OUR MILLIONS

Solidarity movements often take the form of coalitions, such as the November 29 Alliance, initiated to organize the world's largest solidarity march for Palestine on November 29, 1981. This coalition encompassed over a hundred liberation organizations and movements from Vietnam, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Haiti, the African National Congress, Patrice Lumumba's followers, Black, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Korean movements, and Jews opposed to Zionism, among many other solidarity movements.

Following the 1982 invasion of Lebanon, Lebanese and Palestinians revitalized this movement in support of the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples and in opposition to the invasion, leading every solidarity movement against the bombing and invasion of Beirut. The November 29 Alliance became the leader of all solidarity movements against the Lebanon war.

In 1983, the alliance's name was changed to the Committee for Solidarity with the Palestinian People. One of the major campaigns conducted was "Israel and South Africa: The Apartheid Connection?" in 1985, in collaboration with the African National Congress (ANC).



A Production by © The Palestinian Museum 41

Demonstration in the city of Nazareth in protest against the Lebanon War, July 31, 1982. The Tawfiq Zayyad Collection, The Palestinian Museum Digital Archive.

# **The Palestinian Museum**

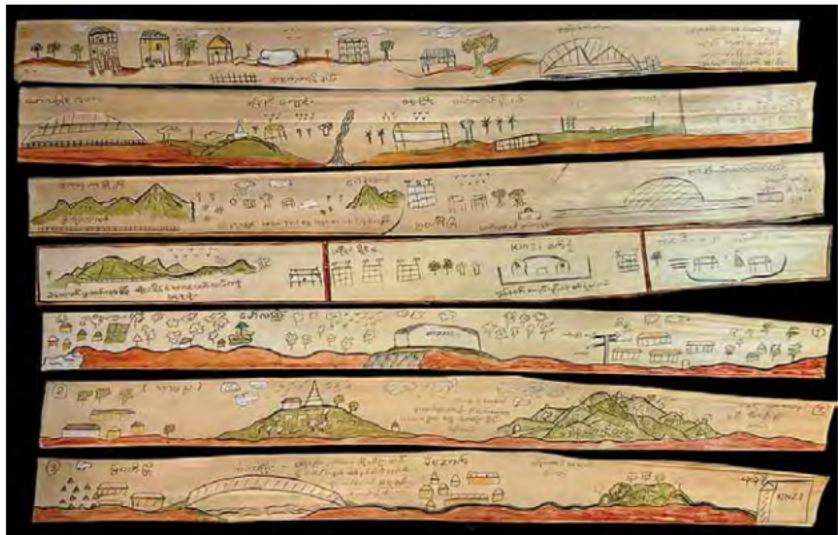
## **Gaza Remains the Story**

A part of the open-access exhibition 'Gaza Remains the Story', produced and curated by The Palestine Museum. It spotlights the cause and context of the Palestinian experience, focusing on the land, places and people of Gaza. The exhibition strives to inform, educate and narrate stories of historical locations and cultural practices in Gaza, providing a glimpse into Gaza's arts, aspirations and uniqueness – what remains of it in these harsh times.

# Varsha Nair

## Shift Maps

This ongoing project presents personal histories of refugees and migrants as written and illustrated by them on leaves of the Talipot Palm, also known as the 'Shadow Palm' (*Corypha umbraculifera*). Recording oral histories, the leaves tell stories from memory and based on current reality – life stories connected with location, relocation, dislocation – the physical, emotional and psychological shifts, at times subtle and at times tectonic.



# Vikki Page

## Protests in Latin America: Selected Photographs

These photographs are part of a larger research project created as part of doctoral study, seeking to explore the affective visual power of feminisms in Latin America.

These photos were taken whilst carrying out field work on the 8M movement in Mexico (taken in March 2023), and around the production of images in the struggle for justice around Marielle Franco in Brazil (taken in March 2024).

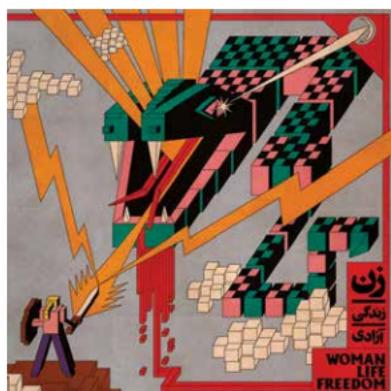
The work explores protest aesthetics, the use of visual and performative gestures, objects and different ways in reimagining public space.

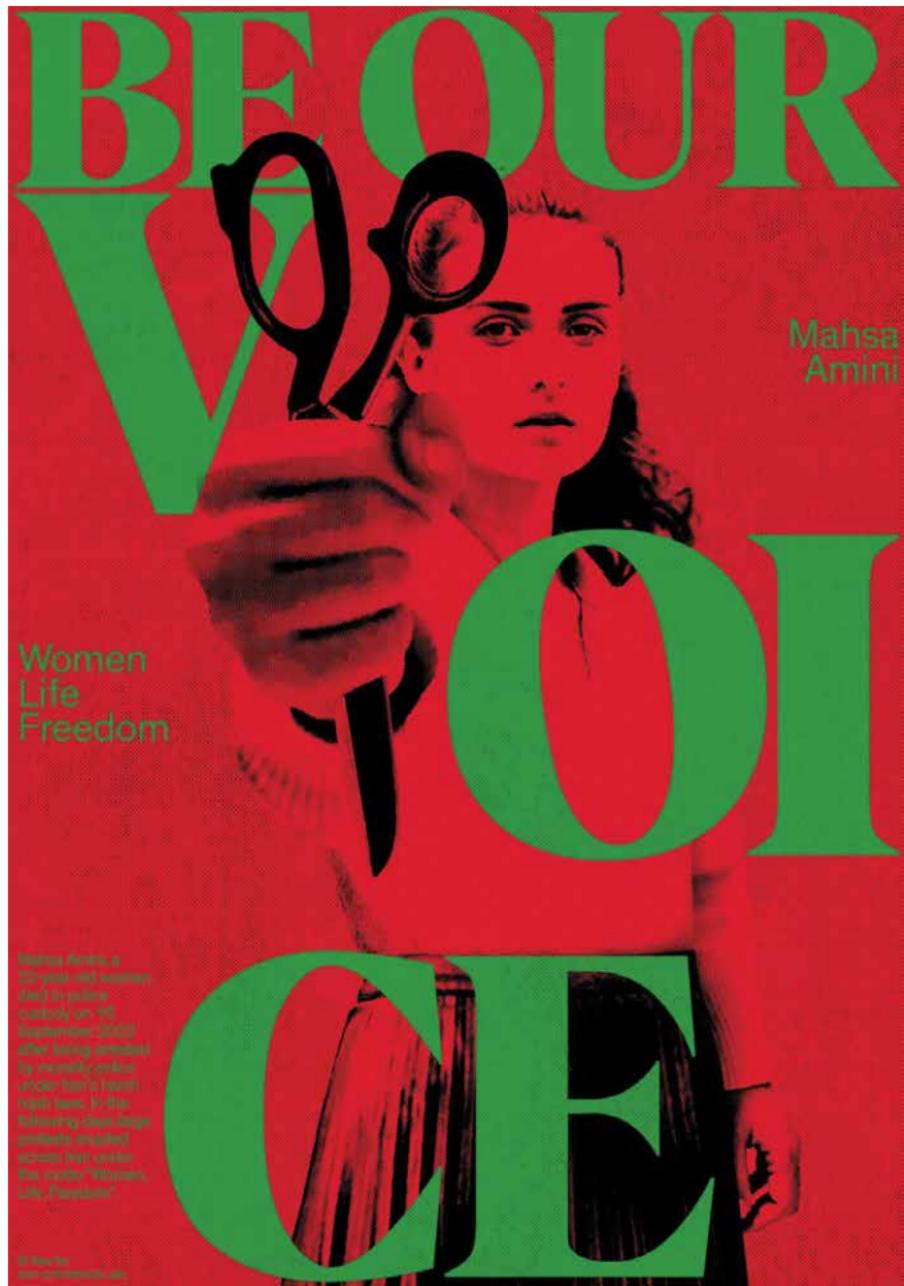


# #WomenLifeFreedom protests in Iran and beyond

## Posters

On 16 September 2022, Mahsa Amini, a 22-year-old Kurdish woman, died in hospital three days after being arrested by morality police in Tehran; witnesses reported that she was beaten while in custody. In response to her death, protests erupted across Iran, and #WomenLifeFreedom became the rallying cry of the movement. To amplify this movement, design collective Iranian Women of Graphic Design has evolved into a protest platform. The platform features graphics by Iranian and non-Iranian designers who have submitted their work to be reused in protests "online, on walls and in the streets worldwide". These open-access posters feature original artwork by artists VVORK VVORK VVORK, Mahdis Nikou, Zipeng Zhu, Mahya Soltani, Jamshid Dejagah and others who wish to remain anonymous.





Women  
Life  
Freedom

Mahsa  
Amini

Mahsa Amini, a 22-year-old woman, died in police custody on 19 September 2022 after being arrested for wearing a hijab. She was found hanging in her cell, following days-long protests against strict dress codes and forced "Westernisation".

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Spaces

# **Arts & Creativity Space**

A flexible creative space, built on RECONFERENCE's emphasis on art, will offer materials and prompts for participants to use, allowing free expression for those inspired by the conversations emerging around them.

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## **Childcare Space**

A dedicated child-friendly space with trained caregivers will be available for children accompanying participants.

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## **Forms of Resistance Space**

The exhibit brings together resistance movements, campaigns and uprisings across different times and geographies to explore how people have continually organized, resisted and reimagined power. Through posters, video loops, photography and artwork, this multi-media exhibit captures the expressions, aesthetics and emotions of collective defiance.

# Gathering Space

On the Main Lawn, this space sits at the heart of the art and installation displays. While it serves as a space to meet and converse, it will also come alive with creative programming, with talks, workshops and activities that connect to the creative contributions on display from all over the world.

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# Resting Lounge

A peaceful lounge curated by Resting Museum will offer participants a place to pause, rest, reflect and commune as they move through the curated exhibits.

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# Sensory Well-being Space

A low-stimulus space will offer participants a grounding place away from the frenetic activities.

# Technology Space: Wonderland

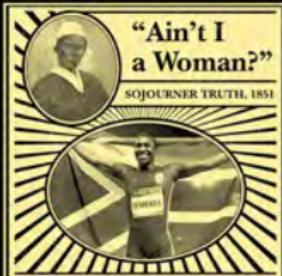
The challenge for feminists is clear: It's time to rethink our relationships with digital technology. It's time to rework the rules of the game, demand much more accountability from digital platforms. The technology space showcases artists' expressions of technology's entanglement in our social lives and physical environments. It also includes Wonderland: A People's Blueprint for Social Media which invites visitors to shift the narrative around social media, center lived experiences, explore co-creation as a political act and transform abstract demands to tangible solutions, with plenty of activities and displays curated by Point of View.

# CREA@25

We can barely believe it, but it's been 25 years. Coinciding happily with RECONFERENCE 2025, this is our chance to invite you to engage with some of our work over the years. Installations, activities and knowledge resources at the space include: launches of *Feminist Fables* by Srilatha Batliwala and *Liquid Borders. Dissident Bodies*, a photobook by Anita Khemka; our Suspend Judgment installation that will surprise you into rethinking some ideas; the L is for Love photobooth (not saying, come visit!); walls displaying our past work; our publications and knowledge resources (we're known for them); and much more.







## "Ain't I a Woman?"

SOJOURNER TRUTH, 1851

"I just want to run naturally, the way I was born. It is not fair that I am told I must change. It is not fair that people question who I am. I am Nokigadi Caster Semenya. I am a woman and I am fast."

CASTER SEMENYA, 2018\*

**SUSPEND JUDGMENT**



## ABORT THE STIGMA

"People should still connect having abortions as being a person... So they might think of me as, you know, sleeping around, whatever... I... I think, you know, yeah they would look at me differently... like, this is freak or something, and they would talk... 'What girl is like this?'

"It is almost impossible for most human beings to conceive of abortion as a normal, healthy, and single human right, which can be as simple as an abortion for pregnancy. Merely stating that it is an unwanted pregnancy is not enough."

Over the past 10 years, issues from reproductive and gender-affirming rights have become more visible. Abortion rights are becoming increasingly controversial, with the recent decision to overturn Roe v. Wade. In the United States, the right to abortion is under threat. In Canada, the Motion to Protect Abortion Rights in Canada, introduced by the NDP, is currently being debated in the House of Commons. In Australia, Reproductive rights are also under threat. In India, the Reproductive Rights Bill has been introduced in the Lok Sabha. In Mexico, Argentina, and elsewhere in the region, reproductive rights are also under threat.

Only four countries have voted back the legality of abortion (China, Korea of America, Mongolia, & Thailand, Poland). But the other 195 countries have decided to ban or restrict abortion for reproductive rights. This is a human rights issue.

**My Body My Choice**

**SUSPEND JUDGMENT**



**SUSPEND JUDGMENT**

subscribe to the new FETISHISTIC magazine

## WHEELCHAIRBOUND



**SUSPEND JUDGMENT**



## SM

Sadomasochism

## 1/3 Abuse

SM play is always consensual.

ABUSE IS NOT.

SM players play their activities to minimize the risks to just another's physical and emotional well-being.

ABUSERS DO NOT.

SM play is negotiated and agreed to ahead of time.

ABUSE IS NOT.

SM play can enhance the relationship between the players.

ABUSE CANNOT.

SM play can be done in the presence of supportive others - even at parties given for this purpose.

ABUSE NEEDS ISOLATION AND SECRECY.

SM play has responsible agreed upon rules.

ABUSE LACKS SUCH RULES.

SM play must be consensual, and even eagerly desired, by the submissives.

NOBODY OVERTLY ASKS FOR ABUSE.

**SUSPEND JUDGMENT**



No one needs to be "fixed", feminists believe in the diversity of bodies.

## Fixing Sex?



"Why should guilt and shame shape a whole life? It would have been a lot easier if we said we came in different colors." - Intersex activist from Palestine

"A global and decentralized intersex movement pushes simple core goals: the rights to bodily autonomy and self-determination, and an end to stigmatization." - Morgan Carpenter, intersex activist and researcher

to learn more about intersex rights explore

Organization for Intersex International

Intersex Day - intersexday.org

Kirkup, K., 2008. *From sex to gender: medical and social perspectives*. Oxford University Press.

## SEX WORK IS WORK



"Sex work is work. This simple yet powerful statement frames sex workers not as criminals, victims, vectors of disease, or sinners but as workers." - from NWOPP policy brief

"Recognize sex work as work. We reject the consistent conflation of sex work with trafficking, and sex work with violence." - from the Brixton宣言

".....Like domestic work, sex work is work. We deserve the same labour rights and the same access to justice." - NWOPP statement by sex workers' delegates

"Judgments are constantly placed on sex workers. From who they are, what they advocate for, whether they are exposed to violence. We support sex workers in their efforts to self-organize. Sex workers rights are human rights." - NWOPP statement by sex workers' delegates

There is an  
I  
in  
LGBTQI

**SUSPEND JUDGMENT**



SAVE US FROM SAVIORS

**SUSPEND JUDGMENT**



# A Manifesto for 2026

Before you leave RECONFERENCE, we invite you to write your own manifesto for 2026. Here's where you can articulate your ideas for change and what commitments you want to make, as individuals and as organizations. By adding your words to those of others, participants will build a growing record of concerns, demands and hopes that reflect this critical moment. Take a few minutes, name what matters and contribute to a collective call for equal and intersectional feminist futures.

# CONTRIBUTORS

Artists, Facilitators, Filmmakers,  
Organizations, Performers, Speakers

**Aindriya Barua** is a queer Indigenous disabled artist and AI engineer from rural Tripura in northeast India. They founded Shhor, a UNFPA and World Summit Award winner for its intersectional feminist AI work combating online hate speech.

**Albright Ayoyi Alitsi** is a disabled, survivor-centered governance specialist and Founder of Lola Crotchet Organization in Nairobi. Her work blends trauma-informed facilitation, ethical documentation and disability justice through art and advocacy.

**Alice M. Miller**, JD, is Co-Director of the Global Health Justice Partnership at Yale Law School and the Yale School of Public Health and a Professor in the Practice whose teaching spans law, public health, and policy on gender, sexuality, reproduction and rights. She has three decades of work across NGOs and agencies such as WHO and the UN OHCHR.

**Alok Vaid-Menon** is a poet, comedian, public speaker and actor. Their literary works include *Beyond the Gender Binary*, *Femme in Public*, and *Your Wound, My Garden*. They are the subject of the docu-short *ALOK*. Their screen credits include *Complicated Order*, *The Trans List*, HBO's *The Sex Lives of College Girls*, and Hulu's *Planet Sex with Cara Delevingne*.

**Alyaa Musa** worked as a senior researcher and UN development staff across Sudan for six years. Alyaa is a co-founder of Black Balance Artistic Production Sudan 2016 and founder of TOOMA Production Rwanda 2023.

**Ananya Patel** is a designer and creative consultant who has worked at the intersections of art, cultural heritage and climate change. She has presented her work at the Victoria & Albert Museum, Dutch Design Week and AWID International Forum. She has supported CREA with creative programming, design and curation for RECONFERENCE 2025.

**Andrea Cornwall** is professor of Anthropology and Global Development at King's College London. Her publications include *Masculinities under Neoliberalism* (co-edited with Nancy Lindisfarne and Frank Karioris, 2016) and *Development with a Body: Sexuality, Human Rights and Development* (co-edited with Sonia Corrêa and Susie Jolly, 2009).

**Anita Khemka** began her photography practice in 1996. Her work on alternative sexuality was made into a German film, *Between the Lines: India's Third Gender*, in 2005. Her work has been exhibited widely in Europe and she is represented by PHOTOINK, New Delhi. She is also the Head, Projects India at PhotoSouthAsia.

**Anja Kovacs** is an independent researcher and consultant. Her research includes groundbreaking work on technology-facilitated gender-based violence. She is currently a senior fellow at the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI), Canada, and a non-resident CyberBRICS fellow at FGV (Fundação Getulio Vargas Getulio Vargas), Brazil.

**Antonella Rizk** is a technical director, lighting designer and performer based in Beirut. In 2021, she joined Ettijahat's "Maharat 2021" program, specializing in theater lighting. She now has experience in more than 200 productions both in Beirut and internationally.

**Apnavi Makanji**'s body of work spans drawing, collage, installation and video. They were awarded The Prix Fondation Édouard et Maurice Sandoz 2024 for their project *K(NOT)WEED*. Makanji's solo exhibitions include *Modern Romance and Other Deaths*, TARQ, Mumbai (2024) and *Travails of the Wandering MemorySeed*, Galerie Félix Frachon, Brussels (2016).

**Aravani Art Society** is an Indian non-profit that reclaims public and cultural spaces through art to amplify the voices of transgender and sexually marginalized communities. It trains transgender individuals in a range of artistic disciplines to build pathways for empowerment and livelihoods.

**Arundhati Roy** is the author of the novels *The God of Small Things*, which won the Booker Prize in 1997, and *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness*, which was longlisted for the Booker Prize in 2017. Her non-fiction includes *My Seditious Heart*, *Azadi* and, most recently, her memoir *Mother Mary Comes to Me*. She lives in Delhi.

**Aseem Chhabra** is a New York- and Delhi-based film journalist, Festival Director of the New York Indian Film Festival and author of biographies of Shashi Kapoor, Irrfan Khan and Priyanka Chopra. He also voiced Shadow Puppet #1 in Nina Paley's animated film *Sita Sings the Blues*.

**Asia Safe Abortion Partnership (ASAP)** is the only safe abortion rights advocacy network in Asia. Founded in 2008, it has members from over 20 countries across South Asia, Southeast Asia, Southwest Asia and the Oceania region.

**Azadeh Akhlaghi** is a Tehran- and New York-based artist known for her series *By an Eye-witness*. Her work has been exhibited at the Museum of Contemporary Photography in Chicago, Somerset House in London, Paris Photo, and the Shanghai and Seoul Biennials. She was the 2019 Robert Gardner Fellow in Photography at the Peabody Museum at Harvard University.

**Baaraan Ijlal** is a visual artist based in New Delhi. She seeks to create witnesses to unacknowledged stories and initiate an archive of people's narratives of loss, desire and dreams. She paints and creates installations using sound, video, light and embroidery.

**Bharati Chaturvedi** is the Founder and Director of the Chintan Environmental Research and Action Group. She co-founded Srishti, an environmental group formed at Delhi University, and has researched urban environmental governance, informal-sector waste work, and the health impacts of toxins in New Delhi.

**Bishakha Datta** is the Co-Founder and Executive Director of Point of View in Mumbai. She has served on the board of CREA, as a trustee of the Wikimedia Foundation, and is on the board of the Association for Progressive Communications. She also advises the Software Freedom Law Centre, is one of Meta's Global Women Safety Experts, and is part of UNFPA/Derechos Digitales' Expert Guidance Group on TFGBV.

**Carol Ohair** is a DJ, producer and social-political psychologist who lives in Beirut and blends music, words and politics to evoke emotion and tell stories.

**Charu Narang** is the founder of Deaf Women Too (DWT), launched during the pandemic, and an Associate Manager at Hear A Million (EnAble India). Her work spans content design, training and advocacy.

**Chris** is an educator, researcher and writer working on issues of gender, sexuality, disability and the media.

**Christina Dhanuja** is a writer, researcher and strategist working at the intersections of caste, gender, faith and justice. She is the co-founder of the #DalitHistoryMonth project and a founding member of the Global Campaign for Dalit Women.

**Diary of Ruptures** is a team of four friends: Nida Mushtaq, Virginia García Bolívar, Ayan Agarwal and Cassie Denbow. This diary began as a way to creatively channel their concern, grief and fears about the ways feminist organizations and groups often mirror the borders and fault lines of power.

**Dipika Lama** is an Indigenous youth with a disability from Madhesh Province, Nepal. She leads the Madhesh Indigenous Disabled Women's Association-Nepal, is a youth member of the Asia Pacific Network of Indigenous Women with Disabilities and engages with the National Indigenous Disabled Women Association-Nepal.

**Estefanía Vela Barba** is the Executive Director of Intersecta, a Mexican feminist research and advocacy organization. Her work has focused on a commitment to ending discrimination in Mexico through the promotion of intersectional, evidence-based and non-punitive policy solutions.

**Ester Pinheiro** is health correspondent at The Fuller Project. A multimedia journalist born in Brazil, she is founder and host of *Feminismos del Sur*, a decolonial feminist podcast. Her reporting has been recognized by the Pulitzer Center and Google News Initiative.

**Eunice Musiime** is an African feminist activist, leadership development builder, lawyer and Executive Director of Akina Mama wa Afrika. She has been the Team Leader, Policy and Advocacy at the Uganda National NGO Forum, Head of Policy at Uganda Law Society and Research Fellow at Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment.

**Ezrena Marwan** is the co-lead of Liberatory Archives and Memory (LAMy) at Whose Knowledge?. She teaches art history and visual culture, focusing on power and visuality, and is a founding member of Sejarah Wanita and co-founder of Malaysia Design Archive.

**Fatima Ismail** graduated in Sudan and went on to work as a psychological counsellor at the family and child court. She is also a

graphic designer and event manager, and is involved in the Women's Secretariat Office in the Piali refugee camp in Uganda.

**Global 50/50** is an independent research initiative that informs, inspires and incites action and accountability for gender justice in society. It was formed on the guiding principle that its work can only be deemed a success when global health policy and organizational decision-making place a gender lens, gender equality and health equity at their core.

**Gauri Nepali** is a narrative-shifting practitioner and writer based in Nepal, who amplifies the voices of Dalit women and LGBTIQ+ individuals. Currently the Director at Just Futures Pahal (JFP), she is the initiator of JFP's *Kasko Bhashya? (Whose Narrative?)* podcast.

**Geetanjali Misra** is the Co-Founder and Executive Director of CREA. She was president of the board at AWID and chair of the boards at Mama Cash and Reproductive Health Matters. She co-founded SAKHI for South Asian Women in 1989. She is the co-author of *Sexuality, Gender and Rights: Exploring Theory and Practice in South and Southeast Asia* (2005).

**Grace Moraal Areba** is an African Deaf feminist, mental health counselor and disability rights advocate from Kisumu County, Kenya. She is the Team Leader and Co-Founder of the Chanuka Deaf Women Group.

**Hashem Hashem** is a Lebanese theatre maker, poet, writer and performer based in Beirut. His theatre productions include *The Last Distance* (2018), *I am the Same, Yet so Different* (2021), *The Sun Thief* (2024), *40 Rocks from Dahieh* and *This Love is Mine* (2025).

**Ho Chi Minh Islam** is a transgender activist, researcher and founder of *Krishnachura: Center for Gender Minorities Rights* (CGMR) in Bangladesh. She has transformed visibility into advocacy for gender-diverse communities through art, policy and protest.

**Hope Chigudu** is co-founder of the Zimbabwe Women's Resource Centre and Network, HopeAfrica and Just Associates. She has served on the boards of the Global Fund for Women, Urgent Action Fund-Africa, the Global Fund for Community Foundations, Oxfam South Africa, Just Associates and Practical Action.

**IM-Defensoras** is a convergence that articulates feminist organizations and networks of women defenders from different Mesoamerican social movements. IM-Defensoras centers its political practice on the principles of Feminist Holistic Protection.

**Imogen Bakelman** is a curator and visual culture researcher working at the intersection of justice-oriented visual storytelling, non-extractive image practices and the politics of representation. She is curator of Global 50/50's *This is Gender* initiative.

**Intersecta** is a Mexican feminist organization working towards a world in which everyone can fully exercise their rights and live with well-being, security and freedom. Since its founding in 2018, it has produced research that identifies and analyzes discrimination and human rights violations, and evaluates State policies created to address them.

**Ireen Dubel** is a political science PhD candidate at the University of Amsterdam undertaking research on the politics of Dutch transnational feminist solidarity activism. She has worked for the Humanist Institute for Co-operation with Developing Countries (Hivos), Mama Cash, the Royal Tropical Institute and the Institute of Social Studies in The Hague.

**Jaya Sharma** is a feminist, queer, kinky activist and writer who divides her time between Goa and New Delhi. She has worked on issues of gender and education for over twenty years, during which she was intensively involved in sexuality training for groups working with rural women. She is also one of the founder members of the Kinky Collective.

**Jeem e.V.** is a feminist media organization that produces critical knowledge predominantly in Arabic on issues related to gender, sexuality, sex and the body. Its multimedia content is aimed at Arabic-speaking women, queers and marginalized communities.

**Jelena Dordevic** is a lesbian feminist activist. She is co-coordinator of the Regional Self-Care, Collective Care and Healing Strategy of IM-Defensoras in Mexico. She is co-author of *What's the Point of Revolution if We Can't Dance?* (Urgent Action Fund for Women's Rights, 2007).

**Joana Varon** is a Brazilian-Colombian researcher, founding director and creative chaos catalyst at Coding Rights. She is a doctoral candidate

at the Laboratory for Design and Anthropology (LaDA) at the Superior School of Industrial Design of the State University of Rio de Janeiro (ESDI-UERJ) and alumnus of the Berkman Klein Center at Harvard Law School.

**Joe Sacco** is an award-winning cartoonist mostly known for doing journalistic comics, which include *Palestine*, *Safe Area Gorazde*, *Footnotes in Gaza*, *Paying the Land*, and *The Once and Future Riot*. He lives in the United States.

**Juliana Martinez** is the Nebula Fund's Narrative and Accompaniment Strategist. She previously served as an associate professor at American University (Washington DC) and as Research Director at Sentiido, a Colombia-based, women- and queer-led, trans-inclusive feminist organization.

**Las Reinas Chulas** is a Mexican cabaret theater company established in 1998, whose internationally staged performances use satire and music to convey social criticism through humor. They are the creators of the International Cabaret Festival, which began in 2003, and direct the Teatro Bar El Vicio in Mexico.

**Laura V** is a Colombian political organizer who sparks collective action through storytelling and art. She creates through Furia Cosmica, is a member of Sukuamis, a founding member of Our Collective Practice, and collaborates widely across community networks.

**Lina Abou-Habib** is the Director of the Asfari Institute for Civil Society and Citizenship at the American University of Beirut. She serves on the board of the Urgent Action Fund, is the chair of the Doria Feminist Fund, and on the editorial committee of the *Gender and Development Journal*. She has served as secretary and chair of the board of AWID.

**Linn** is an officer for Myanmar programs at SEA Junction. For the project showing at RECONFERENCE, she collected the stories and comics, translated and edited them from Burmese to English.

**Lobna Darwish** is a feminist and a gender and human rights officer at the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights. She works on gender and sexuality, with a focus on criminalization.

**Luciana Mendes** is a visual artist, graphic designer and feminist illustrator. She is passionate about telling stories through images.

**Lydia Alpízar** is a Mesoamerican feminist and Executive Co-Director of the Mesoamerican Initiative for Women Human Rights Defenders (IM-Defensoras). Before this, she was the Executive Director of AWID. Lydia is also president of the Board of Directors of the Urgent Action Fund for Latin America (FAU-AL) and a member of the Board of Directors of the South Global DAWN (Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era).

**Madhavi Menon** is Professor of English and Director of the Centre for Studies in Gender and Sexuality at Ashoka University, India. Her most recent book is *The Law of Desire: Rulings on Sex and Sexuality in India* (2021). Her current book project focuses on the conversations between Sufism and Shakespeare around questions of sexuality.

**Ma Faiza** is one of the most notable names in electronic dance music (EDM) in India. From her modest beginnings on the beaches of Goa, this African-born British artist has played at the biggest stages and parties across the world.

**Mahan Aslam** is a medical doctor, mental health advocate and community leader from Balochistan, Pakistan. She is the co-founder and lead healing practitioner of Baloch ZaalBol Hub, a community initiative focused on women's empowerment and Indigenous storytelling.

**Mahmud Rahman** lives between Dhaka and Bangkok and works as a documentary photographer on social issues.

**Mahy Hassaan** is a queer feminist activist, LGBTQ+ rights researcher, advocate and healing justice practitioner in Egypt, the SWANA region and Pan-African movements. Her work centers the interconnections between research, healing and community organizing.

**Maliha Khan** serves as the President and Chief Executive Officer of Women Deliver. Her career spans early fieldwork in Pakistan and leadership roles at CARE, Oxfam, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Asian Development Bank and the Malala Fund.

**Manisha Dhakal**, Executive Director of Blue Diamond Society, is a transgender woman and an LGBTIQA+ rights activist from Nepal. Manisha is also a founding member of the Asia-Pacific Transgender Network and former president of Federation of Sexual and Gender Minorities of Nepal.

**Maria Ní Fhlatharta** is a legal researcher, policy advisor and human rights advocate. She works on the Real Productive Justice Project at the Centre for Disability Law and Policy and contributed to Ireland's abortion law reform through Together for Yes and People with Disabilities for Repeal; she is also a co-founder of Disabled Women Ireland.

**Mariwala Health Initiative (MHI)** is a grant-making, capacity-building and advocacy organization for innovative mental health initiatives, with a particular focus on making mental health accessible to marginalized persons and communities.

**Md. Sajib Mia** is a Bangladeshi photographer, filmmaker, and activist. As Co-Founder of Krishnachura, Sajib amplifies the narratives of transgender, hijra and queer lives through film and photography.

**Meena Saraswathi Seshu** is General Secretary of the Sampada Grameen Mahila Sanstha (SANGRAM), a health and human rights NGO based in rural western Maharashtra and north Karnataka in India. She works to promote justice among communities discriminated against because of sexual preference, sex work, HIV status, gender, caste and religious minority.

**MenEngage Alliance** is a global network of 1,000+ members working to transform patriarchal masculinities and engage men and boys in advancing gender equality and social justice. As allies to feminist movements, their coalition spans community groups, NGOs, experts and activists working on GBV, SRHR, women's participation, unpaid care, LGBTIQA+ rights, climate justice and feminist peace.

**Mia Jose** is a visual artist from Kerala, India. She collaborates regularly with social justice and policy organizations to create graphic narratives based on ethnographic research.

**Misha Narang** is a Soapstone Fellow and community leader empowering the Deaf community through advocacy, leadership development and self-employment initiatives. She works with Hear A Million (EnAble India) in Bangalore, facilitates workshops on women's empowerment and is an active member of Deaf Women Too (DWT).

**Moira Perez** is an Assistant Researcher at Argentina's National Council for Scientific and Technical Research and a professor in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Buenos Aires. She directs the Research Group on Applied Philosophy and Queer Politics (PolQueer).

**Nandini Oza** was a full-time activist of the Narmada Bachao Andolan resistance movement in India. She has documented the oral histories of the Narmada struggle and has been associated with the Zindabad Trust since 2005. She also served as President of the Oral History Association of India (2020-22).

**Nandita Shah** is the Co-Founder and Co-Director of the Akshara Centre, a Mumbai-based non-profit working at the intersection of gender equality, urban development and social justice. She has co-authored two books, *Issues at Stake: Theory and Practice in the Contemporary Women's Movement in India* and *Contingent Workers*.

**Nangsel Sherpa** is the Co-Founder and Editor of *The Pomelo: Exploring Himalayan Voices*, and has worked toward centering underrepresented voices, particularly those of women and marginalized communities.

**Neel Soni** is a filmmaker, conservationist and photographer based in New Delhi. His work spans documentary, narrative and fashion filmmaking, with campaigns for fashion labels including Rkive City's Milan Fashion Week digital presentation, Quod New York, Outbreak Labs and Mirchi. Neel is also the author of *A Walk on the Wildside*, a wildlife photo book.

**Nicolette Naylor** is the CEO and Founder of Ubuntu Global Philanthropy & Gender Justice Consulting. She also provides strategic support to Fondation CHANEL, the Ford Foundation, the Collaborative Future Fund, the Open Society Justice Initiative and the Adoye Program at CAPSI.

**Nidhi Goyal**, Founder and Executive Director of Rising Flame, is an activist, researcher, trainer, campaigner and artist. She has been an advisor to UN Women's Executive Director in New York, was president of AWID's board, and has served as the advisor on Dutch Ministry's Voice. Nidhi is also the first female disabled standup comedian in India to use humor to challenge stereotypes around disability, gender and sexuality.

**Niluka Gunawardena** is an educator, researcher and disability rights activist based in Colombo, Sri Lanka. She serves as a faculty member and co-facilitator for CREA's Disability Sexuality and Rights Online Institute, on the Board of Women Enabled International and the advisory committees of the Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW), Urgent Action Fund A&P and Women of the South Speak Out (WOSSO).

**Nirvana Bhandary** is a Nepali feminist writer, filmmaker and digital activist. She is the writer and director of *Moti, Dubli, Kali, Gori: Nepali Women Reclaim Their Bodies* and the author of *Unsanskarik: A Feminist Life*. She is also the founder of The Feminism Project Nepal.

**Nishant Shah** is a feminist, humanist and technologist, and Professor of Global Media & Culture at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, directing the Digital Narratives Studio and Masters in Global Communication. He is a Faculty Associate at Harvard's Berkman-Klein Center and a knowledge partner to feminist digital justice networks.

**Niyati Shah** is a global strategic leader with over 25 years of experience addressing intersectional structural inequalities and advancing gender justice and is a somatic practitioner and applies trauma-centered approaches to healing and wellbeing.

**Nu** is a disabled queer feminist author and the founder of *Revival Disability India*. They lead digital media for Comms 4 A Cause (C4AC) and work as a communications consultant.

**Osheen Siva**, a multidisciplinary artist from Tamil Nadu, India grounds their practice at the intersections of caste politics, gender, religion and history. Siva expands upon the genre of Tamil Dalit Futurism through painting, drawing, sculpture, animation and audiovisual installations.

**Point of View** is a Mumbai-based non-profit that amplifies women's voices and removes barriers to voice, speech and expression. Tools are media, education, technology and art. Strategies include creating digital resources, publications and campaigns; building skills, capacities and understanding; producing information and knowledge; advocating with civil society and policy makers.

**Prachi Patankar** is a writer and activist based in New York. Her work is grounded in feminist, anti-caste and solidarity commitments. At the Foundation for a Just Society, she currently holds a \$12 million portfolio to support gender and sexuality justice work in Asia.

**Pratima Gurung** is an academic activist and an Indigenous woman with a disability from Nepal. She is a founding member and General Secretary of Indigenous Person with Disabilities Global Network (IPWDGN) and National Indigenous Disabled Women Association Nepal (NIDWAN).

**Prathama Raghavan** calls Nepal and India home. She is the Lead consultant-Mental Health Programme, Rising Flame. Her work and life are informed by narrative practices, principles of disability justice, neurodiversity, transformative justice and poetry.

**Pushpa Joshi** is a Nepali filmmaker and feminist activist who has spent over a decade advocating for sexual and reproductive health and rights, safe abortion rights and comprehensive sexuality education in Nepal and across Asia. She co-founded YoSHAN (Youth-led SRHR Advocacy Nepal).

**Quimy de Leon** is a Guatemalan journalist, healthcare worker and historian. She is a co-founder of Prensa Comunitaria, an alternative news agency, and founded *Ruda*, a feminist digital magazine. In 2024, she received the International Press Freedom Award from the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ).

**Remie Abi-Farrage** is a queer Arab feminist, consultant and movement strategist. Her work focuses on resourcing LBTQI+ and youth-led movements across the Global South, particularly in the SWANA region.

**Resting Museum** is an artist duo of Priyanka D'Souza and Shreyasi Pathak in India, which uses rest, queerness and disability as methodology in their art practice and curatorial projects to intervene in art and design history discourse and archives. Resting Museum has participated in several exhibitions, including the Serendipity Arts Festival 2024, a solo, 'Aubade with \_\_\_\_\_' at Shrine Empire, Delhi, among others.

**Revita Alvi** is a disability rights activist and grassroots organizer in Indonesia. Becoming deaf at the age of 25, she transformed her experience into a lifelong commitment to advancing the rights of women with disabilities. She leads the Indonesian Association of Women with Disabilities (HWDI).

**Rishika Kaushik** is a theatre maker, writer and teacher based in New Delhi. Her first play, *Love is a Potato/Salad* (2023), was a recipient of the Drama School Mumbai Niloufer Sagar Alumni Production Grant 2023. Her latest work is *Seconds Before Coming* (2025).

**Rising Flame** is an India-based feminist disability rights non-profit organization. It works for the recognition, protection and promotion of human rights of people with disabilities, particularly women and youth with disabilities.

**Robert A. Hamblin** is an artist, author and queer feminist. His art targets gender and bodily things. Hamblin's work has been exhibited in the Iziko South African Museum and internationally.

**Roman Gautam** is the Editor of *Himal Southasian*, based in Nepal. He has been Senior Editor at *The Caravan*. His action project, *Understanding Edward Snowden in Nepal: Surveillance, Censorship and Online Freedom*, helped begin a dialogue on internet freedom.

**Rosalia (Lia) Sciortino Sumaryono** is the Founder and Executive Director of SEA Junction, a venue for interaction and cross-learning on Southeast Asia based at the Bangkok Art and Culture Center. A cultural anthropologist and development sociologist, she also serves as Associate Professor at Mahidol University (IPSR) and Visiting Professor at Chulalongkorn University. She has had senior roles at the Rockefeller Foundation, IDRC and Ford Foundation.

**Sabeena Gadihoke** is Professor at the AJK MCRC at Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. She has worked as an independent documentary filmmaker and is also a photo-historian and curator. Her recent projects include *Twin Sisters with Cameras: An exhibition of photographs by Debalina Mazumder and Manobina Roy* (co-curated). Her research interests focus on the intersection of the still and moving image.

**Samit Das** is an artist, archivist and researcher. He received the 2017 Pernod Ricard Fellowship at Villa Vassilieff and has produced several publications, including a major study on Santiniketan's architecture, as well as essays for academic presses and journals.

**Sara Hossain** is a Senior Advocate at the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, and a partner at the law firm of Dr Kamal Hossain and Associates. She serves as the Honorary Executive Director of the Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) and is also a Professor of Practice at SOAS, London. She chairs the Independent International Fact Finding Mission on Iran and was a UNHRC-appointed member of a Commission of Inquiry on the 2018 Gaza Protests.

**Sarah el Bouery** is a Senior Research Assistant at the Asfari Institute for Civil Society and Citizenship at the American University of Beirut, specializing in women's political participation. She has received the MEPI-TLG, USAID and USP Excellence awards.

**Sarita Pariyar**, a writer and activist whose work engages with Dalit feminist thought and critical caste studies, is the Founding Chairperson of Just Futures Pahal (JFP). A Fulbright alumna, she is currently pursuing her PhD in Asian Literature, Religion, and Culture at Cornell University.

**Saro** is a transgender activist from Pakistan. She is a focal person for Skill Development of transgender people by the Social Welfare Department, Government of Pakistan. She is lead of PINK Center, for transgender people in Pakistan.

**Saru** is an audio enthusiast and poem collector whose work orbits around memory, emotion and sound.

**Sealing Cheng** is Chair and Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, The Chinese University of Hong Kong. She has collaborated with asylum-seekers on creative projects, such as co-founding an Afro-fusion band, 'Talents Displaced'.

**Sia Nowrojee** is the Associate Vice President for Girls and Women Strategy at the United Nations Foundation. She has worked with Girl Up, the 3D Program for Girls and Women, UNICEF, and the Aga Khan Development Network, and serves on the Global Board of the International Center for Research on Women.

**Solome Nakaweesi-Kimbugwe** is a Pan-African Feminist activist and analyst. Based in Uganda, she works as an International Development Consultant for feminist and sexual and reproductive health and rights movements. Solome has served as the Executive Director of Akina Mama wa Africa (AMwA).

**Shabnam Virmani** is a singer and filmmaker whose work engages the poetry of 15th-century Indian mystic poet Kabir. Through the Kabir Project in 2002, she has explored these traditions through films, books, city festivals, rural *yatras*, the Ajab Shahar digital archive, the Shabad Shaala school program and performances.

**Shalini Singh** is CREA's Team Lead – Programs and Innovations and leads CREA's Meri Panchayat, Meri Shakti and Ibtida programs in Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, working with partner organizations to build feminist leadership at the community level. With over two decades at CREA, she has been instrumental in advancing the organization's work on gender rights, sexuality and feminism.

**Sheena Gimase Magenya** is a feminist with over a decade of civil society experience in Namibia, South Africa and Kenya. She has a background in media and communications.

**Shelani Palihawadana** is Co-Lead, Operations at Delete Nothing and an Attorney-at-Law. She is also Programs Director at Youth Advocacy Network Sri Lanka, contributed to the Ministry of Justice's constitution-drafting process, led the Prathyaya TFGBV support initiative, and trained as an SRHR peer educator with the Deaf community.

**Shohini Ghosh** is Sajjad Zaheer Professor at the AJK Mass Communication Research, Jamia Millia Islamia and Director of Jamia's Premchand Archives and Literary Centre, New Delhi. She made the documentary *Tales of the Night Fairies* (2002) on the sex worker rights movement in Calcutta and is the author of *Fire: A Queer Classic* (2010). Shohini has been a long-time associate of CREA's Sexuality, Gender and Rights Institute.

**Shreeparna Mitra**, accompanying artist to Shabnam Virmani, is the coordinator and designer for the Kabir Project's educational program, Shabad Shaala.

**Shuvangi Khadka** is a writer and documentary filmmaker based in Kathmandu, Nepal. She has worked as a researcher and writer for organizations like Samriddhi Foundation, Heinrich Böll Foundation and Stories to Action. She is the co-founding editor of *The Pomelo*, a digital platform exploring Himalayan voices.

**Siddhant Shah** is the Founder of Access For ALL and heritage architect turned access consultant, specializing in universal design, tactile experiences and strategic disability inclusion. Siddhant has worked with leading museums, corporates, educational institutions and government bodies across India and internationally.

**Sins Invalid** is a disability justice-based movement building and performance project that celebrates disabled people, centering and led by disabled Black, Indigenous, and people of the global majority, and queer, trans and nonbinary disabled people.

**Sona Khatik** is the Executive Director and a founding member of Just Futures Pahal (JFP). Sona is currently a fellow of the Bhoomi Youth Leadership Initiative 2024-25 by the Foundation for Just Society and the Women Fund Asia.

**Sonia Wong** is an interdisciplinary artist, writer and researcher based in Hong Kong, exploring sexuality, identity, intimacy and violence within the context of Asian histories and colonial legacies.

**Srilatha Batliwala**, a feminist activist, researcher, scholar and trainer, is CREA's Advisor for Knowledge Building. She has worked with the Ford

Foundation, Harvard University and AWID. Srilatha's publications are foundational to CREA's 25-year knowledge history.

**Sulochana Peiris** is a documentary maker, writer and researcher who explores the themes of armed conflict, peacebuilding, human rights, transitional justice, and social media and social movements. Sulochana is an honorary visiting research fellow at the Centre for Peace and Security of the University of Coventry.

**Tala Abdulghani** is a Researcher at the Asfari Institute for Civil Society and Citizenship. She focuses on gender, migration and social protection in Lebanon. Her work focuses on the role of independent political movements, refugee-led initiatives, and community organizing in shaping inclusive and sustainable alternatives to sectarian governance.

**Ta Mwe** is a Burmese photojournalist and documentary photographer with experience covering a wide range of political and social stories and events throughout Myanmar. The name Ta Mwe is an alias.

**TARSHI** believes that all people have the right to sexual wellbeing and to a self-affirming and enjoyable sexuality. TARSHI promotes safe, inclusive spaces that advance people's wellbeing and their agency over their sexuality and SRHR, through information dissemination, capacity and perspective strengthening, and cultivating platforms for conversations on sexuality and wellbeing.

**The Palestinian Museum** is a non-governmental association dedicated to supporting an open and vibrant Palestinian culture locally and internationally. The Museum presents and contributes to narratives on Palestinian history, culture and society from new and critical perspectives. It also offers spaces for creative ventures, educational programs and innovative research. The Museum is a Swiss-registered non-governmental association with a branch in Palestine.

**The Queer Muslim Project** is an award-winning cultural platform for queer, Muslim and diverse voices, with a growing global community of over 70,000 people. Through artist development programs, digital and cultural production, and festival showcases, it centers and uplifts the voices, talent and leadership of underrepresented LGBTQIA+ communities in South Asia and beyond.

**Tilyan Aslam** is a feminist activist, storyteller and researcher from Turbat, Balochistan. She co-founded Baloch ZaalBol Hub, a sisterhood-driven community space that nurtures women's voices through storytelling, care and solidarity.

**Varsha Nair** was born in Kampala, Uganda, and studied at the Faculty of Fine Arts, Maharaja Sayaji Rao University, Baroda, India. Inviting multidisciplinary collaborations her work encompasses various approaches and genres including making, writing, and organizing projects. Nair has lived in Bangkok since 1995.

**Vikki Page** is a British-French feminist researcher and image maker. Recently submitting her doctoral project on creative feminist visualities in response to feminicides in Latin America, Vikki has worked extensively on gender-based violence internationally.

**Wanda Nowicka** is a Polish politician and activist who has served as a Member of Parliament since 2019 and was previously the Deputy Marshal of the Sejm (2011–2015). A long-time advocate for reproductive rights and church-state separation, she co-founded Neutrum and was the first Executive Director of the Federation for Women and Family Planning.

**yasmine eid-sabbagh** is a Palestinian artist and researcher who explores potentials of human agency by engaging in experimental, collective work processes that include (counter) archiving practices as well as radical pedagogical work. Photography often acts as a medium for her to communally investigate notions of collectivity, power and endurance.

**Zara Rahman** is a British-Bangladeshi author and researcher. Her book *Machine Readable Me: The Hidden Ways Tech Shapes Our Identities* was published in October 2023 by 404 Ink. She serves on the boards at Saheli and A People's Guide to Tech. She is currently a Managing Director at SUPERRR Lab, a feminist non-profit based in Germany.

**Zoey Black** is a disabled, queer, transgender, Indigenous woman of color living in Cape Town, South Africa. She is also the Founder and Executive Director of Gamut 1, an NGO and creative firm that creates educational media to promote LGBTQIA+ rights.

# CREDITS

## We thank our donors and consortium partners:



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RECONFERENCE was created over a year of planning, with meetings held with various constituencies. We thank everyone who participated in the process and were generous with their time, ideas and support.

The following partners worked closely with us to develop some of the themes highlighted in the conference. We thank them for their support.





# RECONFERENCE Team

## Program

Geetanjali Misra  
Nayantara Patel  
Ananya Patel  
Manavi Kapur

Shalini Singh

Katha Ray  
Rambishnu Sasmal  
Aditti Gogiyaa

## Operations

Sushma Luthra  
Anu Verma  
Lukas

## Advisors

Shohini Ghosh  
Sabeena Gadihoke  
Rupsa Mallik  
Sunita Kujur

## Support

Zeba Kazi  
Amulya Gopalakrishnan

## Design

Sherna Dastur  
Yashas Chandra

Finally, our gratitude to the CREA staff, consultants and so many others who worked behind the scenes on various aspects to help put this event together.

**CREA** is a feminist, human rights organization founded in 2000. From an organization at the national level based in New Delhi, India, CREA grew over 25 years to become a global one, to be able to influence global policies, programs and strategies. It is now one of the few international organizations based in the Global South and led by Southern feminists. CREA is incorporated in India and the USA.

Our work centers around building feminist leadership, advancing human rights, expanding sexual and reproductive freedoms, and furthering disability justice. We also work with diverse partners, not only intersectionally but across levels – at grassroots, national, regional, and international platforms and forums.



[www.creaworld.org](http://www.creaworld.org)  
Email: [crea@creaworld.org](mailto:crea@creaworld.org)  
Facebook: [creaworld.org](https://www.facebook.com/creaworld.org)  
Instagram: [@think.crea](https://www.instagram.com/@think.crea)  
X: [@ThinkCREA](https://www.x.com/@ThinkCREA)

Events/persons listed in this catalogue may  
change due to unavoidable circumstances.

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