



**South Asia Sex Workers' Summit**

KATHMANDU, 29–31 MAY, 2024

**DETAILED  
AGENDA**

Note: Renew 2024 was conceived with sex workers at the centre of all design – of plenaries, workshops and activities, of course, but also visual identity and space. Long-time CREA ally and graphic designer Sherna Dastur put sex workers' voices and faces at the front and centre of all material that she designed for the summit. And because our gathering brings together people who speak in a vibrant variety of tongues, she wove some of the languages of the region into her design: the sex workers' words we are surrounded by were translated into six languages (Bangla, Hindi, Nepali, Tamil, Sinhala and Urdu) by Sharmila Bhushan's team. Another CREA ally, Yash Chandra, added sustainability in his approach to space design, choosing natural fabric and materials over plastic and synthetic at every point possible.

Thank you, committed feminists!

# AGENDA

**1** *Plenaries*    **2** *Workshops*

**3** *Roundtables*    **4** *Spaces*

**5** *Parties & Fun!*

## PLENARIES

What is a plenary? A plenary at a summit refers to a session at which all attendees are present. The themes are broad and wide-ranging, with the intention of being meaningful and interesting to everyone in attendance.

### 29 MAY: MORNING PLENARY (11.30 AM – 1 PM)

#### *Opening dance performance*

By members of Jagriti Mahila Maha Sangh (JMMS), Nepal. Formed in 2006, JMMS is a national network of female sex workers. JMMS focuses on sex workers' rights, occupational safety, violence, HIV-AIDS prevention, and sexual and reproductive health rights issues.

#### *Welcome address*

Geetanjali Misra, Executive Director of CREA – Global, will welcome the participants to the summit.

#### *Why this summit?*

Representatives from Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka will share their perspectives on why this South Asia convening is important and timely for both sex workers and allies.

- **Joya Sikder, Bangladesh**  
Founder and President of Sompurna, an organisation that works to ensure rights of transgender and gender-diverse communities; former President of the Sex Workers Network of Bangladesh.
- **Shova Dangol, Nepal**  
In 2007, under her leadership, female sex workers registered Nari Chetana Samaj, also known as SWAN (Society for Women Awareness Nepal), the country's first female sex worker-led registered organisation.
- **Shahzadi Pirzado, Pakistan**  
Shahzadi works with community development organisations, NGOs and government, to help create an enabling environment for marginalised groups and help them access basic health services.
- **Indrani Kusumalatha, Sri Lanka**  
An active member of Praja Diriya Padanama, a community-based organisation that works with sex workers and the LGBT community in non-urban areas.

#### *Hearing from Sex Workers*

In this curated open mic session, sex workers from Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka will share their stories of resistance and resilience.

#### *Moderator:*

##### **Nazni, India**

Senior Reporter with Khabar Lahariya, India's only women-run ethical and independent rural news brand.

#### *Speakers:*

##### **Bishakha Laskar, India**

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Secretary of the Durbar Mahila Samanvaya Committee, a collective of sex workers based in West Bengal.

### **Ismot Ara Alo, Bangladesh**

Established a community-based organisation called Parash Nari Unyan Sangh, Rangpur in 2009 and became closely involved with the sex worker and women's rights movements.

### **Kiran Deshmukh, India**

Member of Veshya Anyay Mukti Parishad (VAMP), a collective of sex workers.

### **Laxmi Rana Bhat, Nepal**

Former National Executive Director of Jagriti Mahila Maha Sangh (JMMS); also Founder and Executive Director of Goreto Nepal, the provincial sex workers' network in Gandaki Province.

### **Lily Akter, Bangladesh**

President of the Sex Worker Network of Bangladesh; also Executive Director of Shawnirvor Mohila Sangstha (SHOW), Manikgonj, Bangladesh.

### *Call to Action: Sunita Kujur, India and SWASA*

Sunita and a sex worker member of SWASA will provide a brief overview of why it is important for sex workers and allies from South Asia to show up in global advocacy forums and/or work with mechanisms to counter pushbacks. Additionally, how the local can contribute to the global advocacy agenda.

Sunita Kujur is Advocacy Advisor with CREA, who has worked on issues of sex workers' rights in South Asia, East Africa, Central Asia and at the UN Human Rights Council.

## **29 MAY: EVENING PLENARY (6.00 PM – 7.30 PM)**

### *Sex Work in Bollywood: An Illustrated Talk by Shohini Ghosh*

Leading script writer Javed Akhtar has described Bombay cinema as India's closest neighbour which has "its own traditions, its own symbols, its own expressions, its own language" which is understood by all those who are familiar with it. This presentation is a stroll through Bombay cinema's vibrant world of tawaifs and sex work.

### **Sultana Begum, India**

Secretary of Sarvodaya Samiti, a community-based organisation of sex workers in Ajmer, Rajasthan, India.

### **Sakuni Mayadunne, Sri Lanka**

Founder and Director of Trans Equality Trust, Sri Lanka, an organisation of trans sex workers.

### **Tulasi Gandhari, Nepal**

Chairperson of the Jagriti Mahila Maha Sangh (JMMS); established the Ekikrit Mahila Sangh, an organisation dedicated to empowering and supporting women in her community.

### **S, Pakistan**

Community member who works with the Ghazi Social Welfare Association.

### **C, Sri Lanka**

Chairperson of the Abhimani Women's Collective, an organisation working for the rights of female sex workers.

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Shohini Ghosh is Sajjad Zaheer Chaired Professor at the AJK Mass Communication Research Centre (MCRC) and Director, Premchand Archives & Literary Centre at Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi. She is the director of *Tales of the Night Fairies* (2002), a documentary about the sex workers' rights movement in Kolkata.

### 30 MAY: MORNING PLENARY (11.30 AM - 1.00 PM)

#### *Dance Performance: Komal Gandhar, Durbar, Sonagachi, India*

The cultural wing of the Durbar Mahila Samanvaya Committee, Komal Gandhar emerged as a unique platform to facilitate the exchange of ideas across linguistic, religious and regional barriers and forge a common identity of sex workers across regions and countries and spread advocacy messages.

#### *Photographing Sex Work: Anita Khemka, India, in conversation with Sabeena Gadihoke, India*

Anita Khemka began photographing in 1996. She has closely followed the lives of socially marginalised and excluded groups — abandoned widows, people with intellectual disability, addictions, HIV and AIDS, and political, sexual and gender minorities. Her work has been exhibited widely.

Sabeena Gadihoke is Associate Professor, Video and TV Production, at the Anwar Jamal Kid-wai Mass Communication Research Centre, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. Gadihoke has been an independent documentary filmmaker and cameraperson and is also a photo histo-rian and curator.

#### *Call to Action: Sex Workers and Allies South Asia (SWASA)*

Two members of regional platform Sex Workers and Allies South Asia (SWASA) will speak about the opposition to sex workers' rights from the current United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls, its causes and consequences. They will briefly share insights into their collective advocacy to counter the Special Rapporteur's harmful narratives on sex work, and call for solidarity and action from allies and sex workers at the summit in preparation for the upcoming Human Rights Council session in June, 2024.

Sex Workers and Allies South Asia (SWASA) is a collaborative effort between sex workers and supportive activists and organisations in Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka. The initiative aligns itself to the LGBTQI and women's rights movements and other struggles of the marginalised and draws attention to violations of sex workers' rights in the region.

### 30 MAY: EVENING PLENARY (4.30 PM - 7.30 PM)

#### *Film Screening: Zindagi Tamasha (Circus of Life), by Sarmad Khoosat, Pakistan*

Followed by Shohini Ghosh in conversation with Sarmad Khoosat

Sarmad Sultan Khoosat is a director, actor, producer and screenwriter. *Zindagi Tama-sha* (2019) was selected as Pakistan's entry for Best International Film at the Academy Awards. Khoosat also teaches film and other subjects.

### 31 MAY: MORNING PLENARY (11.30 AM – 1 PM)

#### *Theatre Performance by Praja Diriya Padanama, Sri Lanka*

Praja Diriya focuses on promoting peace and coexistence among marginalised communities, including women sex workers, going beyond the mainstream ethno-religious demarcations of the Sri Lankan conflict.

#### *Allyship Journeys: Q&A with Sex Workers and Allies*

An interactive discussion with sex worker activists and allies on feminist allyship, what it looks like in practice and the challenges that have arisen in their movement-based work.

Moderator:

**Geetanjali Misra**

Panelists:

#### **Aava, Nepal**

Chairperson of Sangarsha Mahila Samuha, Bhaktapur, a sex worker-led organisation; also Coordinator of the National Network of Female Sex Workers (JMMS).

#### **Bishakha Datta, India**

Film maker, activist and former journalist; Co-Founder and Executive Director of Point of View, Mumbai, a non-profit working in the area of gender, sexuality and women's rights.

#### **Mahbooba Mahmood, Bangladesh**

Founder member of Naripokkho, a leading women's activist organisation in Bangladesh.

#### **Noor Furqan, Pakistan**

While in college in 2019, organised feminist

collective Aurat March; works at CIRCLE Wom-en, an organisation dedicated to empowering low-income businesswomen.

#### **Putul Singh, India**

Member of sex worker-led Durbar Mahila Samanvaya Committee in West Bengal, India; Core Committee member of the All India Network of Sex Workers (AINSW).

#### **Roshan De Silva, Sri Lanka**

Executive Director at DAST; helped shape both the Abhimani Women's Collective and the Trans Equality Trust (TET); established three consortiums in Sri Lanka, The Red Umbrella Network, HIV/TB CSO Network and the CARE Consortium.

#### *Feminist Allyship: Principles and Practices*

Speaker: **Srilatha Batliwala, India**

Based on a case study of the CREA-sex workers allyship spanning from 2008 to 2022, Srilatha has authored a publication titled *Feminist Allyship: Principles and Practices*. Through a video recording, she will share the inspiration for writing on this theme, the process of documenting the case studies, and a few key learnings around Initiating and building feminist alliances, sustaining them, and navigating tensions and challenges.

Srilatha Batliwala is a feminist activist-scholar and trainer and currently Senior Advisor, Knowledge Building at CREA. Her work focuses on building knowledge from practice.

Launch of the publication *Feminist Allyship – Principles and Practices*

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Sex worker activists will formally launch the publication at the summit.

### 31 MAY: EVENING PLENARY (6.00 PM - 7.30 PM)

#### *Sex worker-led Performance curated by Shilpee Theatre, Nepal*

Shilpee Theatre will introduce the performers and briefly share glimpses of their participatory workshop over the three days.

The Shilpee Theatre Group was established in 2006 with the vision to contribute to socio-political transformation in Nepal. They have performed in local communities, developed local theatre groups and conducted various theatre events.

#### *Action Outcome: Pooja Badrinath (Sexual Rights Initiative) and SWASA*

Pooja and two members from SWASA will share insights from the advocacy workshops and the SWASA village, messages from sex workers and allies that will contribute to a draft statement for the June session of the UN Human Rights Council, the number of signatures and potential follow-up for participants to remain engaged.

Pooja is Senior Advocacy Advisor - Human Rights Council, Sexual Rights Initiative. The Sexual Rights Initiative is a coalition of national and regional organisations based in Canada, India, Egypt, Argentina, that work together to advance human rights related to sexuality at the United Nations.

#### *Closing by CREA*

## WORKSHOPS

What is a workshop? A workshop is a meeting of a group of people to examine an issue or topic closely and identify pathways to action. In contrast to a roundtable, the intensive learning that typifies a workshop helps generate concrete, practical methods to tackle the issues under discussion.

At the summit, three curated workshops will offer opportunities for immersive learning and productive discussions on a specific theme. All three will run simultaneously, and will be offered on Day 1 and Day 3, so that participants can attend two according to their interests.

#### *On Accompaniment Practices: Sex Workers and their Allies*

**What it's about:** The close relationships between sex workers' rights movements and their allies have led to a range of accompaniment practices (the term used to refer to the practical guidance and help that an organisation offers to an ally). This participatory workshop will harness the knowledge and experiences of participants in the region and create opportunities to articulate and shape even more meaningful accompaniment practices.

**What to expect:** The workshop will begin with a visual mapping exercise to unpack the range of accompaniment practices based on experiences of sex workers. This will be followed by small group discussions to bring to the fore both positive and negative experiences. Role play and other creative tools will also be used, followed by a guided process to lay out key principles and approaches to shape positive practices.

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**Anchor:** Solidarity Foundation, India

The organisation supports sex workers, and gender and sexual minorities through institutional strengthening, leadership building, livelihood and wellbeing initiatives.

**Location:** Banyan Hall

### *Staying Safe: Rights and Security for Sex Workers Online*

**What it's about:** There is inadequate understanding of how well technology fulfils sex workers' needs in the face of unique social, political, legal, and safety constraints, especially in the South Asian context. This co-learning workshop with sex workers and allies explores the intersection of technology in sex workers' lives and how it can be better designed to suit their needs.

**What to expect:** The workshop will begin with participatory problem scoping around how sex workers interact with the digital world, its usefulness to them and the challenges they face. After a brief discussion on digital rights and legal/regulatory frameworks, the anchor will share strategies for digital security. The workshop will end with a manifesto writing exercise where sex workers will collectively imagine what an ideal platform/space on the internet could look like that addresses their needs and desires.

**Anchor:** Digital Futures Lab, India, a multidisciplinary research network that examines the complex interactions between technology and society in the global South. Through evidence-based research, participatory foresight, and public engagement, they identify pathways towards equitable, safe and caring futures.

**Location:** Shivapuri Hall

### *Countering Harmful Ideas at the UNHRC: A Practical Tool*

**What it's about:** The 56th session of the UN Human Rights Council Session is scheduled from 18 June to 12 July, 2024. The Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls, Reem Alsalem, will present her report on "prostitution and violence against women and girls" at this session, which is widely believed to be anti-sex work, based on her previous statements, social media statements, call for inputs and "discussions" at the regional consultations convened to inform the report.

The workshop will use this to lead into a discussion on strategies to counter the narratives at different levels, including leveraging the interest that other special procedures have. More specifically, the workshop will highlight how a statement at the Human Rights Council session can be drafted and how to make use of that limited space to highlight key concerns and the possible value of making that statement.

**What to expect:** Participants will be able to discuss engagement with the UN SR-VAW in detail: her report, the impact, possible harms at the national level, and how to collectively counter and resist her advocacy. The workshop will aim to have a draft outline with key messages that can be used for advocacy during UNHRC session, and even after.

**Anchor:** Sexual Rights Initiative, a coalition of national and regional organisations in Canada, India, Egypt, Argentina that works together to advance human rights related to sexuality at the United Nations.



**Location:** Kailash Hall

## ROUNDTABLES

What is a roundtable? A roundtable is a facilitated conversation with a group on a specific theme – usually held around, yes, a non-hierarchical ‘round table’. Themes for the renew roundtables emerged from extensive discussions with sex workers and allies in the region. The conversations will include conceptual and experiential knowledge and information, providing all participants an opportunity for cross-learning. Selected participants will initiate the conversation.

### *The Wide, Wide World of Informal Work*

Women working in the informal sector straddle multiple ‘floating’ worker identities – garment workers, construction workers, factory workers, sex workers... But not all women in the informal sector who engage in transactional sex identify as sex workers. This nebulous-ness will be explored in a session that challenges stereotypes about sex workers. It will also help place sex work as part of a vast informal economy and as just one of several livelihood options for women.

**Location:** Kailash Hall

Facilitator:

**Ashila Dandeniya, Sri Lanka**

Former factory worker who founded the women-led ‘Stand-Up’ labour movement as an alternative to the top-down and male-dominated trade union movements in Sri Lanka.

Speakers:

**Meera Raghavendra, India**

Founder of Women’s Initiatives (WINS), which supports Me and My World, a network of sex worker led community-based organisations in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, India.

**K. Ratnakumari, India**

President of Dharani, a sex worker-led community-based organisation in Andhra Pradesh, part of the Me and My World network and member of the National Network of Sex Workers (NNSW).

**Bimala Malla Thakuri, Nepal**

Sex worker activist, founder of Mahila Sahayogi Samuha, and former president of Jagriti Mahila Maha Sangh, an umbrella organisation of 33 sex worker-led organisations.

**Babita Baral, Nepal**

Coordinator at Tarangini, a feminist organisation that focuses on the right to work, and has strong allyship with sex workers in Nepal.

**Chamila Thushari, Sri Lanka**

Executive Director of the Dabindu Collective, which promotes women workers’ rights in the Free Trade Zone (FTZ) through collectivisation of women workers in Sri Lanka.

**Srijana Pun, Nepal**

Founder of the Women Forum for Women in Nepal (WOFOWON), the first NGO working to ensure the rights of women working in the entertainment sector in Nepal.

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### Rights, not Rehabilitation

Women engaging in adult, voluntary and consensual sex work are often labelled as 'victims' or 'criminals' and routinely face egregious rights violations. Raided by police and sent to detention homes, this 'rehabilitation' is forced upon them. In some countries, while sex workers are not criminalised, aspects of their work are punishable offences (solicitation, maintaining a brothel and/or renting spaces for sex work). On the table at this session are these issues as well as strategies being deployed by sex workers and allies to challenge them.

**Location:** Kasthamandap Hall

Facilitator:

Faruq Faisal, Bangladesh

Executive Director of Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK), a legal assistance and human rights organisation that is an executive committee member of Shonghoti, an alliance of women's rights and human rights organisations in Bangladesh.

Speakers:

**Indrani Kusumalatha, Sri Lanka**

**Farida Parveen, Bangladesh**

Member of the Sex Workers' Network of Bangladesh (SWNOB); played a leading role in pro-testing the eviction of sex workers from brothels in Faridpur and Rajbari in Bangladesh.

**Geeta Devi Paudel, Nepal**

Joint Secretary of Jagriti Mahila Maha Sangh

(JMMS), a national sex worker-led network comprising 33 community-based women sex worker-led organisations in 25 districts, and Secretary of Mahila Shasaktikaran, an affiliate of JMMS.

**C, Sri Lanka**

**Roshan De Silva, Sri Lanka**

**Kiran Deshmukh, India**

### *New Rooms, New Dynamics: Sex Work in an Online World*

How do persons engaged in precarious, criminalised work – such as sex work – leverage technology (mobile phones) and online spaces (social media)? Traditional forms of solicitation are being transformed. Along with these churns, sex workers themselves are redefining their identities – as service providers, content creators and entrepreneurs. These changing dynamics have implications not only for the lives and well-being of sex workers but also influence how interventions with sex workers are conceived and implemented.

**Location:** Nalanda Hall

Facilitator:

**Bishakha Datta, India**

Speakers:

**Nibedita Sarkar, Bangladesh**

Assistant Research Coordinator at BRAC  
James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC

University, Bangladesh; has participated in BRAC-led research with female sex workers.

**Kusum, India**

Lead for Azad Titliyan Collective, which

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advances the rights of sex workers' and their children to social entitlements; previously affiliated to the All India Network of Sex Workers and former President of the network.

### **Vanamali Kaushalya Galappatti, Sri Lanka**

Associated with the Women and Media Collective, working on issues of identity, inclusion and gender; previously worked with

the Movement for Inter Racial Justice and Equality (MIRJE).

### **Nupur Afrin, Bangladesh**

A street and home-based sex worker; member of the Sex Workers' Network of Bangladesh as well as Shono Nari Union Shongho, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

### **Misha'ari Weerabangsa, Sri Lanka**

Queer feminist; Co-Lead, Programmes, Delete Nothing.

### *The Law and Social Movements: Getting It to Help*

Lawyers, NGO members and sex worker activists from India and Bangladesh will share experiences of legal and policy advocacy and the impact on rights of sex workers in different contexts. Participants will be encouraged to question the centrality of the law in their advocacy and movement building and learn from diverse experiences across South Asia. The discussion will also provide the space to discuss if and how sex workers have explored litigation or advocated for rights outside courtrooms.

**Location:** Banyan Hall

**Facilitator:**

### **Tripti Tandon, India**

New Delhi-based lawyer and Deputy Director with the Lawyers Collective, one of the oldest human rights organisations in India.

**Speakers:**

### **Rama Debnath, India**

Project Director for the Targeted Intervention program at Basirhat Durbar Samity; served as President of the Durbar Mahila Samanvaya Committee.

### **Sipra Goswami, Bangladesh**

Lawyer who works with the Faridpur Unit of Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST).

### **Joya Sikder, Bangladesh**

### **Rachana Mudraboyina, India**

Creator of TransVision, India's first YouTube channel for transgender issues, as well as a founding member of the Telangana Hijra Intersex Transgender Samiti.

### **Bharati Dey, India**

Member of Usha Cooperative, the largest and the first ever sex worker led financial institution in South Asia; Core Committee member of the All India Network of Sex Workers (AINSW).

### *Anti-trafficking: What's the Story Now?*

People engage in sex work for reasons that fall along a spectrum – of choice, circumstance and coercion. Anti-trafficking criminal laws have been the go-to strategy to curb the coercion of persons into sex work. Women's rights activists have had a conflicted relationship with regard to the recognition of women's rights and/or the ability to choose to engage in transactional sex. Often

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couched in the language of violence, this has helped shape a narrative of victimhood and exploitation of all women engaged in sex work. Coupled with this is the emergence of a highly influential anti-trafficking industry that pushes a narrative that conflates sex work with trafficking. These debates and fault lines have been at the centre of the struggles of the sex workers' rights' movement.

**Location:** Shivapuri Hall

**Facilitator:**

Mona Mishra, India

In 1995, she and her late husband started the first support group of people affected by HIV in India; has been a long-term ally of the sex workers' rights movement in India.

**Speakers:**

**Haseeb Rathore, Pakistan**

Associated with HOPE - Have Only Positive Expectation in Lahore, which champions inclusivity and equality for gender and sexual minorities.

**Shova Dangol, Nepal**

**Jahanara Khatun, Bangladesh**

Associated with Naripokkho's intervention,

Strengthening Sex Workers' Rights Movement in Bangladesh.

**Bhagya Lakshmi, India**

Member of Ashodaya Samithi, an association of more than 6,000 sex workers in Karnataka, India; Core Committee member of All India Network of Sex Workers (AINSW).

**SWASA**

## SPACES

*Photo Studio*

By Anita Khemka

**Photographer's note:** "My earlier documentation on sex workers was a response to seeing sex work as an exploitative industry. It looked at issues related to their health and physical safety, economic exploitation and their general living and working conditions. The consent was implicit and the intent was to give them dignity and avert voyeurism which was the dominant gaze at the time.

With the Photo Studio, the approach towards making the portrait is going to be collaborative. For each sitter, the intent will be to find strength, poise and aspiration in the 'moment' and see beyond their persona defined by sex work. The result will be a staged portrait with each individual directing their own performance."

**Location:** Near car park

*Photo Booth*

What does it feel like to be on the other side? What does it feel like to wield the policeman's baton? What does it feel like to wear the judge's robes? What does it feel like to hold power in your own hands? Come find out!

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Our Photo Booth invites you to don the garb of authority, pose to your heart's content and take home photographic evidence of a unique role reversal. Our photographer will shoot you in your preferred role and give you the photograph just a little while later.

**Location:** Gazebo

### *SWASA Village*

The SWASA village is a space where South Asian grassroots activists working in the field of sex workers' rights can meet, talk and make lasting connections with each other. Partners across the South Asia region attending the convention are free to use the space to organise panel discussions, exhibits, illustrations, storytelling etc. The space will be designed by the partners from South Asia.

The SWASA Adda in the village has different themes each day:

- Day 1: River of Submissions (2.30 PM – 4.30 PM)
- Day 2: Sex Work University (2.30 PM – 4.00 PM)
- Day 3: Across Movements (2:30 PM – 4.30 PM)

There will also be an all-day Mandi (marketplace) and Village Plaza on all days of the summit.

**Location:** Arboretum Garden

### *Art + Activism = Artivism*

Art delights us, disturbs us, engages us, moves us. Activism attempts to change mindsets to effect social change. Mix the two mindfully, and you have a powerful catalytic tool – it's being called 'artivism'. And sex workers were doing it much before the term was coined! They used a range of artistic mediums to influence public opinion and shape their own narrative with regard to their identity and rights.

Celebrating that radical expression, the Art + Activism space showcases some early sex worker-led artivism. It also offers community members and allies to contribute to that body of work – participants can create their own art, posters, or badges with the materials that will be made available. We hope the artivism created here can be displayed and infused into other spaces at the summit – so pin up your art work, take it to the photo booth to be photographed, carry it to a session to share with others or disseminate on social media.

**Anchor:** Amra Padatik, a self-led organisation of children of sex workers from West Bengal India and CREA.

**Location:** Baithak

### *In Memoriam*

We're living in a moment of fierce opposition to sex workers, their rights, their livelihoods, their dignity. But this convening is our shared safe space – where those gathered push forward regardless. We do so by building on the sacrifices and courage of sex workers in South Asia, who created a remarkable movement driven by transformative models of collectivisation and shared leadership.

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This space honours and celebrates the contributions of all the remarkable people we have lost – people who remained staunch service providers during a terrible pandemic; people who suffered the ravaging effects of that pandemic more directly than most; people who laboured on despite remaining unnamed and invisible to the public eye; people whose sass and style we remember with admiration and gratitude.

Please use this space to pay your respects to these extraordinary individuals. Add names of friends or colleagues, share their photos, write your messages. Or just spend a moment here with your memories.

**Location:** Durbar Courtyard

## PARTIES & FUN!

### MAY 29: Bollywood Night (9.00 PM onwards)

Put on your glad rags and high heels and join us for a night of dance, music and merriment! Please bring your favourite songs to share with the DJ.

### MAY 30: Fashion Show (9.30 PM onwards)

The fashion show will be a glamorous night of fashion and entertainment, a parade for equality and justice – by us all. We promise it will be an exciting affair, a chance for each of us to showcase our swag and strut. Bring costumes and props, come dressed to the nines, or come as you are – just whatever feels right for you. Walk the ramp with friends or alone —whatever feels good. Let us all gather to walk for sex workers' rights!

We will share a registration sheet for you to sign up, share your stage name, and send any accompanying messages to the MC. Please also let Sushma Luthra (CREA) know of any music requirements.

### MAY 31: Music and Dance Night (9.00 PM onwards)

Join us on the last day of the summit to rejuvenate ourselves through the power of music and dance. Music suggestions highly encouraged!