







Patruni Chidananda Sastry

## *Suffocated Art Specimen*

I am Patruni Sastry, A drag performer, performance artist and expressionist dancer from Hyderabad. I have been performing classical dance and performance art for more than 3 years now and recently developed artistic curiosity to pursue drag as an expression. Drag is an art form where a man/woman dresses up in exaggerated costumes and makeup, usually of opposite gender and performs a multi-disciplinary art. Since the time I was exposed to drag, I could see the richness of this wonderful art format which can be used as a language to raise awareness on multiple issues including lgbtqia + issues, awareness on menstrual health, sexual health, gender awareness and fight back Castism, homophobia, fascism, environmental protection.



India's First

## *Tranimal Drag*

My style of drag is called as Tranimal drag, a drag format which is performance art, where unlike traditional drag where beauty, class and elegance is given attention, tranimal drag talks about anti beauty. It's a postmodern approach for drag where the costumes are made of trash material, with makeup and dress placement in no one order and random. The key quotient being how a certain daily use object can break fashion and be used as a piece of art. My drag name S.A.S standing from Suffocated art specimen which helps be bring balance between activism and art together.





## Drag and Experience

### *Indian Drag Performer*

As a part of the performance art initiation, I started exploring Drag. My first Drag event was on June 9th where I dressed up to become Mohini D'vi a non-gendered identity. I use the Tranimal Drag style (also called drag terrorism) where I create my body a piece of art. I have worked on bringing Carnatic Music with drag, Indian classical music with drag and performed in major spaces within Hyderabad. Tranimal drag helps me kick off the beauty standardization of Drag culture and step away from non-binary representation. I have to take a Tranimal drag workshop course and work with Indian heritage structure to bring in drag, I also worked on Drag storytelling which teaches adults about sexual education.

## Acedotes of Drag

# Dragging from Steets to Clubs

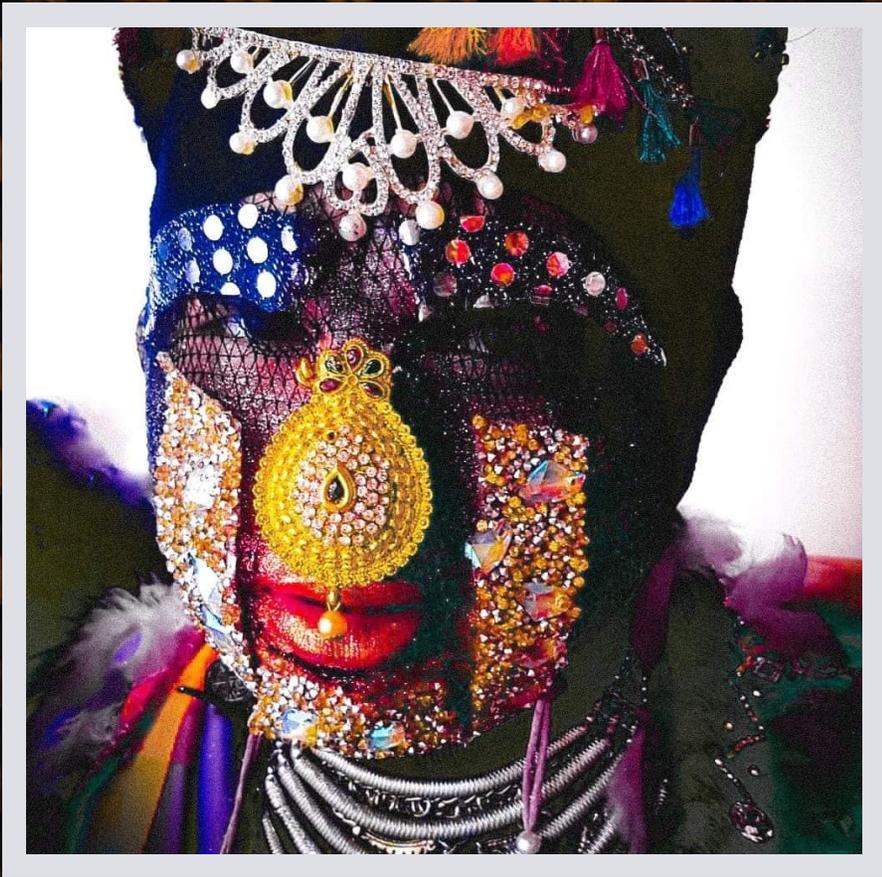
### *Drag on Streets*

I was a part of a dance production titled "Nirod" which I presented for Mobbera Foundation, an organization that works for LGBTQIA rights, in association with Telangana State Council of Aids Control Society (TSCAS) and AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) Together presented a unique way of spreading awareness with specially curated Flash mob. This was one of its kind where Drag came together to pass a message. This performance was presented in more than 25 public locations including the most crowded railway stations of Secundrabad, Nampally Railway station, Punjagutta Central Mall, Kachiguda Railway station, Lumbini Park, Public Gardens, JBS Bustop, Rtc Bus stops for more than 2 weeks and then finally presented at curtain faller event at Ravindra Bharati Hyderabad.

### *Drag Con :*

I also curated and created India's First Drag Con in Hyderabad in 2019, DragCon is an event like "Comic Con" is an annual exhibition of drag cultures where drag performers, presenters come together to celebrate drag as an art form. To break the ice about drag culture and bring it into mainstream club culture and encourage youngsters to pursue opportunities in drag we bring Drag Con to Hyderabad. It's as Indian way of celebrating the diversity of DRAG







Places where i performed

## *Notable Showcases*

I had the opportunity to perform in international and national shows and art festivals below are some such platforms where I represented my art

- Out and Loud Film Festival
- Hyderabad Literacy festival
- Pinwheel Festival
- Queer and Allie film Festival
- Queer Carnival Hyderabad
- Storytelling festival Hyderabad.

Party Houses :

- Kitty Su Delhi
- Kitty Ko Bangalore
- Hylife Hyderabad
- LALA Land Hyderabad
- Heart Cup Gachibowli
- Giggle Water Hyderabad

Ramp Walks

- Abhihara Handloom Showcase 2020

Music Videos

- Kaun Bataye by Daastan Live
- Sunshine in the Street by Peekay aka Pranathi Khanna

Photo Works:

- Damein Frost

## Drag and Experience

# Spaces performed

### Educational Institutions a :

- IIT Hyderabad
- IBA Bangalore
- VBIT
- MLRIT
- TDPS RKPURAM
- Bits Pilani ,Panji, Goa
- Bits Pilani, Hyderabad
- ISB Hyderabad
- IBS Hyderabad
- Ashoka University
- BVRIT
- Loyola Colledge

### International Shows :

- Rangeela Toronto Pride showcase
- Serve Network Monday Drag Show
- Drag Passport Vol 3
- Parivar Bay Area Pride Celebration
- BFI Flare Open Mic by Gaysi Indian
- International conference on Queer Mobilization by Keah University and UOH

### Corporate shows :

- Colourful workplaces Deloitte Hyderabad
- Microsoft Openhouse 2021
- Gender connect workshop at Uber India
- Glamazon event Amazon 2019
- Learning Unconference at Thought Works Hyderabad
- We Work Hyderabad Drag fest





# Emcee, Keynotes, Workshops

## Popular talks:

- TEDx IBA Bangalore
- TEDx VBIT
- TEDx MLRIT
- TEDx Youth DPS RKPuram
- TEDx Youth@Vannarpettai
- Josh Talk Telugu
- Josh Talk India
- Speaker at Human Library Hyderabad
- Speaker at Human Library Bangalore
- Speaker at Hyderabad Lit festival
- Pecha Kucha Night Hyderabad
- Drag Raga, a performance at Ashoka University

## Emcee and Host

- Mr & Miss Mobbera Beauty Pageant 2019
- Hyderabad Queer film festival 2021
- Hyderabad Dance festival 2021
- PRIDE Fest, by Social ketchup and local samosa 2021
- Ted Circle Dragvanti
- Dvibhanga

## Workshops

- Gender sensitization workshop with ICFAl Hyderabad
- Gender sensitization workshop for Uber India
- Unlearning conference 2019
- Gender and sexuality 101 at Hyderabad Lit Festival
- Drag 101 a workshop at Heal no Hate, Camp celibate 2021
- Storytelling workshop by Tale Tellers troupe 2018
- Drag tales at Rainbow Homes
- Untold stories of Taramati and Madhumati, Hyderabad trials 2018





On the Camera

## *Films and Documentaries*

I have been working on the film and documentation for multiple projects. One of my Debut Acting works was with a short film titled Polar Night which has been received with wide reviews. I have also worked as an editor and director for documentary "Shoonyam". A documentary film "Inventing SAS" was also filmed by director Prerna Toshniwala.





Drag musicals and choreography work

## *Notebal Productions*

Some of my Drag choreography production works include the following :

- The Untold Story Of Mohini, Performed at Shilparamam 2021
- Unicorn, Performed at QIAFF chennai
- PRISM , Performed at OPEN House Microsoft Hyderabad
- Four Play a performance art on Gender Sexuality
- Intimacy, a performance on queer privacy at Online Performance art festival.
- 69 , a performance art of Same Sex Marriages
- Strip Tease, a performance on #MENTOO
- Curtificate A performance on Trans Bill 2019
- Cover Gurl , a performance on Queer carnival Hyderabad 2021
- RedLight a performance on Rights of equality at Kitty Su Delhi
- Chemo , a performance on Cancer Survival as a part of Heart Talks By Dabaki
- Dancing Dysphoria: A performance around Gender Dysphoria.



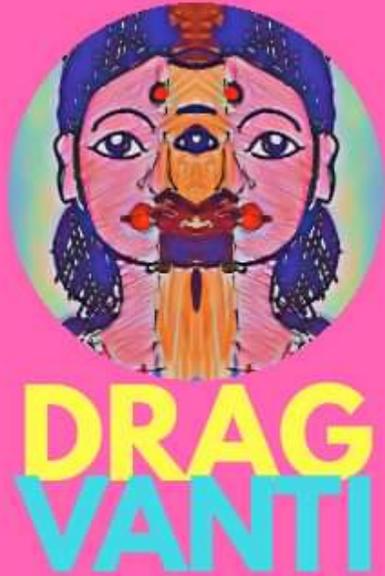




## Notable Interviews

1. BBC Telugu: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x8rYVhkOID0&t=115s>.
2. Times of India: <https://m.timesofindia.com/Artiste-Patruni-Chidananda-Sastry-gets-into-Tranimal-drag-avatar/videoshow/78544406.cms>
3. Josh Talks: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=akh2bIYcU30&t=5s>
4. I Dreams Telugu: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6oFP1ghg\\_PM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6oFP1ghg_PM)
5. Humans of Bombay: [https://www.instagram.com/reel/CZTXDVKhtn8/?utm\\_source=ig\\_embed&utm\\_campaign=loading](https://www.instagram.com/reel/CZTXDVKhtn8/?utm_source=ig_embed&utm_campaign=loading)
6. Pragma Media: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pvzb05XCuaY&t=1029s>
7. TEDx talks Playlist: <https://youtu.be/gewgABOPJMo>
8. We the Young: <https://www.instagram.com/p/CLHQltyBGkA/>
9. Brut : <https://www.brut.media/in/news/when-a-straight-woman-met-a-drag-queen-b80b66f0-a31c-4aae-8414-85c2070f6336>
10. ABP Desham: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_QNZlxCnrOQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_QNZlxCnrOQ)
11. RedFM : <https://music.amazon.com/podcasts/dfb0e924-0f22-4202-acd9-c46cddb15134/episodes/078e77ed-3e94-42c3-b238-a07f560d986c/rainbow-diaries-ep-49-pansexuality>
12. Vice: <https://www.vice.com/en/article/pkp4az/drag-queen-married-to-a-straight-woman-relationships-love-marriage>
- 13.





## Creating space

*Dragvanti*

Dragvanti, India's first exclusive Drag Site, my dream project, launches June 9th. It will boast an online quarterly e-magazine titled "Drag Vati". The webspace will go live on June 9th -- on the first anniversary of my Drag journey. A space exclusively for Drag, the platform will have essential resources such as news, interviews, articles, memes, quotes and knowledge on Indian approach to Drag. It provides information about the cultural and ethnic drag art form practices within India and how the version of Indian Drag is different from what the world sees as Drag. I created this open space with an idea to bring drag culture in India appropriate attention as equally provided to all the other art forms. Drag Vanti is a virtual website where young and aspiring drag performers can find all the information they need to harness the art.



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## Contact

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### Photo Credits

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