

Kranti: Red-Light Theatre

UK & US, May - June, 2015

Who We Are: We are Krantikaris – that's Hindi for "Revolutionaries" – from Kranti, an NGO that empowers girls from Mumbai's red-light areas to become agents of social change.

We are the daughters of sex workers. We are girls who were trafficked. We are girls who were born and raised in Kamathipura, Asia's most infamous red-light area.

We are young women, ages 13-19, with big dreams and big plans to change the world.

Change Through Theatre: In 2013, we Krantikaris wrote, directed, and performed a play about our lives. By sharing our stories, we wanted to raise awareness of sex workers' lives and their daily struggles. It turns out our



play was so awesome we were asked to perform it in over 50 venues in front of over 100K+ people! Our play helped change thousands of people's mindsets about us, our moms, and our community. Now, we want to share our stories with the world!

Our Next Play: Laal Batti Express (Red-Light Express) is a three-segment depiction of our past, present and future – our mothers' work, our childhoods in brothels and NGOs, the discrimination we've faced, the struggles we've overcome, and our hopes and dreams for the future.

Why We Travel: We can't change the world without seeing it first! We grew up in Kamathipura, and the red-light area was our entire world. After coming to Kranti, we traveled for the first time in our lives; our world grew to include all of Mumbai and slowly India. Now, we want to expand our world beyond India. While traveling will broaden our worldviews, our personal stories will broaden our audiences' worldview. We know that others need inspiration to make change too - this is why we'll be bringing our community to theirs, through the magic of theatre!

The Grand Plan: Our five-week itinerary, in addition to our performances, includes visits to NGOs working on girls' and women's rights, sex workers' groups, universities, schools, prisons, and other organizations working with marginalized youth. Starting from 6 May, we plan to travel to London, New York, Washington DC, Chicago, Las Vegas, and San Francisco, returning home on 17 June 2015.

How to Help: Come to our play! Tell your friends and family about it. (Dates and venues coming soon!) Can you help us with transportation, lodging, meals, or sightseeing? Would you like to be the volunteer coordinator for any of these cities? Please contact the Kranti team if you'd like to help plan our trip!

