

# Yatharth

Researcher, Designer & Artist.

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**Website:** strangerobot.design \ old.strangerobot.design

**Location:** Bangalore, India

My work audits how the design of **AI systems, user interfaces** and **platform policies** encodes social hierarchies such as **caste** and **gender** in healthcare, gig-work and on social media. I have a background and practice in **communication design, interaction design, creative tech** and **new media arts**.

## Education

**Bachelor of Design**, Visual Communication  
National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad  
June 2015-March 2020

**Exchange Semester**, Interactive Media Design.  
Royal Academy of Arts, The Hague  
September 2017-February 2017

## Experience

November 2021–April 2025

**Design Researcher**, Centre for Internet & Society.

- Conceptualised and published several studies using qualitative, quantitative and design research methodologies.
  - **AI for Healthcare: Data Supply Chain and Auditability:** Assisted in a mixed-methods study with 500+ healthcare technology and policy experts on auditing healthcare AI in India. [\(link\)](#)
  - **Bahujan Digital Publishing Infrastructures:** Led qualitative research with 12 anti-caste publications on social media, discussing issues of policy, infrastructure, online hate speech and user aspirations. [\(link\)](#)
  - **Designing Domestic Work Platforms:** Co-led a design and interaction audit of a domestic work app (Urban Company) in India, exploring how the design of apps impacts workers and their rights. [\(link\)](#)
- Represented CIS at several national and international forums in roundtables, panels, and workshops.
- Undertook design, communication, and publishing work, including the design of interactive websites, social media campaigns, reports, and branding for the organisation.
- Led and assisted in over 15 grant proposals and fundraising activities.

November 2020–November 2021

**Designer and Researcher**, Janastu.

- Supported in the design and installation of a wireless mesh and community network project in rural Karnataka, connecting over 5000 villagers to the Internet.
- Conducted digital literacy workshops with over 100 participants in rural and urban communities.
- Created a comprehensive digital archive and website for 20+ years of the body of work at Janastu.

January 2021–April 2021

**Curator & Grant Manager**, Futura Tropica, Berlin. [Link](#)

January 2020–April 2020

**Curator**, National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad. [Link](#)

January 2019–October 2019

**RnD and Bachelor Thesis**, Busride Labs. [Read](#)

August 2018–September 2018

**Interaction & Installation Designer**, National Centre for Science Museums. [Link](#)

May 2018–July 2018

**Game Development Intern**, Quicksand Design [Link](#).

## Selected Writings

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2025, Essay, **Casteist by Design : Platforms and Caste in India**  
2025, Report, **Bahujan Digital Publishing Infrastructures** ([link](#))  
2024, Report, **AI for Healthcare: Understanding Data Supply Chain and Auditability in India** ([link](#))  
2022, Report, **Designing Domestic Work Platforms** ([link](#))  
2022, Essay, **How Platform Design Shapes Working Conditions in India** ([link](#))

## Conferences

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2025, **4S Society for Social Studies for Science**, Seattle  
2025, **RightsCon**, Taipei  
2024, **Global Gathering**, Estoril  
2024, **Global Digital Cultures**, University of Amsterdam  
2023, **Association of Internet Researchers Conference**, Philadelphia  
2023, **4S Society for Social Studies for Science Conference**, Hawaii  
2019, **World Design Organization**, Ahmedabad

## Talks and Workshops

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2023, **The Challenge of Decolonisation: On Debrahmanizing Design in India** | Roundtable @ Futuress  
2022, **Futures of Participatory Design** | Roundtable @ Participatory Design Conference, NID Ahmedabad  
2022, **App Critique: Inferring Values Through a Design Walkthrough** | Workshop @ PDC  
2021, **Design, Identity and Politics** | Taught Course @ Srishti Institute of Design, Bangalore;  
2021, **Machine Unlearning and Artificial Stupidity** | Taught Course @ National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad;  
2019, **AI and Future of Design** | Workshop @ World Design Organization Conference

## Clients

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2025, **Sri Vamsi Matta**, Website Design  
2021, **Media Arts South Asia**, Website Design, UX and Interaction Design  
2021, **Mavelinadu**, Website Design and UX  
2021, **The Inverted Project**, Branding  
2020-2021, **Internet Freedom Foundation**, Website Design & UX

## Skills

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Qualitative and quantitative research  
Design Research  
User Research & UX Design  
Creative Coding/Physical Computing  
VR/AR/Interactive experiences  
Visual and Spatial design  
Rapid prototyping  
Artificial Intelligence

## Tools

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Figma  
Javascript, C#, C++,  
Adobe Suite  
Cinema 4D, Blender, Unity, Unreal  
Processing, P5js, Arduino  
Generative AI,  
Ableton