

## Word and Image - Aparna Chivukula

Ms. Aparna Chivukula taught part of the 'Word and Image' paper to 6th Semester Communicative English students as a guest lecturer.



Ms. Chivukula writes, draws and makes books. In 2023, she won the Toto Award for poetry. Her poems have also been published in Poetry at Sangam.

Over the course of twelve hours, which were spread out between 15th January and 24th February, Ms Chivukula introduced the class to comics as well as zines, beginning with a look into the history and context of both forms. For their first assignment class read 'Maus' by Art Spiegelman and made a comic about the reading process and what they understood through it about the comics form. They also read and discussed 'One Hundred Demons' by Lynda Barry, paying attention to the usage of handwriting, cursive, the art style, and the tone.

The class looked at copies of 'Spark' magazine and discussed potential social issues they may want to make zines about, for which they later wrote proposals, which they brought to class.

Before reading out their proposals, they read 'Aloe Vera and The Void' and pointed out elements of the art style and the form they would like to incorporate in their zines.

The class wrote and read their elevator pitches of their proposals, after which they selected one to work on as a class. Each person made one spread for the zine and brought them printed. All the spreads were laid out and the class discussed them, looking at what was and wasn't working. After this, they ended the guest lectures with one final activity in which the students were paired up and made a zine about each other's experience with the course and department by talking to the other and making notes and illustrations during the conversation, which they then cut out, edited, and arranged to make the zine.