

Lady LaRouge is a lifelong performer, dancing and singing from a young age. She went on to study musical theatre at Burncoat Performing Arts Magnet High School and continued studying music, theatre, dance, and production in college in Salem, Massachusetts. There she experienced her first foray into burlesque after being cast in a production of Kander & Ebb's *Cabaret* as Helga. It changed the relationship she had with her curvy body, growing to love it and love sharing it! After graduating cum laude in 2015, Lady and some college friends founded her first troupe: The Baphomettes.

The Baphomettes were a neo-gorelesque troupe specializing in horror acts as they were based in Witch City. The troupe quickly grew into a full production company, with 10+ members, a monthly residency at Opus Underground, as well as performing all over New England with our 20+ original shows.

In 2019, Lady LaRouge moved back to her hometown of Worcester, MA to pursue a performing arts day job and a solo career in burlesque. She performed with WooTown chanteuse Niki Luparelli and collaborated with the international mural festival POW! WOW! Worcester artist Balloonski on a surprise interactive "balloon/performance art installment" at the widely acclaimed artworld event Secret Walls. It was in Worcester that she produced her first show with her new troupe The Mary Jane Gang, a cannabis-centric group that focused on destigmatization & educating on the plant's benefits and history of legalization. They sold out Ralph's Rock Diner on 4/20, The High Holy Day with their Sativa diva energy.

When the COVID-19 pandemic shut down performance venues and our ability to gather, Lady LaRouge pivoted to the virtual space. She performed in countless virtual burlesque shows and even participated in a virtual 24 Hour Burlesque Festival. The Mary Jane Gang produced their own online show featuring the Washington, D.C. BIPOC troupe Thee Sugar Buds on 4/20/21 which included contests, education, and a fundraiser for The Last Prisoner's Project. Lady was awarded a relief grant from the Worcester Arts Council due to loss of performance and teaching work during the pandemic.

Once restrictions lifted and we felt safe and healthy to gather again, Lady started booking solo gigs again and applied for the Worcester Arts Council 2021/2 Funding Priorities Grant and was awarded enough to sustain a month-long workshop series at the Jean McDonough Arts Center in downtown Worcester. Her class series was popular among attendees. She taught a history portion and a dance portion, each session lasting 2 hours. With word of her successful class traveling, Lady was approached by Panduh Productions, a local interactive arts events company, about co-producing a benefit event for local nonprofit The Jane Fund, an abortion rights advocacy & funding group. Lady LaRouge with Chris of Panduh Productions curated an amazing show *Creatures of Worcester: After Dark* on 12/2/22 and raised over \$800 for the organization!

Lady LaRouge started 2023 by performing in New Orleans, while vacationing in one of her favorite cities. She performed at the iconic Allways Lounge & Cabaret on 3/11/23 and cried when she saw Kitty West's (A NOLA burlesque icon) autographed portrait hanging up there. After returning home to Massachusetts, she continued her solo work and began planning a

new co-production with Panduh Productions: *Midsommar Night's Dream*, and solo produced her first show at Andy's Neighborhood Caneen in Webster, MA, *The Burlesque Beach Bash!*

She returned to Webster on a full moon in October to produce a scary and sexy show *Andy's Neighborhood Caneen-o-ween Burlesque*. Another smash success in the books. Soon thereafter Lady made her real drag king debut as Laddie LaRouge- performing a Shakespeare number from *Something Rotten* for a musical theatre-themed Harley's Funhouse.

Some more solo gigs and lots of planning summed up 2023 in style and as we head into 2024 Lady LaRouge has no plans of slowing down. She performed in two drag shows as Laddie LaRouge in January and started February making her Rhode Island debut by being the first performer to bless the brand new space at Inspiria in Providence for *RhodyQ: Reclaiming ur Burlesque History*. She debuted a classic burlesque number to *Purple Wail* in a royal purple Catherine D'LishRobe.

This was not just a show but a week-long exhibit of historical items from New England neo-burlesque (with a few classic gems like Blaze Starr's shoes and Mae West's autograph)! Lady Contributed Baphomettes memorabilia and lots of her historical research items were featured in the exhibit.

Coming up:

3/2 - Hips & Hops: A Night of Burlesque

Performing

Barewolf Brewing Amesbury, MA

3/22 - The 80's in Aspen: An Apres Ski Draglesque Party

Producing & Hosting

Andy's Neighborhood Canteen - Webster, MA

4/19 - Prepare to Be Baked: A Draglesque Love Letter to Cannabis

Producing & Hosting

Electric Haze - Worcester , MA

With a passion for creativity and a commitment to delivering high-quality productions and performances, Lady La Rouge offers a wide range of services & talents to meet various needs. She focuses on burlesque performance, production, historical research, and educational services because it truly brings her joy to learn about the art form she loves so much.