

# VOGUE

INDIA

JAN  
2017  
₹150

MEET  
FASHION  
ODDEST  
COUPLE

+  
BEYOND  
DEEPAK  
CHOPRA  
ANDERS  
COOPER



An image from  
Briana Blasko's  
*Dance Of The  
Weave* featuring  
a Kuchipudi  
dancer behind  
warp threads

## Beyond the warp with BRIANA BLASKO AND NEST

Meet Briana Blasko, the photographer behind the book *Dance Of The Weave*, which captures the captivating connections between dancers and handloom textiles. This time Nest, a nonprofit that does exemplary work in the social and economic advancement of global artisans, has collaborated with her to produce a stunning collection of photographs that go “beyond the warp”, showcasing the mastery behind India’s luxurious textile traditions.

To bring the story to life, Blasko spent days amidst rainstorms in Andhra Pradesh during the Ganesh Chaturthi festival, photographing the ikat weavers of Ereena in Koyyalagudem and Puttapaka, and the master craftsmen and women at Bina and Kesav Rao’s natural dye farm, Creative Bee. At Creative Bee, Blasko had the rare opportunity to photograph the

marigold dyeing process—the symbolic yellow being of great significance in ceremonies and rituals from the time of the Indus Valley Civilisation. “Returning to AP to photograph weavers and the making of the colour yellow was an absolute joy. I continue to be inspired by the work of Nest, as well as the artisans. I am in awe of how graciously the weavers and craftspeople open up their homes and workspaces to share their mastery with all of us,” says Blasko.

Nest is at the forefront of working across the world with businesses like Ereena and Creative Bee, providing them with increased transparency and business development services. To counter the demise of traditional practices in an increasingly mechanised world, Nest continually celebrates the global expanse of master craftsmen beyond the renowned ateliers and maisons of Europe. “In the same way the fashion community has reverence for the craft traditions of Europe, there should be appreciation for the luxurious artisans of India. We are thrilled to foster this by partnering with Briana Blasko to use photography as a powerful medium for demonstrating the talent and skill behind India’s luxurious craft traditions,” says Rebecca van Bergen, founder of Nest. [brianablasko.com](http://brianablasko.com); [Buildanest.org](http://Buildanest.org) >

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—REBECCA VAN BERGEN



Handspun silk  
yarn left to dry  
in the sun after  
a marigold  
flower dye bath



Weavers tying  
bands of rubber  
around the yarn  
for dyeing with  
the first colour



A weaver in  
Andhra Pradesh  
adjusting silk  
yarn on the loom