

PERFORMANCE ARTIST | COSTUME DESIGNER

ANITA TENSION

TRANSFORMATIVE STAGE COUTURE
& LIVE PERFORMANCE



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ARTIST BIO

Anita Tension is a Providence-based performance artist and costume designer creating stage couture for live performance, burlesque, and theatrical spectacle. Her practice exists at the intersection of fashion, movement, and transformation—garments designed not just to be seen, but to come alive on stage.

Known for her commanding presence, feral glamour, and magnetic audience engagement, Anita creates performances that blend theatricality, sensuality, and subversive spectacle. She invites audiences into bold, immersive worlds while playfully challenging expectations around beauty, power, and identity.

Drawing from burlesque traditions, fashion construction, and experimental design, her costumes are built for durability, movement, and repeated performance. Each piece functions as both visual statement and performance tool—supporting transformation through reveal, structure, and embodied storytelling.

Anita performs in venues ranging from intimate clubs to large-scale theaters, and designs custom pieces for performers and collaborators. She is deeply invested in community-building through costuming and performance, viewing stage couture as both personal armor and shared language.

Photographer: Tim Stowe

SELECT FESTIVALS & RECOGNITION

2026 WINNER OF BOSTON'S "LUCKY 13" BURLESQUE COMPETITION

2026 VERMONT INTERNATIONAL BURLESQUE FESTIVAL

2025 PHILADELPHIA BURLESQUE N BEYOND FESTIVAL

2025 WORCESTER DRAGLESQUE FESTIVAL

(Cover Image)

Photographer: Jon Beckley

COSTUME DESIGN

STAGE COUTURE FOR LIVE PERFORMANCE



Anita Tension creates stage couture designed for movement, durability, and transformation in live performance. Her garments are engineered to withstand repetition while maintaining visual impact, functioning as both aesthetic statement and performance tool.

COSTUME DESIGN WORK



Photographer: Melis Kooyomjian Kemp



Photographer: Ken Baby



Photographer: Tim Stowe

COSTUME DESIGN WORK



Photographer: Ken Baby



Photographer: Jon Beckley



Photographer: Melis Kooyomjian Kemp

COSTUME DESIGN WORK



Photographer: Ken Baby



Photographer: Anita Tension



Photographer: Ken Baby



Photographer: Anita Tension

PERFORMANCE

ADAPTABLE TO A WIDE RANGE OF VENUES AND AUDIENCES.



Anita Tension creates high-impact performance work that blends burlesque, theatricality, and audience engagement. Her acts are built around transformation, using costume, movement, and presence to create immersive and memorable live experiences.

PERFORMANCE WORK



Photographer: Jon Beckley



Photographer: Ken Baby



Photographer: Jon Beckley



Photographer: Jon Beckley



Photographer: Melis Kooyomjian Kemp

PERFORMANCE WORK



Photographer: Jon Beckley



Photographer: Matt Wright



Photographer: Ken Baby



Photographer: Brandon Ward



Photographer: Ken Baby

PERFORMANCE WORK



Photographer: Melis Kooyomjian Kemp



Photographer: Brandon Ward



Photographer: Ken Baby



Photographer: Fred Alach 10

ANITA TENSION



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Photographer: Benjamin Bloom

AnITA



TENSION

PHOTO CREDITS



(Cover)
 Photographer: Jon Beckley
 Model: Anita Tension
 Year: 2026
 Title: "Hairy Creep Act"
 Event: Lucky 13 Competition



Page 5
 Photographer: Ken Baby
 Model: Anita Tension
 Year: 2025
 Title: "Serotonin Devil Act"
 Event: Haute Hot Haus XXX Mas



Page 2
 Photographer: Tim Stowe
 Model: Anita Tension
 Year: 2026
 Title: "Hairy Creep Act"
 Event: VT Burlesque Festival



Page 5
 Photographer: Jon Beckley
 Model: Anita Tension
 Year: 2026
 Title: "Hairy Creep Act"
 Event: Lucky 13 Competition



Page 3
 Photographer: Jon Beckley
 Model: Anita Tension
 Year: 2026
 Title: "Hairy Creep Act"
 Event: Lucky 13 Competition



Page 5
 Photographer: Melis Kooyomjian Kemp
 Model: Anita Tension
 Year: 2026
 Title: "Wizard Act"
 Event: Revelry Ball



Page 4
 Photographer: Melis Kooyomjian Kemp
 Model: Anita Tension
 Year: 2026
 Title: "Wizard Act"
 Event: Revelry Ball



Page 6
 Photographer: Ken Baby
 Year: 2026
 Title: "Serotonin Devil Costume"



Page 4
 Photographer: Tim Stowe
 Model: Anita Tension
 Year: 2026
 Title: "Hairy Creep Act"
 Event: VT Burlesque Festival



Page 6
 Photographer: Anita Tension
 Year: 2025
 Title: Building the Hair Jackey



Page 6
 Photographer: Anita Tension
 Year: 2025
 Title: Building the Hair Jacket



Page 4
 Photographer: Ken Baby
 Model: Anita Tension
 Year: 2026
 Title: "Pony"
 Event: Sweetfire Thirst Thursday



Page 6
 Photographer: Anita Tension
 Year: 2026
 Title: Building the Leather Chaps

PHOTO CREDITS



Page 7
Photographer: Melis Kooyomjian Kemp
Model: Anita Tension
Year: 2026
Title: "Wizard Act"
Event: Revelry Ball



Page 9
Photographer: Jon Beckley
Model: Anita Tension
Year: 2026
Title: "Hairy Creep Act"
Event: Lucky 13 Competition



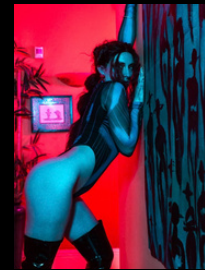
Page 8
Photographer: Jon Beckley
Model: Anita Tension
Year: 2026
Title: "Hairy Creep Act"
Event: Lucky 13 Competition



Page 9
Photographer: Matt Wright
Model: Anita Tension
Year: 2025
Title: Vo Stewart Baxter's Collection
Event: Queer AF Fashion Show



Page 8
Photographer: Ken Baby
Model: Anita Tension
Year: 2025
Title: "Serotonin Devil Act"
Event: Haute Hot Haus XXX Mas



Page 9
Photographer: Ken Baby
Model: Anita Tension
Year: 2025
Title: "Alien"



Page 8
Photographer: Jon Beckley
Model: Anita Tension
Year: 2026
Title: "Hairy Creep Act"
Event: Lucky 13 Competition



Page 9
Photographer: Brandon Ward
Model: Anita Tension
Year: 2025
Title: "Pink Pony Club"



Page 8
Photographer: Jon Beckley
Model: Anita Tension
Year: 2026
Title: "Hairy Creep Act"
Event: Lucky 13 Competition



Page 10
Photographer: Ken Baby
Model: Anita Tension
Year: 2026
Title: "Pony"
Event: Sweetfire Thirst Thursday



Page 8
Photographer: Melis Kooyomjian Kemp
Model: Anita Tension
Year: 2026
Title: "Wizard Act"
Event: Revelry Ball



Page 10
Photographer: Melis Kooyomjian Kemp
Year: 2026
Title: "Wizard Act" (audience reaction)
Event: Revelry Ball

PHOTO CREDITS



Page 10
Photographer: Ken Baby
Model: Anita Tension
Year: 2025
Title: "Go-Go Dancing"
Event: Haute Hot Haus 80's Night



Page 10
Photographer: Ken Baby
Model: Anita Tension
Year: 2025
Title: "Go-Go Dancing"
Event: Haute Hot Haus XXX Mas



Page 10
Photographer: Fred Alach
Model: Anita Tension
Year: 2025
Title: "Hairy Creep Act"
Event: Helltown Burlesque Provincetown



Page 11
Photographer: Benjamin Bloom
Model: Anita Tension
Year: 2026
Event: VT Burlesque Festival