

Episode
8

Fri 21 — Sun 23 Oct 2016
Tramway & The Art School, Glasgow

Arika¹⁶

REFUSE

REFUSE

POWERS'

GRASP





Still from *Criminal Queers*, Dir. Eric A Stanley and Chris E Vargas.

This episode explores the messy, unruly and ungovernable ways queer, trans and women's anti-racist, decolonial, anti-deportation and prison abolitionist struggles imagine themselves. By looking to these movements, the episode explores our social entanglements with each other, the worlds we want to live in and the ways we bring those worlds about, now and in the future.

If we understand the Prison Industrial Complex as the set of relations in capitalist society enforcing the idea that policing, courts and imprisonment can “solve” the social problems it creates, how do communities most affected by it organise themselves socially, without resorting to the logic of punishment and exile? How can we work to dismantle rather than reform prisons and borders, eroding rather than reproducing the structural violence inflicted on communities? How can we think, organise and bring about entirely different societies? And do those societies exist already, even if only in part and under duress, in everyday practices of abolition, entanglement and care?

WE DON'T EVEN
WANT TO GAIN
RIGHTS FOR WOMEN,
WE ARE FIGHTING
TO CHANGE
SOCIETY, WHICH IS
SOMETHING
DIFFERENT...

Don't A

Don't Te

THEM THAT'S WE

WERE FOR !

Ask TO FIGHT THEIR WARS

II

IAT

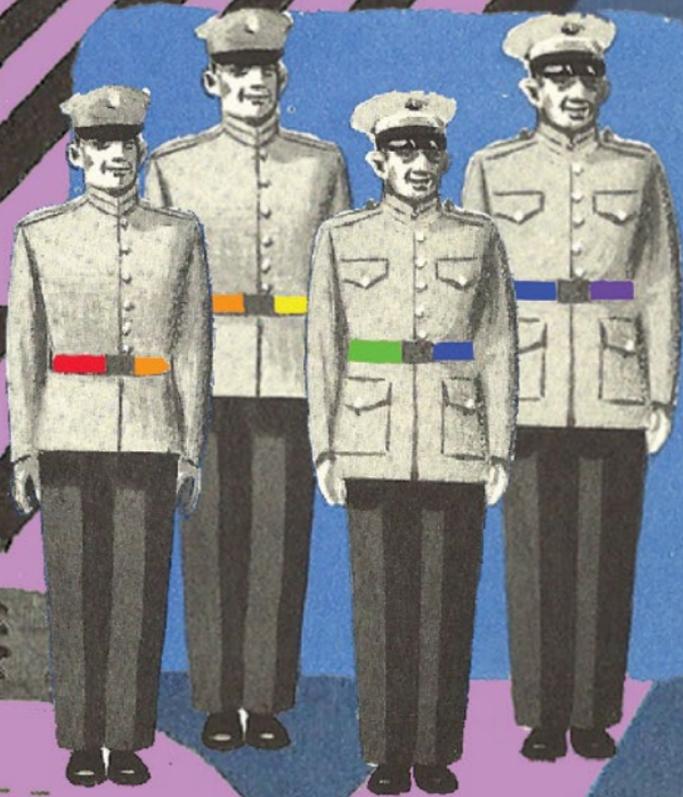


Image by Chris E Vargas

The perceptive, simple, generative questions opposite are taken from the curriculum of the 1964 Mississippi Freedom Schools, a huge social educational movement that through direct action and pedagogy sought to recognise and support self-knowledge within black communities so that they could become agents of social change.

The first question recognises that the dominant culture claims to 'own' some things we need; the second that it has much that we should refuse. But the third question recognises that we are not totally captured by power; that we already have much of what we need. It recognises that our ways of being and organising – of socialising, thriving and understanding ourselves – don't have to be shaped by the terms used to gain control over us by regimes of power, and that we can celebrate, defend and nourish the spaces in which we practice them.

WHAT DOES THE
DOMINANT CULTURE
HAVE THAT WE WANT?

WHAT DOES THE
DOMINANT CULTURE
HAVE THAT
WE DON'T WANT?

WHAT DO WE
HAVE THAT WE WANT
TO KEEP?

Untitled (LIL' MARVEL), Juliana Huxtable





Untitled (PSYCHOSOCIAL STUNTIN'), Juliana Huxtable

The legal idea of *Habeas Corpus* ensures the right of a citizen to seek protection from false imprisonment¹. It literally means ‘you shall have the body’. Populations not granted the status of owning a ‘body’ don’t get that protection; they can ‘legally’ be subjected to various techniques – colonialisation, enslavement, confinement, punishment, violation, death – for the benefit of those included in power.

Both Black Feminist and Queer thinking proposes that one thing the dominant culture has that we might not want is an idea of the segregated, categorised ‘body’: a fixed and ownable, private organic space. While survival means trying to protect ourselves, the quote from Denise opposite suggests that to understand ourselves as owning a ‘body’ comes at a price. It’s a self-understanding via the laws that power uses to subjugate and bring us to heel, causing us to forget our entanglement with each other and how we cannot be segregated into private spaces. It means forgetting all the ways we care for and with each other; practices of care that remind us that their laws will never make us safer.

1 – It doesn’t prohibit imprisonment, it simply asserts the States authority to decide matters of punishment and exile.

...IF THE STATE IS
READY TO KILL TO
DEFEND ITSELF
FROM THE BLACK,
SEXUAL, TRANS BODY
BROUGHT BEFORE IT,
DO WE WANT TO
BE SOMEBODY
BEFORE THE STATE,
OR NO-BODY
AGAINST IT?





Gallery of the Streets, Kai Lumumba Barrow

Which is to say: struggles against the Prison Industrial Complex and against the imposition and policing of bodies, genders, races, sexes or sexualities are intimately linked. Those struggles are entangled through their insistence that they are not defined by – or even in opposition to – powers’ attempts to grasp, fix or regulate them¹. Together they refuse to let the carceral logic of an inside and an outside determine how we can understand ourselves, and insist that the way to bring about an entirely different world is to practice that here and now.

This kind of sociality is not asking to be assimilated within power’s law, or asking for recognition as subjects, bodies or individuals brought under the yoke of regimes of violence and separation. It is not the noise of dissensus that can’t yet be heard by systems of oppression. Instead, sociality vibrates on a completely different frequency, paradoxically out-with powers’ hearing, but audible to us all.

1 – Maybe this means being in apposition, (off to the side), not opposition (defined by what you oppose). Maybe it means being ante-anti-essentialist (before or under the idea of essentialism and any reaction to it).

I AM NOT GOING TO
CLAIM THAT I'M LIKE
YOU, YOUR EQUAL, OR
ASK YOU TO ALLOW
ME TO PARTICIPATE
IN YOUR LAWS OR
TO ADMIT ME AS
A PART OF YOUR
SOCIAL NORMALITY.
MY AMBITION IS TO
CONVINCE YOU THAT
YOU ARE LIKE ME.



NO
TURNS

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y strong)
OF
ANSWOMEN



Miss Major in a still from MAJOR, Dir. Annalise Ophelian

FRI 21

Life in flight from every prison

CeCe McDonald, Dean Spade,
Joshua Allen, We Will Rise

7.15 - 8.45pm

*Discussion with Subtitling & BSL
Tramway 4*

Is there a link between how we're divided by the prison industrial complex into populations that can be caged and exiled, and the ways people's bodies are violently categorised and segregated by race, class, gender or ability? What does it mean, in the face of such violence, to celebrate all the unruly ways we refuse to be defined by it? Can we escape its attempts to constrain us, tearing down the walls of normative culture and building joy in flight?

Criminal Queers

(USA, 2013, 60 mins)

Dir. Eric A Stanley & Chris Vargas

9.15 - 10.15pm

*Screening
Tramway 1*

Criminal Queers visualises a radical trans/queer struggle against the prison industrial complex and toward a world without walls. Remembering that prison breaks are both a theoretical and material practice of freedom, this film imagines what spaces might be opened up if crowbars, wigs, and metal files become tools for transformation. Follow Yoshi, Joy, Susan and Lucy as they fiercely read everything from the Human Rights Campaign and hate crimes legislation to the non-profitisation of social movements. Criminal Queers grows our collective liberation by working to abolish the multiple ways our hearts, genders, and desires are confined.

Refuse Powers' Grasp - Club We Will Rise FUNDRAISER

Juliana Huxtable, Elysia Crampton,
boychild

11.00pm - 3.00am

Club & Fundraiser

The Art School

All ticket income goes directly to We Will Rise - a group of migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and their allies who have come together to End Immigration Detention in the UK.

Juliana Huxtable (3-Hour DJ set) -

a 'cyborg, cunt, priestess, witch, Nuwaubian princess' and DJ. Her nightlife gender project Shock Value, variously tagged #FULLSPECTRUMRAGE #FTMTF #FEMALEVALIDATION #TRANSCOURAGED #STRAIGHTFRIENDLY #GAYFRIENDLY, is a mainspring of the NYC queer sub-underground.

Elysia Crampton (DJ set) - transfiguring Latinx social musics like huayño and cumbia with hypnotic percussion and trap chants, Elysia creates a queer, trans-femme, techno-futurist social music at the fringes of genres, times and histories.

boychild (Performance) - a fusing of knotted butoh, lip-synch and stroboscopic drag, we experience these performances as if there were a collection of exhausted bodies struggling to stand up inside and animate boychild's flesh, while trying to remember what bliss feels like.

SAT 22

#BlackExcellenceTour

CeCe McDonald & Joshua Allen

11.30 - 1.00pm

Discussion

Tramway Studio

The #BlackExcellenceTour is a collaborative social justice project that uses art, activism and awareness to combat the systemic oppression facing young, trans, queer & gender nonconforming people of colour. As a form of Ratchet Intellectualism, CeCe and Joshua will tease out the nuanced realities of living at the intersections of marginal identities, engaging the audience in a dialogue of personal anecdotes and musings on contemporary politics.

Captive Genders – Criminalisation

Eric A Stanley, Che Gossett, Anastacia Ryan (SCOT-PEP/ Umbrella Lane), Niki Adams & Sarah Walker (English Collective of Prostitutes)

2.00 - 3.30pm

Discussion with Subtitling

Tramway 4

What is happening when systems of repression try to grasp communities' ways of being, living or surviving, applying laws of sexuality, gender or race to cast them as criminal, exclude them from formal (legal) economies, and threaten their survival? And while survival requires those laws to be changed, what happens when those systems co-opt the language of social movements and turn it against them? How do those communities respond? And, is there anything to be gained in claiming criminality as a political position, if it means embracing the un-governability of our social entanglements?

[b]reach: the fugitive chronicles – an open rehearsal

Gallery of the Streets with Glasgow Open Dance School

4.15 – 5.00pm

Performance

Tramway 1

Gallery of the Streets exists at the intersections of art, education, geography, history, activism, and movement-building in New Orleans. Using Black Feminist Theory as a point of departure, their social practice installations and performances are rooted in community collaboration and democratic processes. Communities who are directly impacted by policies and practices of structural oppression work together to conceptualise and produce visual opera projects that interweave painting, sculpture, found objects, sound, movement, ritual and narrative. Here GotS will share their ongoing practice, collaborating with G.O.D.S, as they develop *[b]reach*, an abolitionist black queer retelling of Marge Piercy's incredible feminist utopian novel *Woman on the Edge of Time*. At Episode 8, GotS is represented by Kai Lumumba Barrow and Jazz Franklin.

Recipes to change society

Mujeres Creando

5.30 - 6.30pm

Discussion

Tramway 4

In a world where it seems capitalism has triumphed within our own subjectivity... In a world where injustices seem so huge they succeed in provoking helplessness and resignation within us...

The only way to make sense of such a world is to proclaim social struggle, movement and conflict as a purpose of life. What is this struggle, that can give sense to the

SAT 22

world today? Where do we begin? What is the space of social struggle? How can we build complicity with one another? These are the questions *Mujeres Creando* will attempt to answer, through a sort of prayer and conference, a sort of scream and dialogue - a monologue and declaration at the same time. At Episode 8 we will be joined by *Mujeres Creando* members Maria Galindo and Arleti Tordoya Vega.

Resident Evil

Sondra Perry

7.30 – 8.15pm

Performance

Tramway 1

“Why should I be good? No, it’s better for me to come to the white race and say, ‘Yes, we evil people should sit down to the table and talk together. You evil, I’m evil too. Now them other folks you dealing with are good black folks, I’m not good and you’re not good. We understand one another.’” - Sun Ra

In the *Alien* films, the Xenomorph’s strongest urge is to survive by any means necessary, violently demonstrating life outside of absolute control, and making them an unreliable tool in the ‘Engineers’ colonial projects. For *Aliens*, the production designers made its most iconic gun by turning a Steadicam harness into something that could fire live rounds - like a dreadful metaphor for how powers’ violent urges merge both seeing and killing, or a sci-fi equivalent of police body cameras.

Sondra is working on a new performance that draws on these sources to explore how the sociality she wants to visualise and participate in has no interest in respectability.

Miss Major and CeCe McDonald in conversation with Eric A Stanley

8.45 – 10.15pm

Discussion with Subtitling & BSL
Tramway 1

A conversation of intergenerational trans-resistance and anti-racist fierceness between two of the most inspiring public speakers we know, whose intellectual brilliance is drawn from deep wells of lived experience, and whose organising and speaking have inspired communities internationally. How does their understanding of the rich heritage of trans-resistance and anti-racist abolitionist struggles, so often whitewashed and rendered invisible, help them to refuse the logic of punishment and exile, and practice a belief that no-one is disposable?

SUN 23

Blackness, Animality and the Unsovereign

Che Gossett

12.30 - 2.00pm

Discussion

Tramway Studio

The caging and mass killing of animal life, the caging and mass killing of Black life, and the racial capitalism that propels premature death are connected in a deadlock by white militarised masculinity and colonial fantasies. Black radical practices of abolition provide a way to think about this deadlock, and imagine a vision of freedom for all life.

Against Inclusion

Maria Galindo (Mujeres Creando),

Dean Spade, Eric A Stanley

3.30 - 5.00pm

Discussion with Subtitling

Tramway 4

While recognising that it is a victory when systems of repression have to change to contend with the strength of social movements, how do radical trans, queer, women's, anti-racist and anti-colonial struggles refuse to define their demands in the terms set out by those same vile, murderous systems? What does it mean to resist seeking assimilation or inclusion within existing structures of power that will always pit people against each other in terms of who they deem deserving, respectable or innocent? Can we refuse to let our demands be co-opted into expanding the very systems we seek to dismantle? What does justice look like if we make it ourselves, rather than relying on the State to give it to us?

Lineage for a Multiple-Monitor Work-station

Sondra Perry

5.45 - 6.15pm

Performance with BSL

Tramway 1

Sondra's videos and performances explore a social idea of seeing and being seen, of how we're made up of many images that only ever capture some truths at the expense of others. In generous, vulnerable and funny ways, her work unpicks the assumption that we're all distinct individuals and instead charts how our desires, struggles and capacities move through and create us commonly. Sondra's performances disobey the ways we are commanded to think of ourselves, as separate from each other, our bodies private carceral spaces. Instead, they celebrate our overabundant social entanglement and complicity. They remind us of how we can see ourselves, stripped of powers' attempts to grasp us.

Prefiguring the world we want to live in

Kai Lamumba Barrow, Miss Major, Che Gossett & Reina Gossett

7.30 - 9.00pm

Discussion

Tramway 4

By refusing to be defined by the systems of violence that seek to oppress them, or to replicate the state's violent logic of who is disposable, punishable or can be exiled, how do trans, queer, anti-racist struggles practice their entanglement together here and now? What are our alternative forms of kinship and mutual aid? How do communities practice being one another's means, in order to address the material problems facing them - criminalisation, immigration enforcement, poverty, health care access and homelessness? And through

SUN 23

practicing, do they prefigure and bring about the world they want to live in, however much under duress, making that world here and now, every day?

Juliana Huxtable with Joe Heffernan & Ahya Simone

9.30 - 10.15pm

Performance with BSL

Tramway 1

One thing we take from Juliana's performances is a celebration of being across and beyond conservative ideas of what it is to be human; a resistance to the caging of people within fixed selves, private bodies or prescribed identities. Their performances chart the dissonant space and discrepancy between the presumed fixed

norms of social life and the fluid lived experience those norms don't allow for. They revel in voice and touch, pheromones and the rhythmic friction between flesh, bodies and their environments - both IRL and online - where individual space gives way to a sensory awareness of how our existence emanates from our interconnected transition, flux and movement together. They point towards a common, social aspect of transition and blackness. Juliana's poetic performances dance between names, identities and genders. They explore how trans people practice something that we should all be doing - altering and refusing to accept as a concrete reality the trail of signifiers we allegedly accrue as the documented proof of a stability that we're each presumed to have.

ALL WEEKEND

Queer Liberation: No Prisons, No Borders

Dean Spade, Reina Gossett and
Hope Dector

Screening with Subtitles

Screening all weekend

20 short videos, screening on a loop

Upper Level, above box office

Dean, Hope and Reina have made six series of videos, which generatively offer a crash-course in pre-figurative, radical, queer, anti-racist, anti-police, anti-prison, anti-deportation abolitionist politics and trans-resistance. They clearly set out how

we should reject any proposals to 'save' communities by reforming or enhancing systems - whether the police, prisons or borders - that are actually the primary predators on and cause the most harm to those communities. Instead, they explore practical, imaginative everyday practices of bringing about an entirely different world.

The videos were produced through the Barnard Centre for Research on Women, where Hope is the Creative Director, Dean and Reina are Activist Fellows, (and where Che Gossett is the Community Archivist).

WHO'S INVOLVED

Joshua Allen

Joshua is an organiser and abolitionist whose work revolves around issues of race, gender and policing. Through direct action, public intervention and movement building they commit their being to building a world without cages. Joshua is being heralded as leading the cutting edge of new racial and gender justice movements for a freer society; as a result they have been invited to organise, speak and workshop in countries across the world.

Kai Lumumba Barrow

Since the late 1970s, Kai has been an inspirational figure in abolitionist grassroots organising in the USA: she was one of the founders of Critical Resistance, a major prison industrial complex-abolitionist organisation, and played a leadership role in groups such as the Provisional Government of the Republic of New Afrika; the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement; the Black Panther Newspaper Committee; FIERCE! INCITE! UBUNTU; SONG, and Queers for Economic Justice (to name but a few). In our experience, she is a fierce, committed and hilarious revolutionary.

boychild

boychild is a performance and full-body make up artist. Their performances fuse the gestures of non-western cultures, medicine men, shamans, and genderfluid witches as they negotiate a physical flight from insidious systematic violence towards love and bliss. They first worked with Arika at Episode 5, and have performed at MoMA PS1, the club spaces Ghe20g0th1k and Berghain, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, MOCA Los Angeles, and

MOMA Warsaw. boychild has collaborated with Mykki Blanco, Wu Tsang and Korakrit Arunanondchai, as well as the streetwear label Hood By Air.

Elysia Crampton

Drawing on her USA/ Bolivian roots, Elysia's music is playing a leading role in the current international genderqueer revolution taking place in dance music, and has deeply affected us over the past year. Her thrilling DJ sets and recent albums *American Drift* and *Demon City* create a borderless space where abolitionist collages synthesise a superabundance of underrepresented histories, geographies, musical genres and cultural references. These include queer Andean pasts; Aymara oral histories; sonic explorations of brownness as a kind of Latinx geology; and the Bolivian abolitionist revolutionary martyr for indigenous sovereignty Bartolina Sisa.

English Collective of Prostitutes

The ECP is a self-help organisation of sex workers, working both on the street and in premises, with a national network throughout the UK. *"We campaign for the decriminalisation of prostitution, for sex workers' rights and safety, and for resources to enable people to get out of prostitution if they want to. Since 1975, the ECP has been campaigning for the abolition of the prostitution laws, which criminalize sex workers and our families, and for economic alternatives and higher benefits and wages."* At Episode 8 the ECP is represented by **Niki Adams & Sarah Walker**.

WHO'S INVOLVED

Gallery of the Streets

Kai Lumumba Barrow formed Gallery Of The Streets in 2010. It is an evolving network of artists, activists, organisers, scholars, cultural workers, and community supporters exploring black geographies and the politics of place. Engaging everyday spaces as sites of resistance, GotS's work fuses public art and organising for social change to reconfigure the familiar and generate new ideas against the oppression of existing conditions. As well as Kai, **Jazz Franklin** from GotS will be joining us at Episode 8. Jazz is documentarian of social movement organisations. She aspires to evaluate the power dynamics and contradictions within the production, storytelling (editing), and objective truth of documentary film/video, and is currently the lead documentarian with Gallery of the Streets, capturing the process and progress of the network's cultural organising praxis.

Glasgow Open Dance School

“For G.O.D.S’ movement begins with the body, to de-intellectualise by listening acutely to the body; the collective body and your (my) individual body. (YES). Following feeling rather than style or technique and attempting to move from the gut, we learn together, allowing our instinct to be our nose, leading us towards what is attractive to us and away from what is not. It is integral that G.O.D.S. is physical and holistic, valuing shared learning and collective movement above individual excellence. We (you) move as a group in continual process without pressure to ever perform or finalise. (YES). Everyone (you) is equally welcome to contribute to the content of the workshops. All forms of movement and methods of teaching are encouraged. G.O.D.S is a non-fixed group with an intentionally non-thematic style. Our intention is to move. (YES)”

Che Gossett

Che is a Black genderqueer archivist and activist whose work excavates the queer of colour AIDS activist and trans archives. A recipient of multiple awards and grants, they have written and spoken publicly about queer necropolitics and legacies of black queer solidarity with Palestinian struggle, prison abolition and (anti)blackness. Right now Che is especially interested in abolition as worlding, the radical potentiality of black study/thought and how it forces a rethinking of critical animal studies. They are working on a book project titled *Blackness, the Beast and the Non Sovereign*.

Reina Gossett

One of our closest allies, Reina is an activist, writer, and filmmaker. Along with Sasha Wortzel, Reina wrote, directed and produced *Happy Birthday, Marsha!*, a short film about legendary trans activist Marsha P. Johnson. She has produced and directed teaching tools used to spotlight the ways oppressed people are fighting back, surviving and building strong communities in the face of enormous violence, and along with Eric A Stanley and Johanna Burton is editing the forthcoming New Museum anthology on trans art and cultural production. Reina has worked for the Sylvia Rivera Law Project, Queers for Economic Justice and Critical Resistance, lifting the voice and power of trans and gender nonconforming people. She led the successful campaign to end healthcare discrimination against low income trans and gender non conforming New Yorkers, and organised with low income LGBTGNC New Yorkers in a campaign that successfully stopped the building of a new \$375 million jail.

WHO'S INVOLVED

Joseph Heffernan

Joe is a pianist, percussionist, and composer with a background in classical music and heavy metal. He's regularly collaborated with Juliana Huxtable, at venues like White Columns Gallery. His most recent work was a residency at 47 Canal with Sadaf H Nava. Heffernan was born in Kansas and grew up in Northwest Arkansas.

Juliana Huxtable

We think Juliana exists as a kind of emanation of an international sub-underground social entanglement that expands beyond categories of identity or authenticity. She produces and collaborates on a borderless array of self-portraiture, poetry, text-based prints, performance, writing, revolutionary queer club music and parties, high and low fashion, poetry, DJing, and our absolute favourite tumblr [julianahuxtable.tumblr.com]. She's shown her visual work and performed at many of North America's major arts institutions inc. MoMA PS1, Whitney Museum of American Art and the New Museum 2015 Triennial; modelled for Hood by Air, DKNY, Eckhaus Latta, BCALLA and is one of the faces of H&M's upcoming collaboration with French fashion house Kenzo; runs one of the coolest queer parties in New York (*Shock Value*), has DJ'd at many of the best international, queer club nights, including *Ghe20g0th1k*, and is a key figure in that same international genderqueer revolution in dance music that Elysia Crampton also contributes to.

Miss Major

Miss Major is an iconic black, formerly incarcerated, transgender elder and former sex worker. A veteran activist born and raised on the south side of Chicago and

currently living in the Bay Area, she participated in the Stonewall rebellion in 1969 and was politicised whilst in Attica prison in the wake of the rebellion there. She is a father, mother, grandmother, and grandfather to her own children and to many in the transgender community and works to instil hope and belief in a better future to 'her girls', whether they are currently incarcerated or coming home. She's worked at HIV/AIDS organisations throughout California and was until recently the director for the Transgender GenderVariant Intersex Justice Project, a group of transgender, gender variant and intersex people - inside and outside of prisons, jails and detention centres - creating a united family in the struggle for survival and freedom.

CeCe McDonald

One of the most electric public speakers we know, CeCe is a prison-reform activist, speaker and icon in the LGBTQ community. Rising to international recognition after surviving a white supremacist attack, her imprisonment, an act of transphobia and racism against a woman who defended herself, instigated an international campaign for her release. Experiencing the inhumane treatment of prisoners firsthand served to strengthen CeCe's resolve to become a transgender leader. Since her release she has become a vital and brilliant voice of trans-resistance, using storytelling to articulate the personal and political implications of being both black and trans. She fosters important conversations around mass incarceration, sexuality and violence and is the star of the recently released feature length documentary about her life and story, *Free Cece!*

WHO'S INVOLVED

Mujeres Creando

Mujeres Creando, which translates as Women Creating, are a fiercely incredible Bolivian anarchy-feminist street movement that fuse politics and art in an ongoing practice of decolonialisation and depatriarchalisation, involving direct action, propaganda, radio shows, graffiti and collective support and struggle. *“Crazy people, agitators, rebels, disobedients, subversives, witches, street grafiteras, anarchists, feministas, Lesbians and heterosexuals; married and unmarried; students and clerks; Indians, chotas, cholas, birlochas, and señoritas; old and young; white and coloured, we are a fabric of solidarities; of identities, of commitments, we are women, WOMEN CREATING.”* Represented at Episode 8 by **María Galindo** and **Arletti Tordoya Vega**.

Sondra Perry

Sondra's recent event in London was one of the best performances we've seen in a long time - a kind of generative, generous, humble and funny exploration of the themes of sociality and entanglement as they arise in the Black Radical Tradition, and the thinking of some prominent past collaborators on Episodes, inc. Fred Moten, Denise Ferreira da Silva, Hortense Spillers and Saidiya Hartman, amongst others. Her multi-media installations, videos and performances are both highly political and acutely familiar with everyday experiences of digital life, popular media, socially and culturally constructed identity and the status of the black body in a not-so-post-racial society. *“I've been thinking about how imaging people works - I think about...a series of dots that make up who a person is and all their experience, that are all very much connected. And so the closer you are to this*

series of dots the more complex that figure or subject becomes, and the further away you get from it, the more solid and flatter that subject becomes. What I'm trying to do is get as close to the subject as possible.”

SCOT-PEP

“SCOT-PEP is a registered charity dedicated to the promotion of sex workers' rights, health and dignity. We are members of the Global Network of Sex Work Projects (NSWP), International Committee on the Rights of Sex Workers in Europe (ICRSE) and the UK Network of Sex Work Projects (UKNSWP), and although our primary focus is on Scotland, we view ourselves as a proud and active member of the global movement to have sex work recognised as work.” Their principled work is based on beliefs in harm reduction, organising and unionising, that everyone who sells or trades sex deserves to be listened to, strengthening and upholding the rights of migrants who sell sex, especially undocumented migrants, and that the decriminalisation of sex work best upholds the safety and rights of people who sell sex. Represented at Episode 8 by **Anastacia Ryan**.

Ahya Simone

Ahya Simone is a classically trained harpist, composer, model, activist and black trans woman based in Detroit. She's scored dream hampton and T. Miller's *Treasure: From Tragedy to Trans Justice Mapping - A Detroit Story*” She's featured in ad campaigns shot by Bruce Weber and appeared in VOGUE Magazine. Ahya is one of the founding mothers of the Trans Sistas of Color Project, an emerging organisation dedicated to impacting and empowering the lives of Trans women of colour in Detroit.

WHO'S INVOLVED

Dean Spade

We think that Dean's speaking, organising and writing - inc. his book *Normal Life: Administrative Violence, Critical Trans Politics and the Limits of Law* - is vital to international critical trans-resistance. In 2002, Dean founded the Sylvia Rivera Law Project, a non-profit law collective that provides free legal services to transgender, intersex and gender nonconforming people who are low-income and/or people of colour. SRLP also engages in litigation, policy reform and public education on issues affecting these communities and operates on a collective governance model, prioritising the governance and leadership of trans, intersex, and gender nonconforming people of colour. Dean is an Associate Professor at Seattle University School of Law. He teaches Administrative Law, Poverty Law, and Law and Social Movements, and has taught classes related to sexual orientation and gender identity law and law and social movements at UCLA Law School and Harvard Law School.

Eric A. Stanley is a co-editor of the vital anthology *Captive Genders: Trans Embodiment and the Prison Industrial Complex*, whose transformational insights, mini-memoirs, analyses and theories about captivity have been a huge influence on our thinking, and of which Chelsea Manning has said "[*Captive Genders*] had a forceful and immediate impact on my understanding of myself." Eric's other writing can be found in the journals *Social Text*, *American Quarterly*, *Women and Performance*, and *TSQ*. Along with Chris Vargas, Eric directed the films *Homotopia* and *Criminal Queers*. They are an assistant professor in the Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies at the University of California, Riverside.

Umbrella Lane

Umbrella Lane is a sex worker-led peer project based in Glasgow which offers free condoms, safety and legal information and support to all sex workers. "*At Umbrella Lane, we first and foremost provide a safe space for all sex workers to use to seek advice and support. It is a conducive environment to discuss what sex workers disclose are immediate concerns, like safety, welfare, issues around child raising and single parenthood, sexual and reproductive health and HIV, exploitation in the workplace, mental health, violence and fear of violence.*" Represented at Episode 8 by **Anastacia Ryan**.

We Will Rise

"*We Will Rise is a group of migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and their allies who have come together in Glasgow to organise and take direct action against the systems, institutions, and corporations who contribute to our oppression. We are the movement we want to see. We aim to take on all forms of oppression, including between ourselves. We aim to empower those most affected by migration barriers - to lead a movement for change, and for allies to work effectively with them. We also want to build connections and share experiences with our allies. We will tackle racism, sexism, homophobia, ableism, and all forms of oppression. Our regular protests at Dungeavel will aim to embody our principles. Reform is not the answer: we want abolition. We expect our allies to respect our politics and work with us towards these ends.*"

VENUES

Tramway

25 Albert Drive, Glasgow, G41 2PE
0845 330 3501
www.tramway.org

The Art School

Glasgow School of Art Students' Association
20 Scott Street, Glasgow, G3 6PE
www.theartschool.co.uk

TICKETS

Tramway

All events are Pay What You Can on the day. If you can afford to pay, please do, or attend for free if that makes the most sense for you. A suggested daily donation might be £5.

Entry to events will be on a first come first served basis. Just turn up on the day, there will be no advance reservations, there should be space for lots of us.

Art School

The Friday Club event is £6, or free for friends in the asylum system / in the struggle for papers, just mention this on the door. Tickets available on the door, on the night, no advance sales.

Episode 8

Co-produced by:

Arika

TRAMWAY

Supported by:



ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL



THE SKINNY
INDEPENDENT CULTURAL JOURNALISM

LORNE HOTEL
GLASGOW

OTO

ACCESS

If you'd like to come but something makes that difficult for you, we would love to hear from you. Please get in touch with Arika and we will try to help - info@arika.org.uk or 0131 556 0878.

Tramway and The Art School have step free access to their public and performance spaces and have gender-neutral wheelchair accessible facilities. For more details from both venues please visit www.bit.ly/TramwayAccess www.bit.ly/ArtSchoolAccess

BSL

The following events will be British Sign Language (BSL) interpreted by Jo Ross and others.

- FRI 21 Life in flight from every prison
- SAT 22 Miss Major & CeCe McDonald in conversation
- SUN 23 Lineage for a Multiple-Monitor Work-station
- SUN 23 Juliana Huxtable

If you would like to attend other events, and require BSL interpretation we will try to make that happen. Please contact us, with as much notice as possible, and we will do our best - info@arika.org.uk to arrange.

Subtitling

The following events will have Stage to Text Subtitling, provided by Stage Text.

- FRI 21 Life in flight from every prison
- SAT 22 Captive Genders - Criminalisation
- SAT 22 Miss Major & CeCe McDonald in conversation
- SUN 23 Against Inclusion

This involves the verbatim transcription of dialogue into text form as it is spoken live. Text is displayed as captions on a screen within the space.

>> StageTEXT

Our Episodes progress as sites of collective learning, investigating interlinked themes and contradictions, which develop from one Episode to the next. Through them, we hope to understand and recognise, support and be in the aesthetic ways in which political desires and struggles are embodied and manifested in everyday life as people create their lives and worlds together - the ways we sing and dance together, listen and want to be heard; how we look and hope to be seen; how we move and want to be moved. We hope to contribute to sustaining, defending and sharing this sociality, to increase the potential within it and help maintain it as a site from which to both navigate the present, and to generate different futures together.

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Design by Julia, www.julia.uk.com

A celebration of all the unruly, ungovernable ways queer, trans, feminist, anti-racist and prison abolitionist communities escape attempts to constrain them, tear down the walls of normative culture and build joy in flight.

3 days of performances, discussions and screenings with gender non-conforming rebels, anarcha-feminist street artists and witches, students of blackness, lawyers, archivists, party hosts, filmmakers, prison abolitionists, poets, DJ's, ex-prisoners and multi-media artists.

If you'd like to come but something makes that difficult for you, please let us know and we will try to help.

More information at:
www.arika.org.uk