

CALLOUTQUEEN

m a r k a g u h a r



calloutqueen.tumblr.com

EDITED BY
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birdsong
micropress

GALLERY | 400

what i was thinking today // is that art has always been a survival tool for me // i'm USING art, i don't think of myself as an artist before i think of myself as a person // and if what i'm making isn't art anymore // i don't really care // because i'm doing what i need to to survive in my own mind

- mark aguhar // calloutqueen



BYE H8R

:3

19TH APR 2011

BEING IN BROWN QUEER
SPACE MAKES ME FEEL
SIMULTANEOUS JOY AND
RAGE. JOY THAT I AM IN A
SPACE WHERE I DON'T HAVE
TO CHOOSE WHO I AM, AND
RAGE AT HOW OFTEN I HAVE
TO MAKE THAT CHOICE. RAGE
THAT FOR ONE MOMENT
I CAN FEEL BEAUTIFUL.
RAGE THAT WHEN A WHITE
PERSON APPROACHES ME
THEY HAVE TO PREFACE OUR
CONVERSATION WITH THEIR
FETISHIZATION OF ASIANS,
AND WHEN I LOOK AT THEM,
I JUST SEE A HUMAN BEING.
RAGE THAT I CAN FEEL THE
DIFFERENCE ON A DAILY BASIS
BETWEEN WHERE I CAN FEEL
SAFE AND WHERE I CAN FEEL
AT RISK.

dear mark,

GURL. did you get that text that I sent you? It's been hard not being able to call you. Tumblr doesn't feel as satisfying. I have one message left in my askbox from you, and it's about _____ being a white person and saying something gross. The world is gross. You changed my life. You changed a lot of people's lives. With your words. With your pictures. With your rage. With your laugh. How much of calloutqueen is mark aguhar? How much of mark aguhar is calloutqueen? I know that you always told me it was about survival. BUT GIRL, that is some STYLISH surviving, you did. I loved to see a post go up after a long night of dancing or a movie night in where we talked about theory and dates and lovers and our frenemies. You inspired me. I inspired you.

There's no denying that calloutqueen changed the world. It changed me.

r.i.p. goddess
<3 juana.

Somewhere deep in the calloutqueen archive Mark quoted a line from another artist's film: THINKS HE CAN NARRATE MY LIFE BECAUSE I TAUGHT HIM ABOUT FIRE AND WHEELS. The message brought me to a screeching halt. It felt like Mark was reading me, right then & there, in the midst of hours (many hours) of clicking through each & every one of her entries, crying about what we've all lost, lolling at her sense of humor, fuming at her haters & trolls, trying to put together a paper arc of her thinking, feeling, making, & raging that would feel as familiar & vital and full of anger & grief & love as reading the blog itself feels. But who is anyone to narrate the calloutqueen's life? Instead Juana & I decided we would just pick favorites. We made a list of dozens of posts & categorized them loosely according to Mark's Axes. These aren't necessarily the most scandalous posts or the most notorious. To some people these might not even be the most memorable or interesting. They certainly aren't enough. But we just kept reaching for posts that would give folks a glimmer of the huge range of her intellect, her sharp wit & her eye for what's to be taken seriously and what's to be deflated, her wielding of performance as both an everyday act of resistance & a grand gesture, her humility & (*so outrageously*) her self-love, & for sure her ugliness--the full social & emotional thickness by which she was redefining ugliness. So here's a pin-up love-note fanzine. Here is something from our hearts & something to hand to the initiate. We might only be a flicker of a note in the lives of those certain people who teach us about fire and wheels (in Mark's case, beauty tips, anti-racist cutting, and radical ways of being gorgeous, bored, & confident), but we might still find a huge place for them in our own narratives, and what's more glamorous than that?

-Roy Pérez

THESE ARE THE AXES



1

Bodies are inherently valid

2

Remember death

3

Be ugly

4

Know beauty

5

It is complicated

6

Empathy

7

Choice

8

Reconstruct, reify

9

Respect, negotiate

4TH JUL 2010

I MEAN COOL IF
YOU WANT TO BE
VEGETARIAN BUT
LETS NOT TURN
IT INTO A CLASS
WAR OR PRETEND
THAT THERE ARENT
MULTIPLE REASONS
TO DO THINGS

9

Respect, negotiate

1

Bodies are inherently valid

**NO MATTER
WHAT YOU DO
YOU
WILL NEVER BE
BEAUTIFUL**

I'M A PERFORMANCE ARTIST AND MY
WORK IS ALL ABOUT EARNESTY

I'M A PORTRAIT ARTIST AND MY WORK
IS ALL ABOUT THE ARTIST-SUBJECT
CONNECTION

I'M A 'NET ARTIST AND MY WORK IS
ALL ABOUT ADOLESCENT EMOTIONS

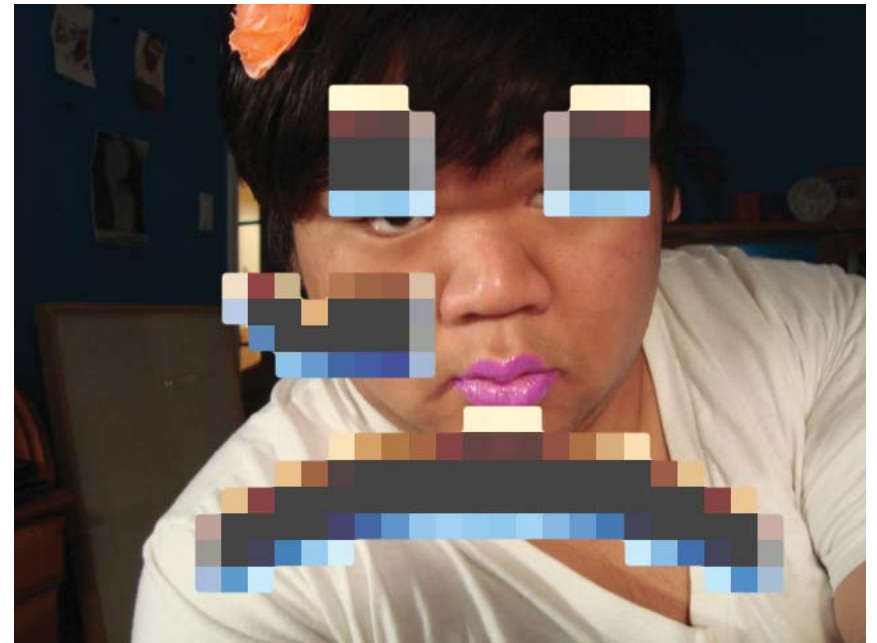
I'M A DRAWER AND MY WORK IS ALL
ABOUT MANIPULATION

I'M A PAINTER AND MY WORK IS ALL
ABOUT LIES

I'M A SCULPTOR AND MY WORK IS ALL
ABOUT MACHISMO

I'M A FAG ARTIST AND MY WORK IS
ALL ABOUT ASSIMILATION

LOL, ART



UGH AS FUCK ON THE DAILY

FOR SOME PEOPLE OTHERNESS IS A NOVEL EXPERIENCE

Every single time I step outside my body is a public object.

Yesterday a girl saw me walk into a store and laughed and nodded my way to get her friends to notice me.

Today someone I know complimented my ass. Several of my friends complimented my hair and my rope harness. On the train several people kept glancing over at me incredulously.

This is not novel to me.

Safe space is novel to me.

People feel like they have the right to make comment on my body. It doesn't matter that it's positive or negative. I'm actually very thankful that people give me compliments, but the fact that people don't pause before commenting on my image is really hard.

Yes I am a performer, yes I cultivate my image in particular ways, but that does not mean the consequences aren't difficult to deal with.

I will not re-situate my ideas for a neoliberal framework

I think it's fair for contemporary art to ask of its audience that they reframe themselves, not that the art come to the audience on their terms

I think it's fair for contemporary art to accomplish work within a highly specific frame rather than make falsely broad statements

I think it's fair to abide by the rules of the frame I choose rather than break the rules I choose to keep for the sake of a dominant paradigm

I believe Audre Lorde: "The master's tools will never dismantle the master's house"

reframe

tip the axis

reframe

I don't care about your gaze

reframe

my tools belong to me

reframe

this conversation is tired

Calling things "boring" is the best insult, I love being flip-pant, flippancy is the most important thing in the world

5TH AUG 2011

totalbroski asked: Why are you fat? I'm curious. Is it some kind of fetish?

lol

8

Reconstruct, reify

18TH SEP 2011

londonpreppy asked: you're a fat piece of shit who is stupid. quit parroting all the crap you hear in your stupid bullshit classes.

lol

JUST REMEMBERING THOSE BITCHES LAST NIGHT TOUCHING ME AND TELLING ME SHITTY THINGS, NBD

WHAT KIND OF PERSON SMILES AT YOU, TOUCHES YOUR BODY IN A FRIENDLY WAY AS IF THEY WANTED TO DANCE OR SAY HI, PLACES THEIR HAND ON YOUR BELLY AND TELLS YOU TO DIET?

WHAT KIND OF PERSON TALKS TO YOU ALL FRIENDLY AND THEN TELLS YOU, YOU NEED SPANX? AND THEN TURNS TO ALL YOUR FRIENDS, WHO LOVE YOU AND WHO YOU LOVE BACK, AND DEMANDS THEY BACK HER UP ON THIS?

YOU KNOW WHAT

I'M GONNA TAKE A PAGE OUT OF THE GLORIOUS BOOK OF HEATHER, FROM OUR GODDESS CARMEN CARRERA; YOU DON'T HAVE TO PUT PEOPLE DOWN TO LIFT YOURSELF UP, YOU CAN JUST BE THE BEST. YOU CAN BE THE BEST AND WIN. AND YOU KNOW WHAT? I'M A FUCKING HEATHER-ASS-BITCH SO BETTER STEP OUT MY WAY OR GET CRUSHED BY MY COOKIE-EATIN'-ASS



21ST MAY 2011

I believe in anger and rage, controlled consensual violence, temporary separatist fantasias, the destruction of whiteness, the destruction of maleness, the destruction of reproductivity, my personal hegemony, transgressive fashion, body positivity, reading, and making looks

24TH JAN 2011

YOU KNOW, PEOPLE ALWAYS TALK ABOUT HAVING TYPES AND ALL THAT, BUT IT HASNT ACTUALLY BEEN THAT HARD FOR ME TO TRAIN MY DICK TO GO FLACCID AT THE SIGHT OF NORMATIVE WHITE MASCULINITY

24TH APR 2011

PROPOSAL THAT ORGANIZING MY ART AROUND MY LIBIDO IS AS VALID AS YOU ORGANIZING YOUR ART AROUND YOUR LIBIDO, ITS NOT MY FAULT MY SEX DRIVE IS DICTATED BY DESTROYING YOU

3RD AUG 2011

Why is being excessively over weight a good thing now? It's still not healthy~ it's still not sexy~

You look like a whale, ok
People will tell you on the internet you are cute~ but no that does not mean you are and it doesn't mean you should get fatter.

3RD AUG 2011

YOU LOOK LIKE A
WHALE, OKAY

3RD AUG 2011

countsnackula replied to your photo: I want "You look like a whale, okay?" on a t shirt. Also luv u for stoking the flames of my fat rage recently

U LOOK LYK A WALE OK



Just in case you'd forgotten, being fat is still one of the most egregious of sins in the queer community. The sins of my body are punishable by constant public derision for 3 hours straight. An obnoxious overly tan woman feels allowed to tell me that I need to wear spanx. The most basic frosted-tip boystown 'mo can touch my blessed belly and tell me to diet.

A forgettable queen can take one look at me and say "REALLY?!?!?!" as if I didn't exist. A femme and possibly trans* queen can laugh openly as I walk by. The most tired bleach blond circuit queen can dance sloppy and shirtless without vocal criticism, but I can't walk a half a block without catching hate. Not to mention the numerous bitches who give me one look and giggle with their friends. I'm glad my body continues to have such amazing public power; who else is as legendary as me?

HOW TO STAVE OFF SUICIDE FOR ANOTHER COUPLE HOURS

1. eat cheese or fried things or both or fried cheese
2. buy beautiful plants that remind you of yourself and that need careful attention
3. watch complicated movies about coming of age as a person of color in the 90s
4. with a strong female lead
5. lay down the groundwork toward making hair extensions a reality
6. buy fashion that makes you feel like you are self-actualizing
7. consider the reality of hormones
8. shower or bathe as often as makes you happy
9. have serious heart-to-heart conversations with the people that you love
10. "WHAT THE FUCK DOES BEING A LADY HAVE TO DO WITH BEING A DOCTOR?"
11. find a therapist you get along with and that you can afford and be honest with them
12. cuddle with your friends as often and for as long as they are willing to stand you
13. remember that you are worthy
14. remember that the reason you don't want to commit suicide is because YOU don't WANT to

7

Choice

**TAKING
CONTROL OF MY
PHYSICAL BODY
IS THE ONLY WAY
FOR ME TO
EXERT AGENCY
IN A WORLD
DESIGNED TO
DEMOLISH MY
PERSONHOOD**

28TH OCT 2010

JUANA HELPS ME PROCESS WHEN I GO ON TIRADES AGAINST WHITE PEOPLE, THAT IS NOT THE SAME THING AS HAVING WONDERFUL AND NORMAL INTERACTIONS WITH MY FRIENDS WHO ARE WHITE. WHITE PRIVILEGE IS NOT THE SAME THING AS BEING A WHITE PERSON AND YOU'RE LUCKY THAT YOU HAVE THE LUXURY OF THOSE ASPECTS OF YOUR PERSONHOOD BE SEPARATE.

White vs. white

6TH OCT 2011

IF U R NOT WHITE PLZ STEP 2 THE FRONT OF THE LINE

it's not prejudice it's just preference

6TH OCT 2011

BROWN PEOPLE LOVING OTHER BROWN PEOPLE AUDRE LORDE SOMETHING OR OTHER BLAHBLAHBLAH

2

Remember death

2ND JAN 2012



moments before arriving at the bar that night I had been crying my eyes out with one of my besties and you can't even tell because I'm so stunning/my emotionality makes me stunning

34

3RD AUG 2011

grief is violent, selfish, painful, and necessary

24TH SEP 2010

RIP

SYLVESTER 1988

VENUS XTRAVAGANZA 1988

DORIAN COREY 1993

SELENA 1995

AALIYAH 2001

LISA "LEFT EYE" LOPES 2002

PEPPER LABELJA 2003

HEAVENLY ANGEL OCTAVIA ST. LAURENT MANOLO
BLAHNIK 2009

BRITTANY MURPHY 2009

15

14TH JUN 2011

There are lots of different kinds of pain. This isn't like any of them. I felt fear wash over me on Wednesday afternoon and I don't think it's left since. This isn't something that I can be angry about, this isn't something that I can fix. This isn't the kind of pain that burns bright and fast, like the pain of betrayal, heartbreak, failure, or frustration. This is numbness. I've been able to do little other than sleep and eat. Anguish is occupying my body in a way that I didn't expect. This is something I'll probably live with forever. The pain takes form in my throat and my chest from time to time. Praying helps. Even though I don't know that I believe any of it, even though I don't think of myself as a Christian, these nights of praying the Novena have helped me understand the form of my grief. Instead of inhabiting my body with aggressive quiet, the words take shape inside me in a way they never have before, they give me something to do other than stare blankly and something to say other than nothing, and the communal drone of my extended family's prayer vibrates in my gut, and the sound of the hymns access my emotions in ways I never knew possible. I wish this were the consumptive but temporary pains I'm so used to. The pain of the world not wanting you there that can quickly turn to rage and power. I don't know how to turn this pain into power yet. I don't know if I'll ever be able to do that.

Maybe it will get better. I want for my brother and I to get tattoos this week. Maybe on Friday.

4TH JUN 2011

JUST BECAUSE I WANT TO
DESTROY YOUR SENSE OF
BODILY SELF DOESNT MEAN I
DONT VALUE YOU AS A PERSON

17TH JAN 2011

WHEN I BRUSH MY HAIR I
IMAGINE WITH EVERY STROKE
THAT EVERY PERSON WHOS
MADE ME FEEL LIKE LESS THAN
A PERSON IS GAGGING

28TH SEP 2011

LIFE IS HARD, SOME
PEOPLE GET THROUGH IT
LONGER THAN OTHERS,
EVERYBODY DIES, AND THE
CIRCUMSTANCES ARENT
ALWAYS SIMPLE

6

Empathy



just because I hate life doesn't mean I can't try to look good while suffering

29TH AUG 2011



5TH OCT 2010

I'm tired of being told to be strong or stronger or whatever because it feels like a lie

and it feels like a betrayal to even suggest that the people in my life who didn't survive were somehow not as strong as me

I don't need to be strong, I need for the world to stop being so fucking weak, that my sisters are being swallowed up before my eyes

the people who have gone before me are so fucking amazing and beautiful, I don't know how I am supposed to survive

18

18TH OCT 2011

I started therapy
my sister killed herself
I started therapy
I still cry several days a week
I started therapy
I'm remembering how to be ugly
I started therapy
my sister killed herself
I don't know how to have a healthy relationship
my sister killed herself
I just want to burn out
my sister killed herself
I don't know how long I'll be alive
my sister killed herself
my mom has stopped eating
my sister killed herself
everything about this city reminds me of her
my sister killed herself
my therapist is grieving her cat
my sister killed herself
I don't know how to talk to my brother
my sister killed herself
I keep thinking of candyman
my sister killed herself
I think it's easier starting ugly because starting pretty makes fading harder
I hate this weather
I need to go tan
the train to my therapist takes forever even though it's only two stops
Chicago in fall looks like Candyman
I started therapy because my sister killed herself and I want to become a woman.

31

27TH FEB 2011

THE FEAR THAT YOUR BLEACH BLOND HAIR IS ASSIMILATIONIST AND NOT DISCURSIVE

3

5TH AUG 2011

You know that thing where your friend is a drag queen and he's worried about going on the train working a hard drag look so to calm him down you take off your shirt so you're just wearing a vest and a harness that really emphasize that maybe your tits belong to someone female-assigned-at-birth and you give everyone on that train hateful stares and start a fight with a bunch of annoying teen boys because a fierce queen, aggro femme dyke, and andro-butch genderqueer all got your back and you know what, you're in a fucking fighting mood

Be ugly

21ST DEC 2010

BASICALLY I
GREW UP BEING
TOLD I WAS UGLY

5

It is complicated

21ST MAY 2011

I believe in the power of ugliness



I'm just so bored and so pretty and not white

I GUESS WHATS
SO PUBLICLY
PROVOCATIVE
ABOUT MY
CLOTHING IS THAT
IM UGLY,
SINCE MOST IF NOT
ALL OF WHAT I
WEAR ON A MORE
ATTRACTIVE PERSON
DRAWS LITTLE
TO NO NEGATIVE
ATTENTION.

I LEARNED
NOT TO FEAR
PHYSICAL
UGLINESS A
LONG TIME AGO,
AND AM ONLY
BEGINNING TO
UNDERSTAND
THE POTENTIAL
OF EMOTIONAL
UGLINESS.

Why is it that when white men talk to me they so often feel the need to say stupid offensive racist shit?

Do they think it's cute?

Why do you tell me I'm beautiful and then make fun of my parents' language? It doesn't sound anything like the noise you just made. Stop calling me Polynesian you sound like an idiot and I just told you my ethnicity.

Or that person last night who felt absolutely offended by the fact that a gogo dancer wouldn't want to be touched. Like, you're the one that did wrong in this situation, stop acting like a victim for being told not to touch.

I'm one of the most beautiful creatures you will ever have the privilege of witnessing, so show some fucking respect.

M.C. Butterfly

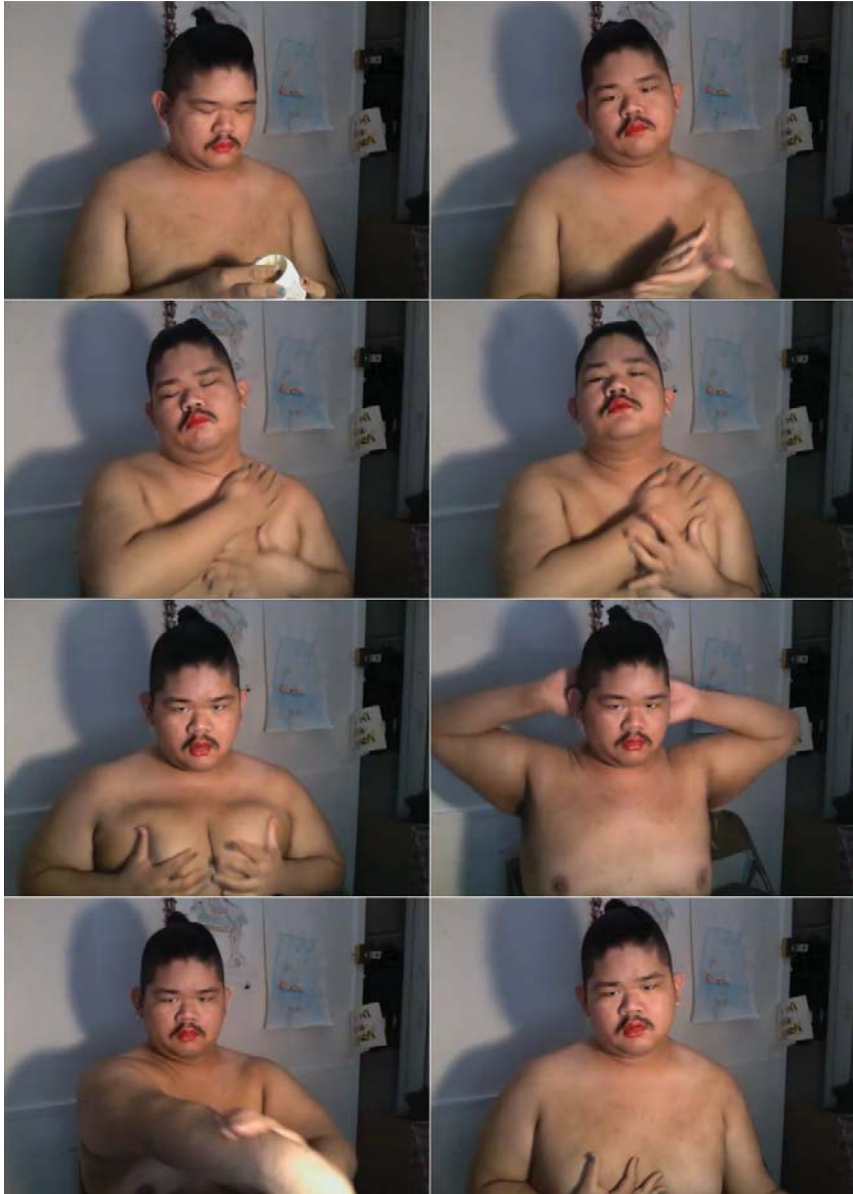
Downfall of all whitekind

Beauty Dragon of the Southwest

Reigning Goddess of Central Timezone

Misandrist fem separatist ladyboy

High glamour low level crystal priestess



THE UNFORTUNATE REALITY THAT MY BODY IS A
POLITICAL SITE AND MY SELF CARE IS A RADICAL
ACTION

LITANIES TO MY HEAVENLY BROWN BODY (CONT):

BLESSED ARE THE SISSIES

BLESSED ARE THE BOI DYKES

BLESSED ARE THE PEOPLE OF COLOR MY BELOVED KITH
AND KIN

BLESSED ARE THE TRANS

BLESSED ARE THE HIGH FEMMES

BLESSED ARE THE SEX WORKERS

BLESSED ARE THE AUTHENTIC

BLESSED ARE THE DIS-IDENTIFIERS

BLESSED ARE THE GENDER ILLUSIONISTS

BLESSED ARE THE NON-NORMATIVE

BLESSED ARE THE GENDERQUEERS

BLESSED ARE THE KINKSTERS

BLESSED ARE THE DISABLED

BLESSED ARE THE HOT FAT GIRLS

BLESSED ARE THE WEIRDO-QUEERS

BLESSED IS THE SPECTRUM

BLESSED IS CONSENT

BLESSED IS RESPECT

BLESSED ARE THE BELOVED WHO I DIDN'T DESCRIBE, I
COULDN'T DESCRIBE, WILL LEARN TO DESCRIBE AND RE-
SPECT AND LOVE

AMEN



sketch for possible 3-dimensional object/gross

4

Know beauty