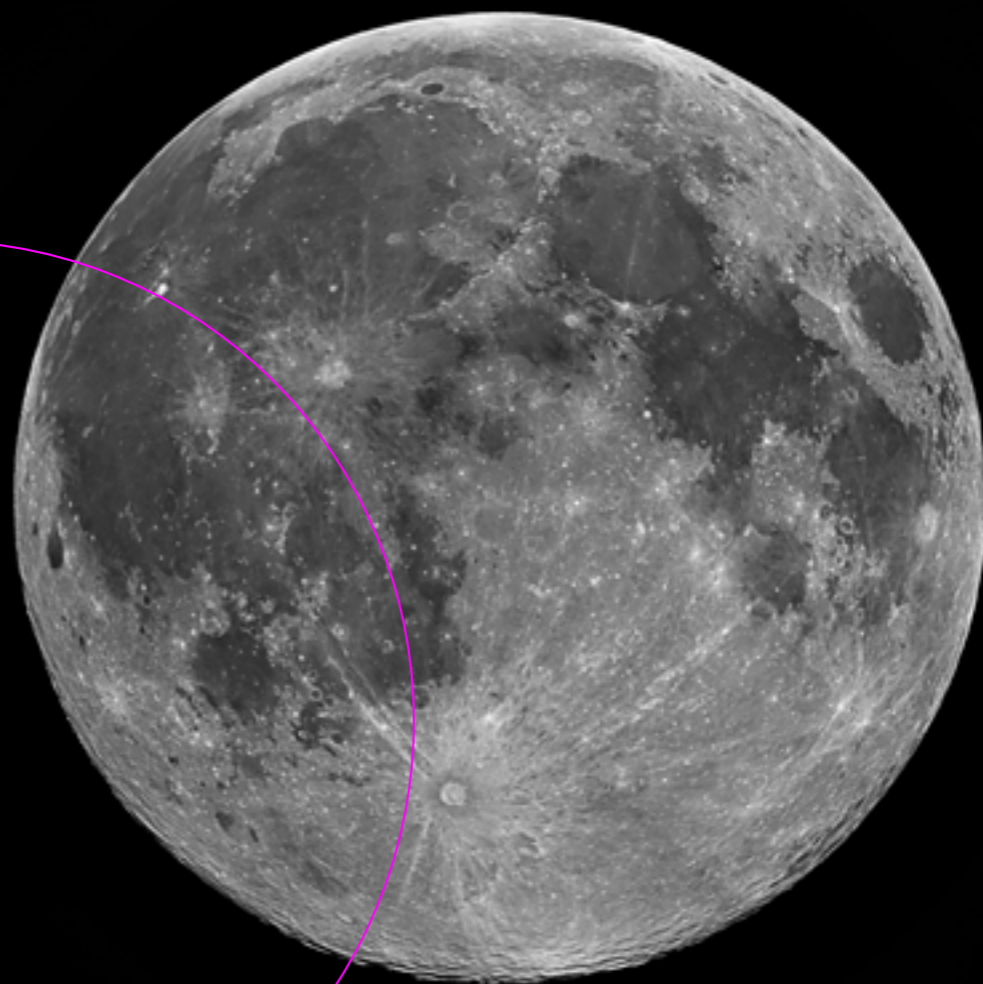
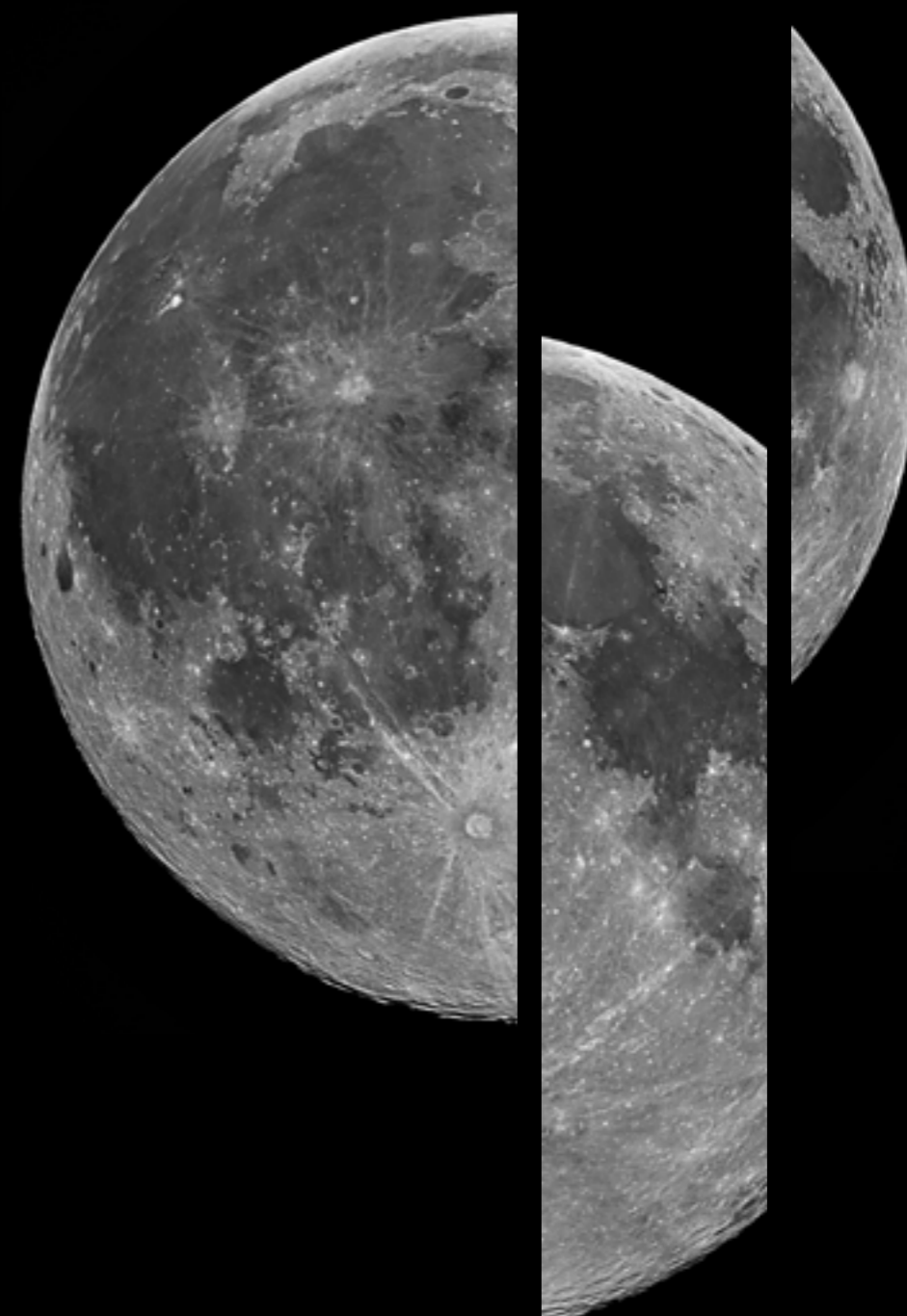


DRACONIAN
SWITCH



TWE)))
NTV)))



everything
changes

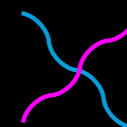


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EDITORS NOTE

Issue 23 is long overdue; so to make up for lost time, we have a stellar, chocka collection of work! We're delighted to welcome Switch first timers, Barbadian artist, Versia Harris with her whimsical digital swans, and our fellow Trini, Horacio Hospedales, with his Instagram explorations. We're grateful to Andre Bago, Kriston Chen, Sharon Millar, Shivane Ramlochan and photographer, Arnaldo James, for sharing their experiments in poetry and images with us. And we have spreads of congratulations for Christopher Cozier, Gerard H. Gaskin and Kei Millar, all of whom have had wonderful successes with their work recently. Thanks so much to designer Nadia Huggins, for her layered and complex design of this issue. Enjoy!

I WANT E D
T O
WR I T E YOU

B CK.

BU T

I H D

TO W RK ON

DR CO NIA N
SW ITCH.

RICHARD MARK RAWLINS // *Publisher* MARIEL
BROWN // *Editor* NADIA HUGGINS // *Designer*

Additional Photography by Arnaldo James.

*Sorry
this
page is not
available since
you broke my heart.
Sorry this page is not
available since you
broke my heart.
Sorry this page*

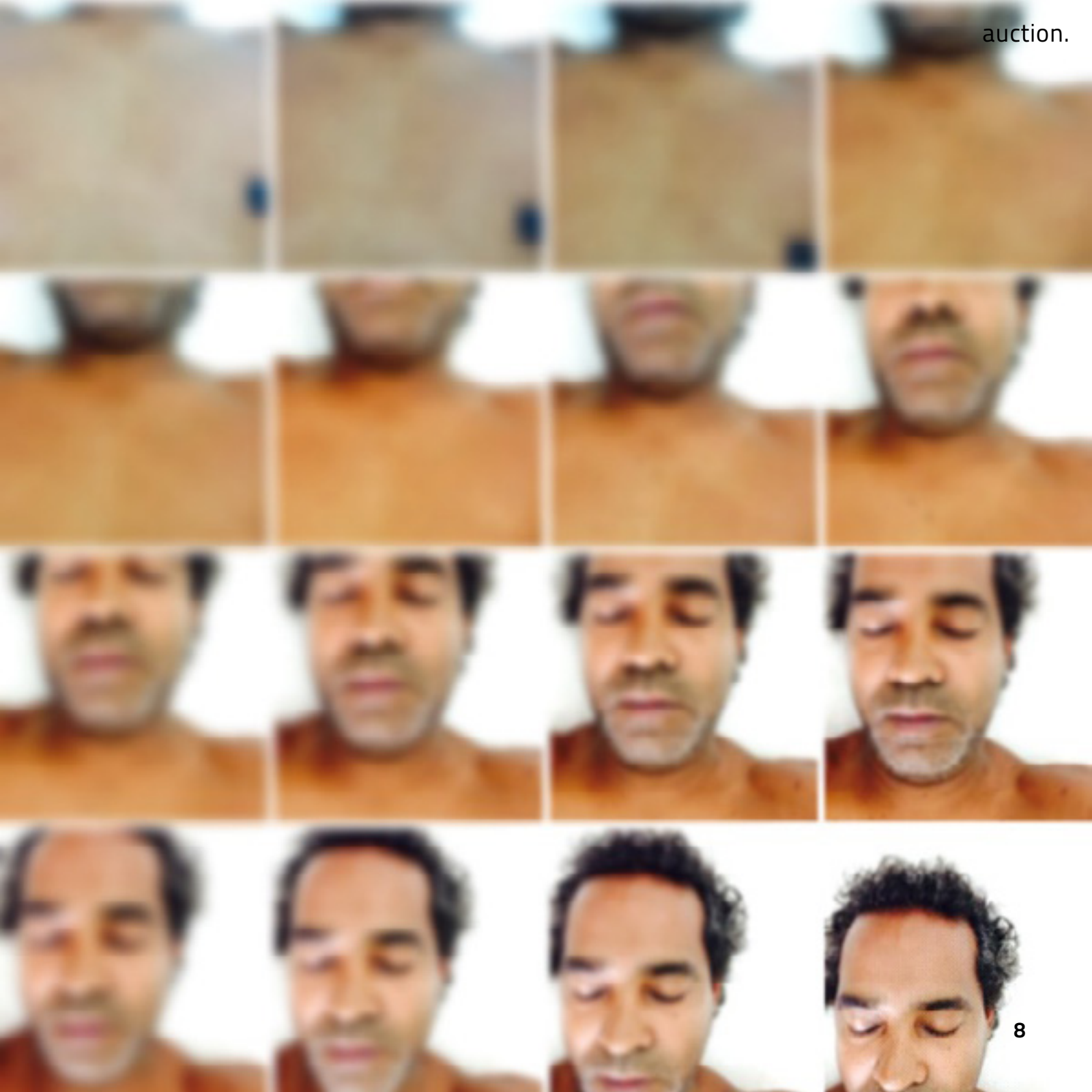
The background features a dark, semi-transparent collage of a man's face, likely Horacio Hospedales, repeated in a grid pattern. The image is overlaid with a large, bright orange triangle on the left and a dark purple triangle on the right, meeting at a diagonal line.

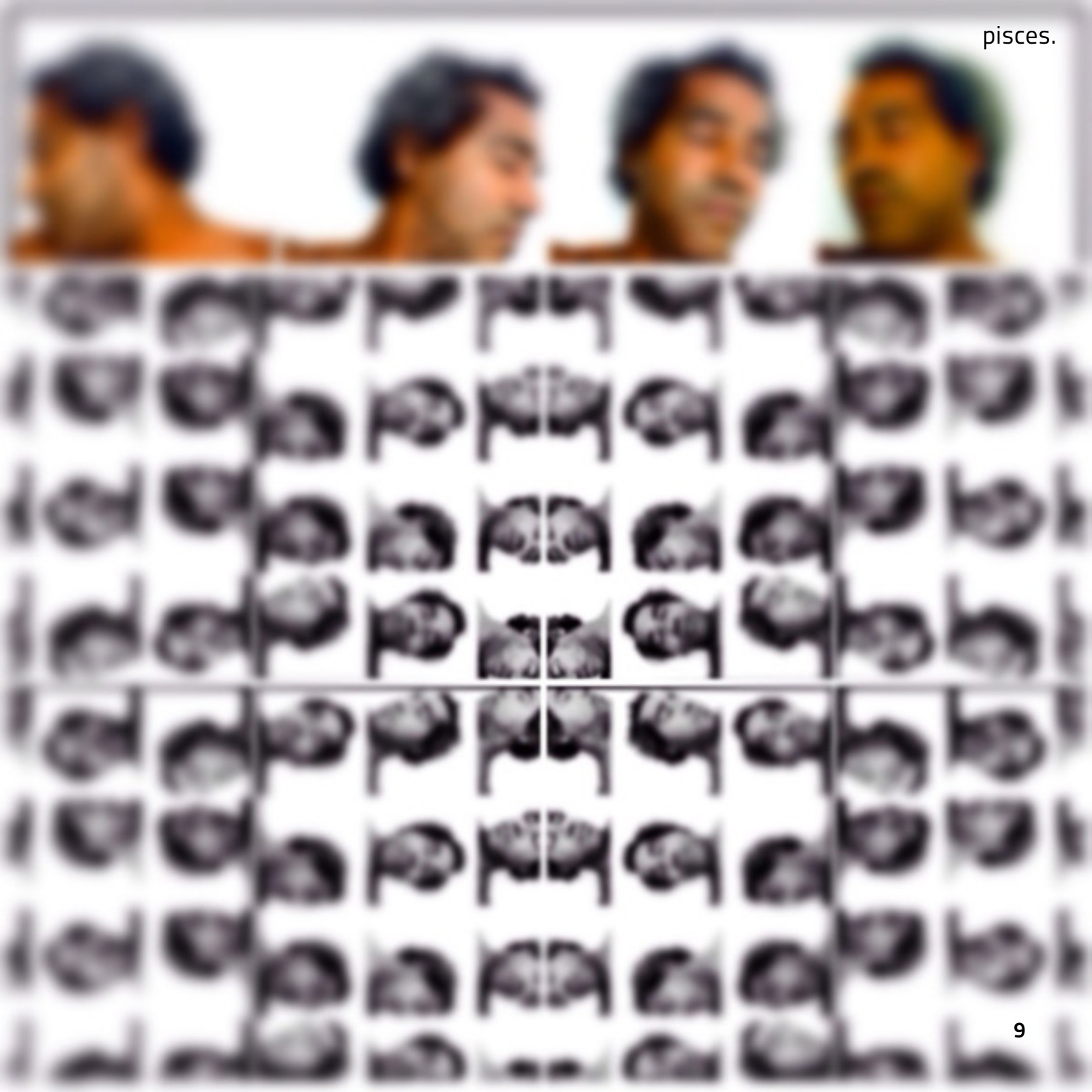
WITHSTANDING :ALL THE SAME: NEVERTHELESS

HORACIO
HOSPEDALES

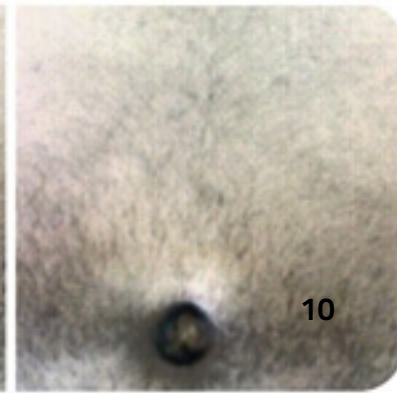
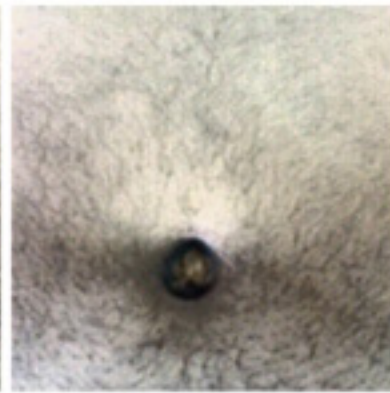
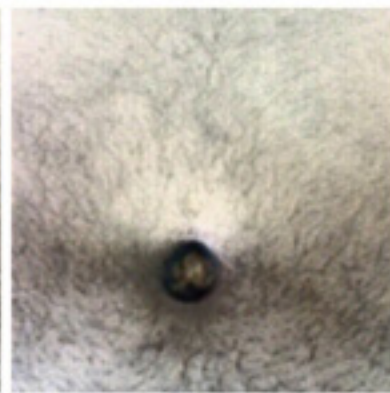
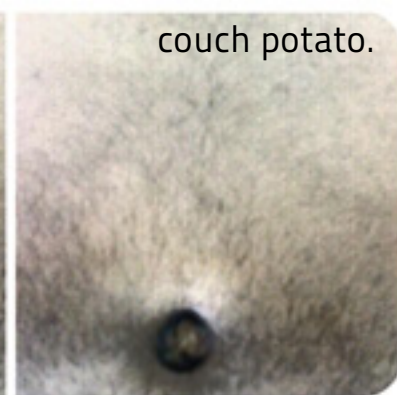
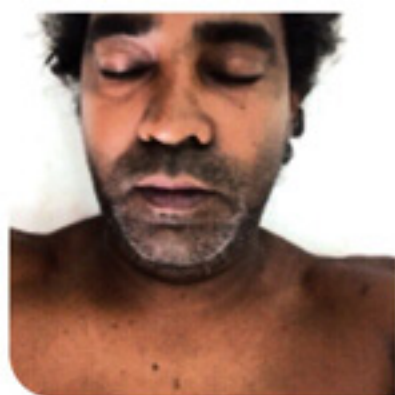


Instagrams

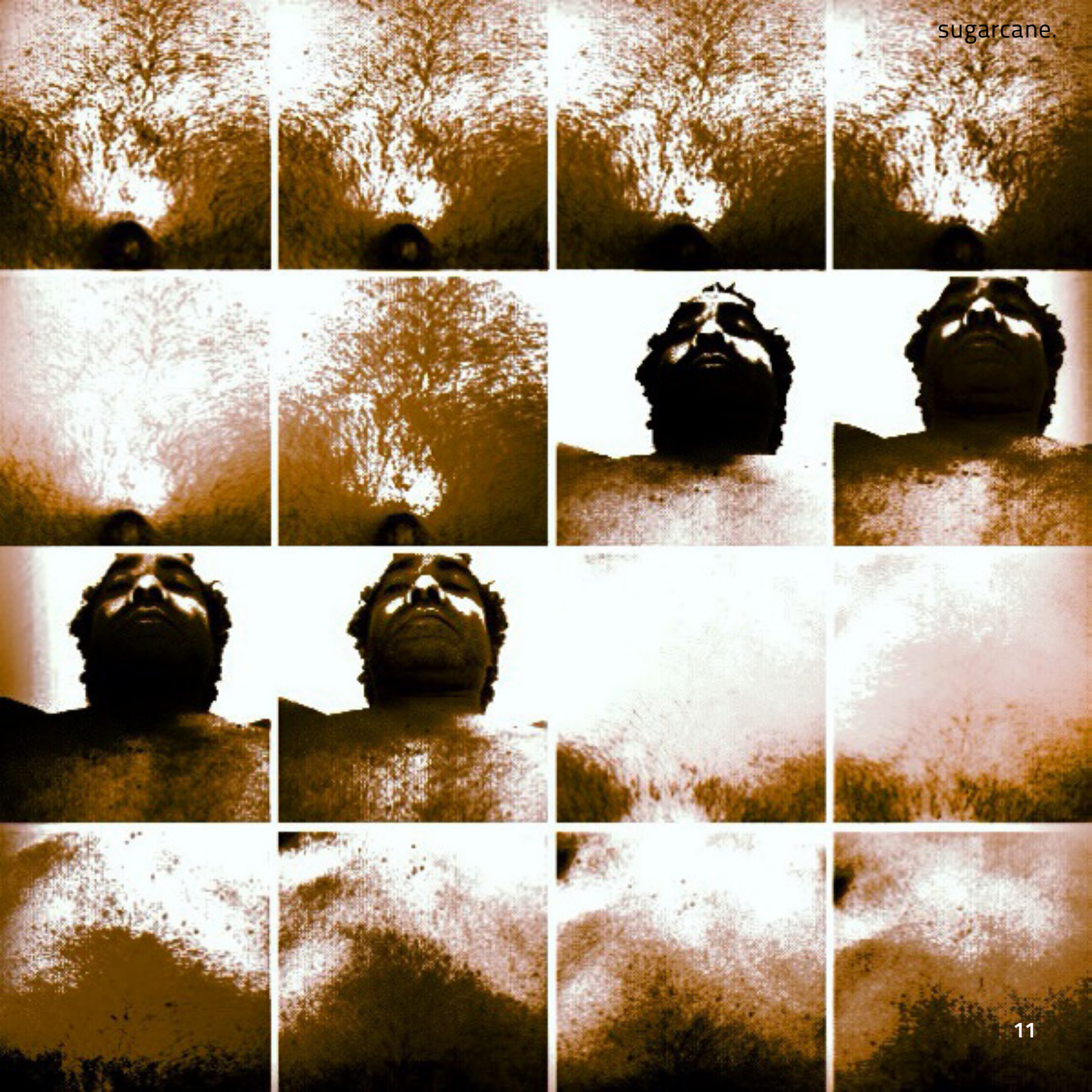




couch potato.



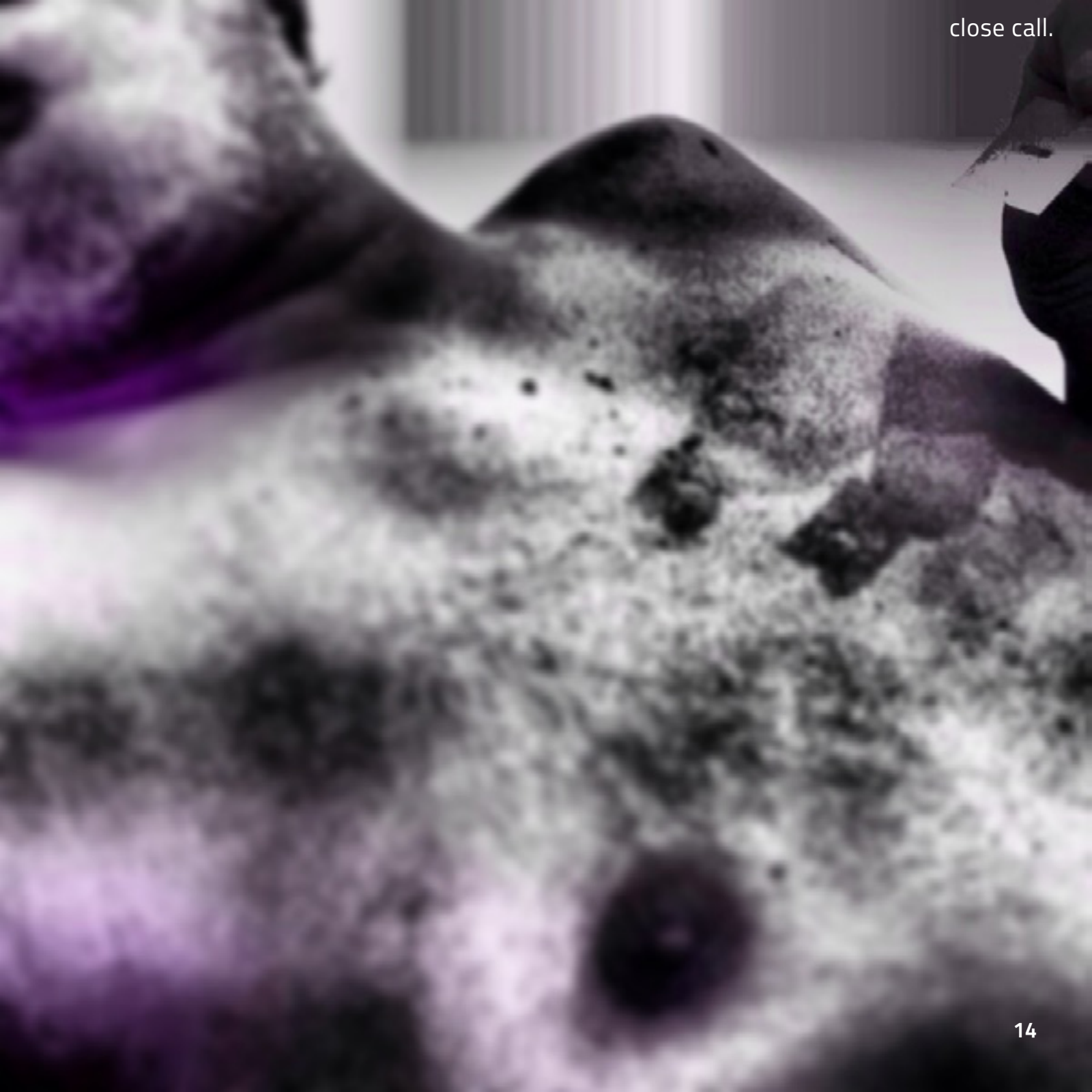
sugarcane.



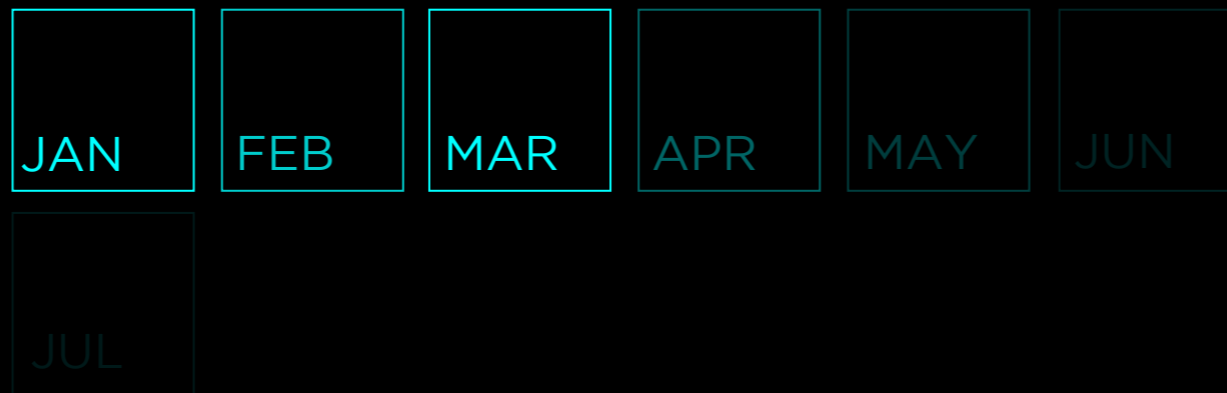
watermark.



close call.







*Forgotten
Already.*



VERRIA HARRIS

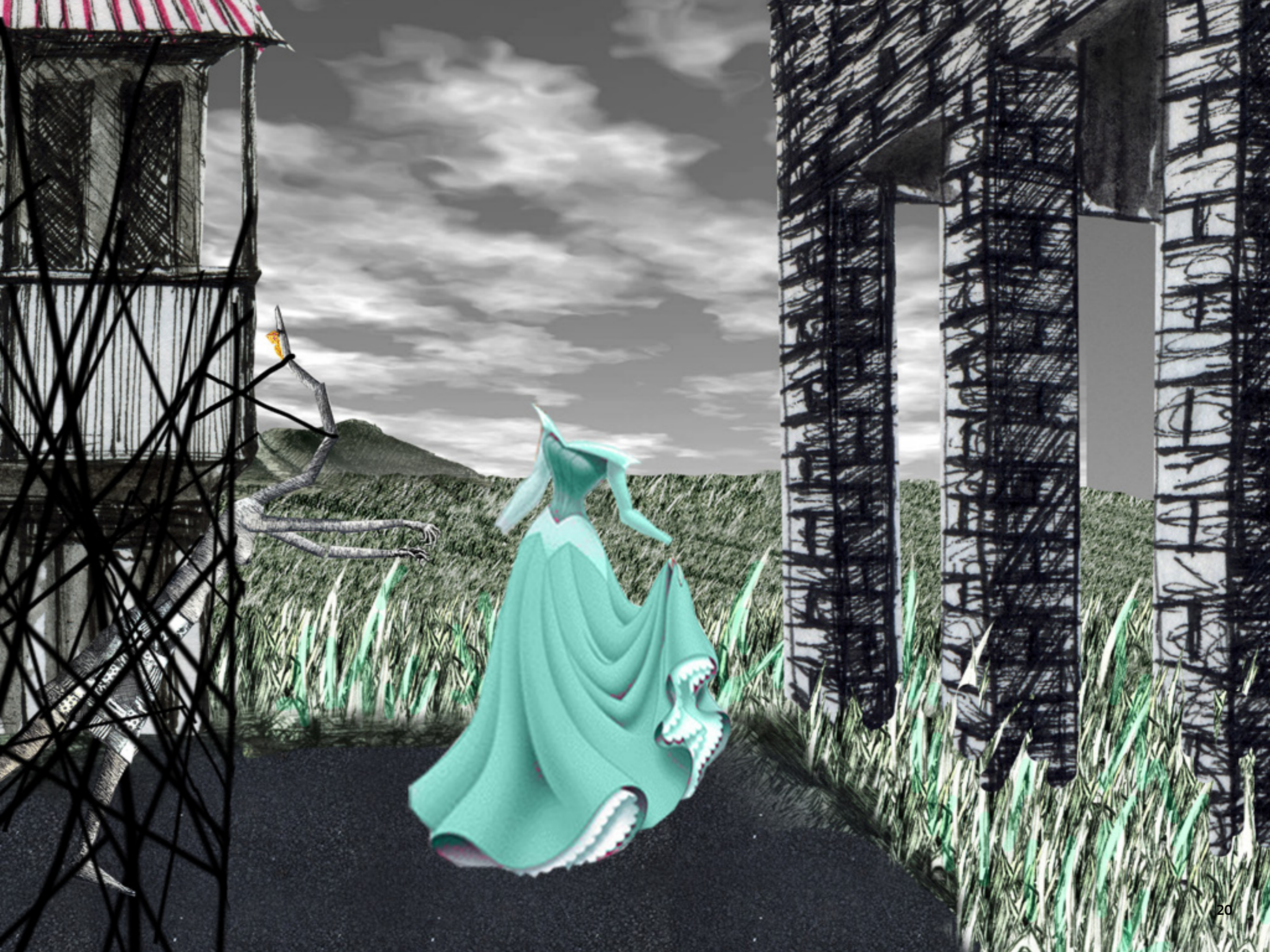
Illustrator





I HAVEN'T
FORGOTTEN
YOU YET







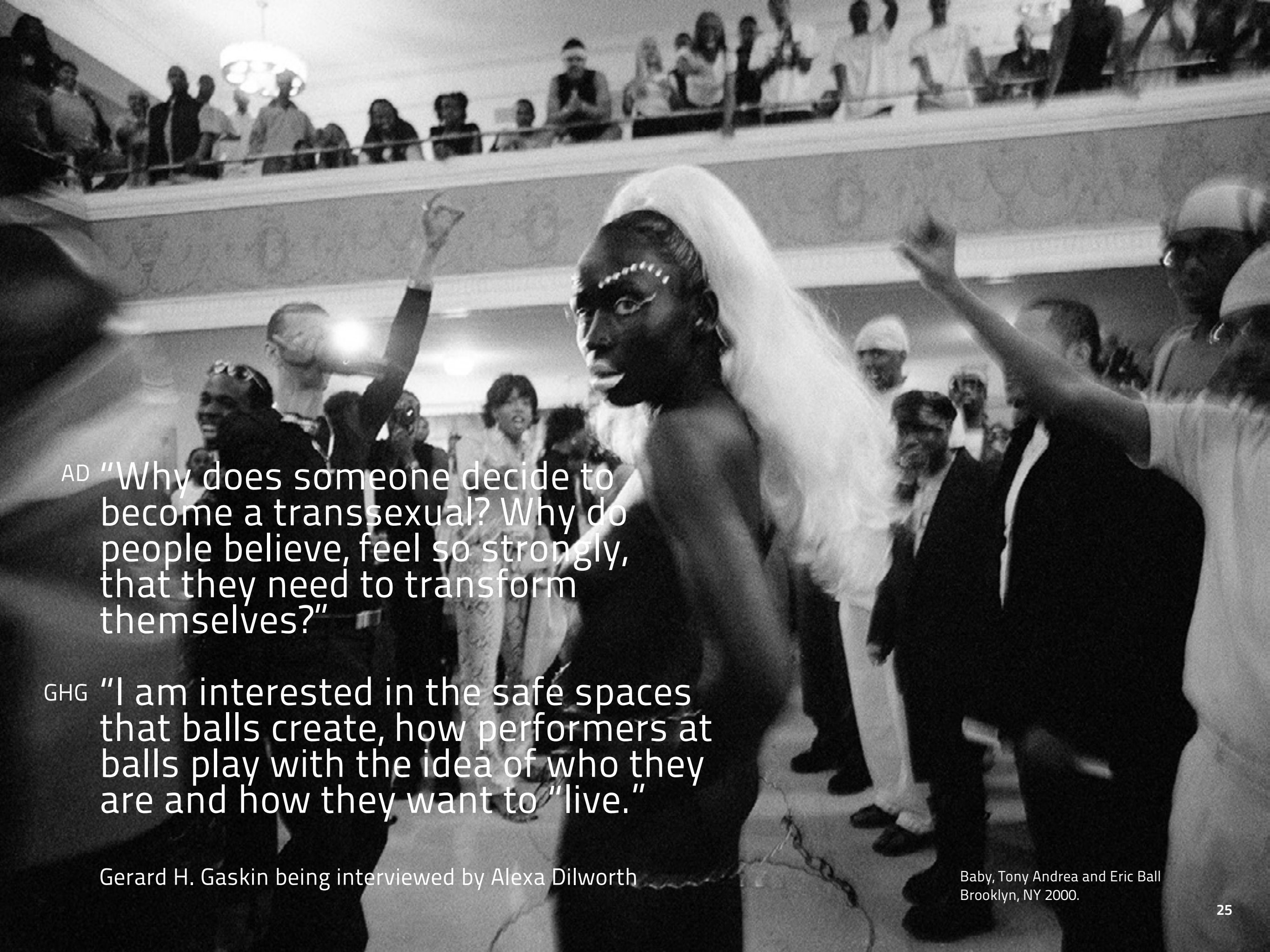






GERARD II. GAS LIN

*LEGENDARY: INSIDE THE
HOUSE BALLROOM SCENE*



AD "Why does someone decide to become a transsexual? Why do people believe, feel so strongly, that they need to transform themselves?"

GHG "I am interested in the safe spaces that balls create, how performers at balls play with the idea of who they are and how they want to "live."

Gerard H. Gaskin being interviewed by Alexa Dilworth

Baby, Tony Andrea and Eric Ball
Brooklyn, NY 2000.



Xtravaganzas, Legends Ball
Manhattan, NY 1997.



Jazmine, Black Pride Ball Manhattan, NY 2002.



TRAVEL



"Legendary: Inside the House Ballroom Scene" is an illustrated book that collects 20 years of photographs by Trinidadian photographer, Gerard H Gaskin. Here's just a small selection of what you can find in the book.

Gerard H Gaskin won the Center for Documentary Studies' Honickman First Book Prize in Photography.

You can buy the book at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

Top: Hollis and Derek, Allure Ball Manhattan, NY 1998.

Bottom: Tanya and Stephanie, Latex Ball Manhattan, NY 1999.



Ebony's, NY Awards Ball Brooklyn, NY 2002.



U N S E T T L E D

by Kei Miller

So consider an unsettled island.

*Inside – the unflattened and unsugared
fields; inside – a tegareg
sprawl of roots and canopies,
inside – the tall sentries of blood-
wood and yoke-wood and sweet-wood,
of dog-wood, of bullet trees so hard
they will one day splinter cutlasses,
will one day swing low the carcasses
of slaves; inside – a crawling
brawl of vines, unseemly
flowers that blossom from their spines;
inside – the leb-gub orchids and labrishing
hibiscuses that throw raucous
syllables at crows whose heads are red
as annattos; inside – malarial mosquitoes
that rise from stagnant ponds;
inside – a green humidity thick as mud;
inside – the stinging spurge, the night-
shades, the Madame Fates;
inside – spiders, gnats and bees,
wasps and lice and fleas; inside –
the dengue, the hookworm, the heat
and botheration; unchecked macka
sharp as crucifixion. This is no paradise –
not yet – not this unfriendly, untamed island –
this unsanitized, unstructured island –
this unmannered, unmeasured island;
this island: unwritten, unsettled, unmapped.*

*Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet,
consectetur adipiscing elit. Nam
accumsan **follow me** diam a
ullamcorper volutpat. Nunc dapibus
lorem vitae dapibus **I** pellentesque.
Sed **know** volutpat nulla ac pretium
porttitor. Fusce iaculis nisi quam,
vitae pellentesque purus ullamcorper
the non. Donec auctor dolor velit, vel
mollis erat congue vitae. Ut blandit
ullamcorper magna nec blandit.
Vivamus feugiat nibh **quickest** ut est
molestie, in mollis risus vulputate.
Fusce metus eros, placerat ut
massa ut, posuere gravida ante.
In egestas **way** magna quis dolor
fermentum, eget gravida ipsum
interdum. Pellentesque dapibus
tincidunt elit. Vivamus molestie enim
in magna varius mollis a id elit.
Nam condimentum ante non mattis
imperdiet.*

down



D O U E N I S L A N D S

Ongoing, open collaborative project — featuring writers, poets, musicians, artists, photographers, dancers and others — first launched on All Hallow's Eve, 2013, by poet and Newsday reporter Andre Bagoo and designer Kriston Chen.



PRAY FOR US,
TAKE US APART FROM THIS.

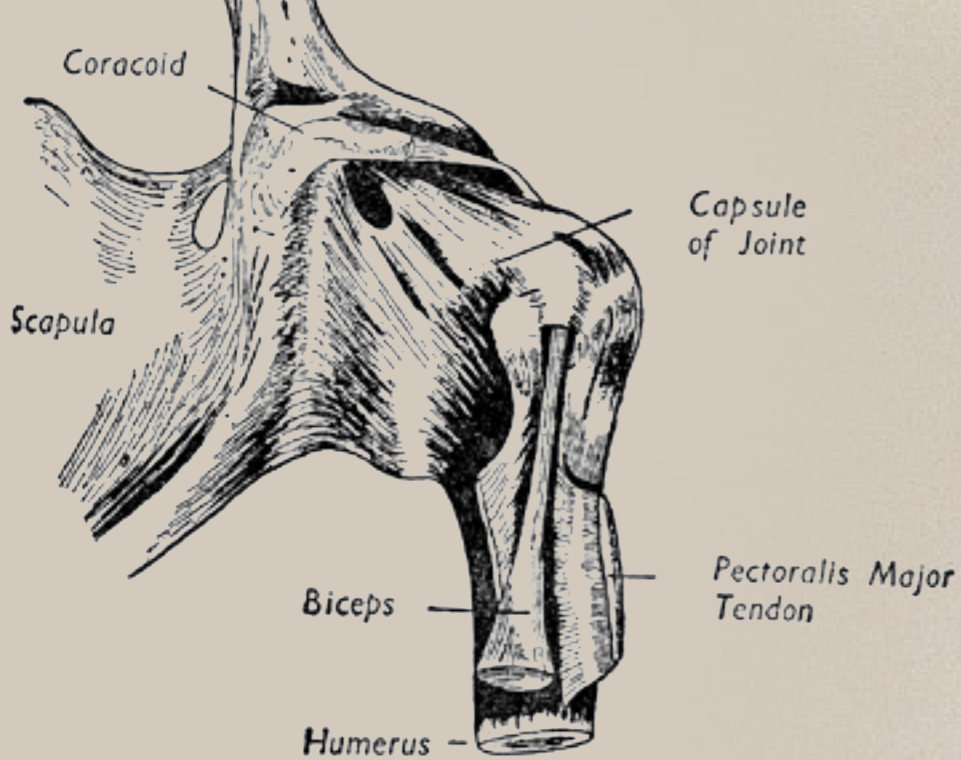


from
*The
Gayelle*

by Sharon Millar

“Beyond the window of the small bungalow, silk cottons, immortelles, pouis, and teak stagger their way down to the river. In the dry season, the season of the fighting, the leaves fall and fall until they settle ankle deep in rustling layers; his mother says that below the leaves lies not just hard earth but the pineapple backs of sleeping mapepires and the pale brown of scorpions. At the beginning of each year, his mother collects scorpions, hunting them under rotten logs and behind abandoned tools before roasting them. She feeds the ground paste to Mannie, blowing in his face to stop his gagging. This way, she says, he will not die if he is stung by the lightning strike of a curved tail.”



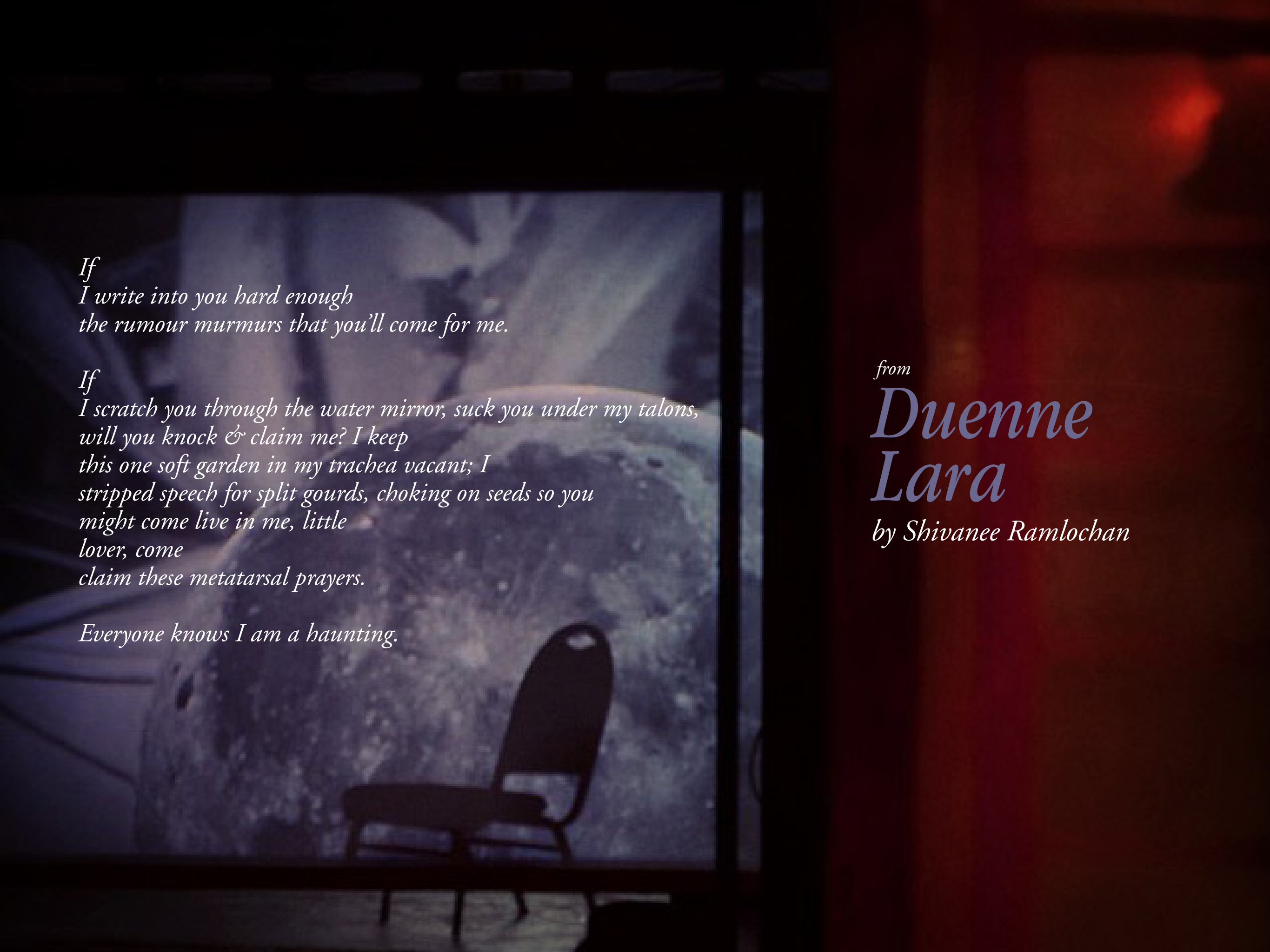


Fun

by Andre Bagoo

*Lifting everything I've been carrying all day
 One dumbbell closer to the next
 Repeating prayers for transformation.
 For transformation, this body is turned faceless
 My spine the only constant inside me
 My body as disciplined as a lung
 For the sake of it.
 And so this work
 Works and works us
 Among these treadmills I live
 For permission to live again
 In arms which, no matter
 How hooked up
 Cannot blackout this desire
 With their corporeal accomplishment.*





*If
I write into you hard enough
the rumour murmurs that you'll come for me.*

*If
I scratch you through the water mirror, suck you under my talons,
will you knock & claim me? I keep
this one soft garden in my trachea vacant; I
stripped speech for split gourds, choking on seeds so you
might come live in me, little
lover, come
claim these metatarsal prayers.*

Everyone knows I am a haunting.

from

Duenne Lara

by Shivaneer Ramlochan



abrief

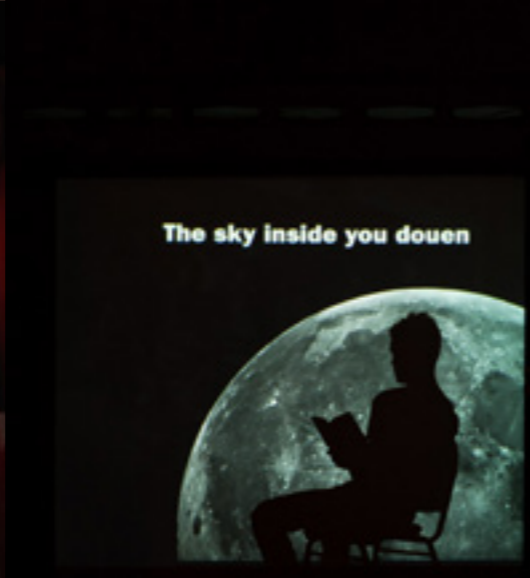
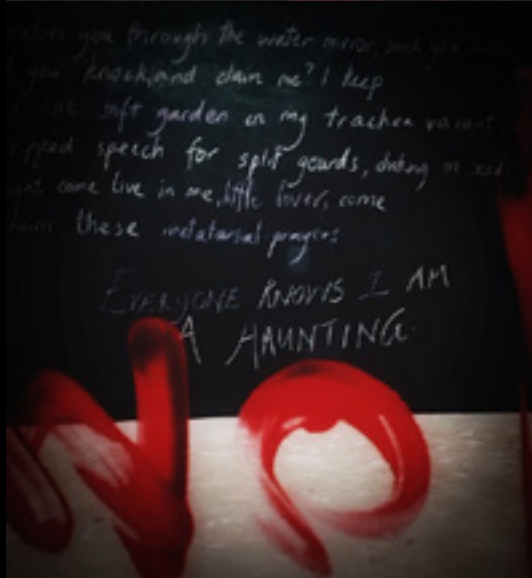
Duonne Lara

I write into you hard enough
the rumour murmurs that come for me.

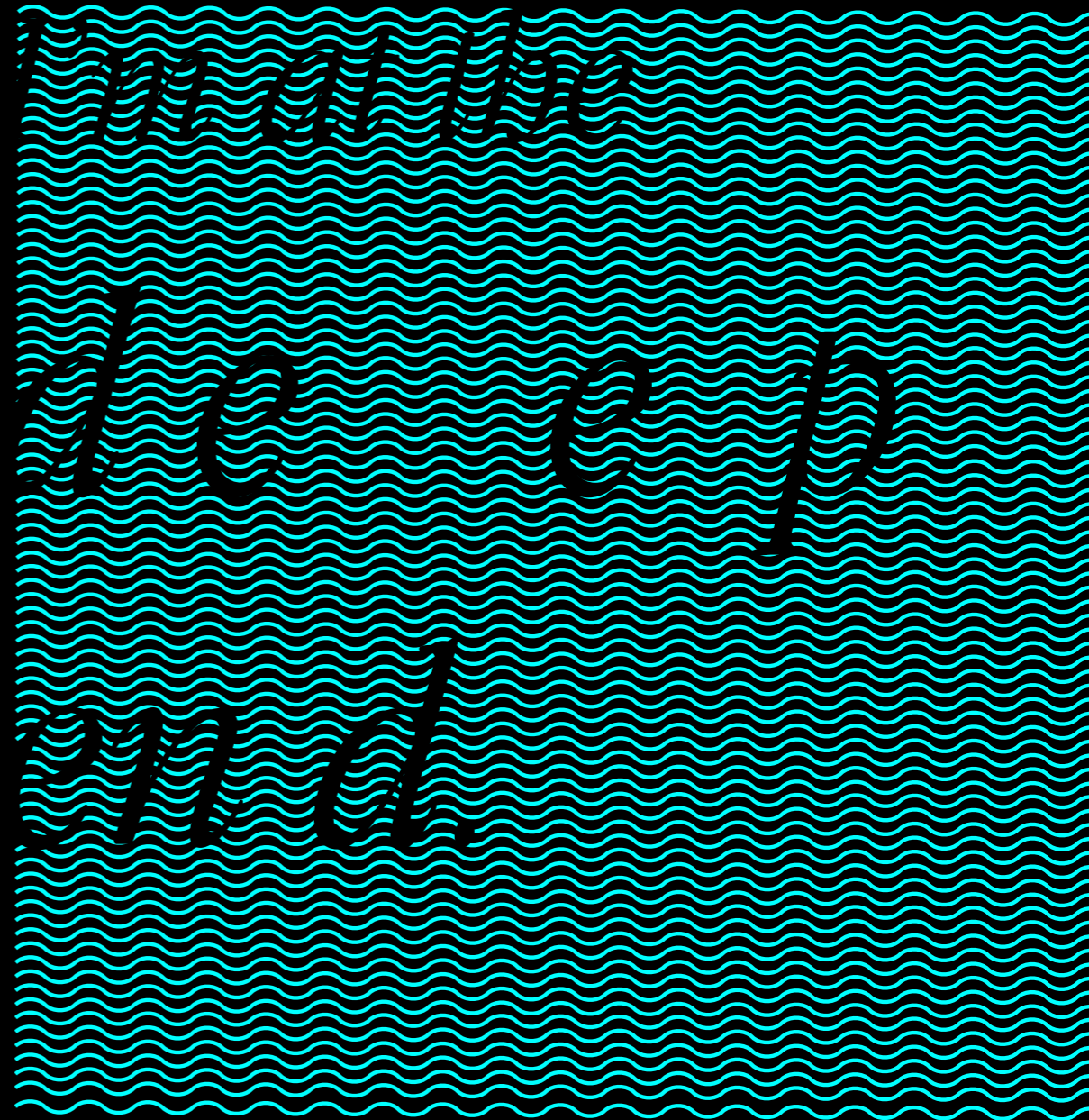
If
I scratch you to the
will you knock
this one soft
vacant; I
stripped spe
might come live
daim these

I

Clockwise from top left: Sharon
Millar, Kriston Chen, Shivanee
Ramlochan, Andre Bagoo



If you call and no one answers...





REBELLIONS IN THE MAS

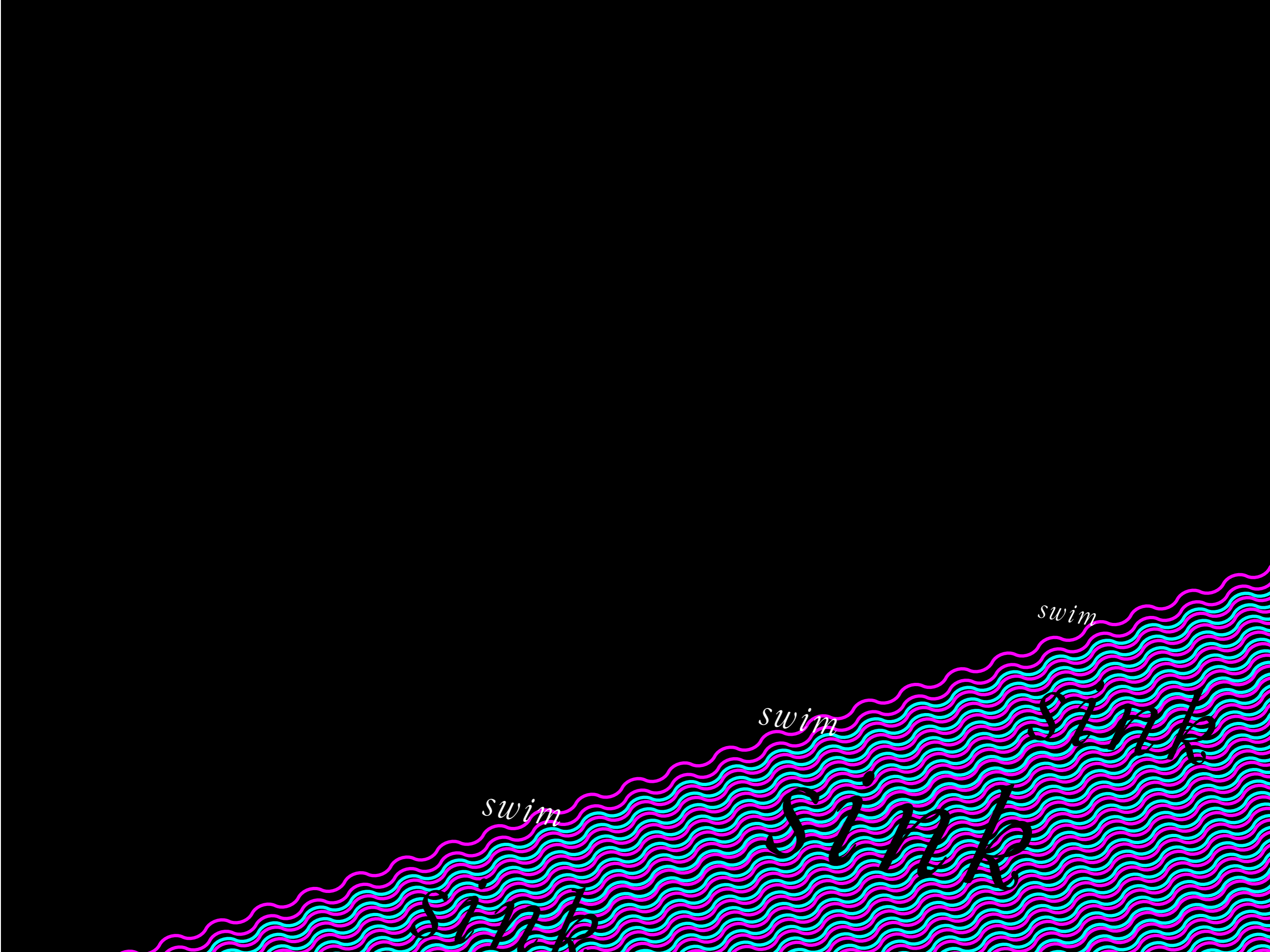
Vulgar Fraction plays Black Indian







VULGAR CULTURE



swim

swim

swim

sink

sink

sink



ALICE
YARD

celebrates Cozier's success



ARTIST

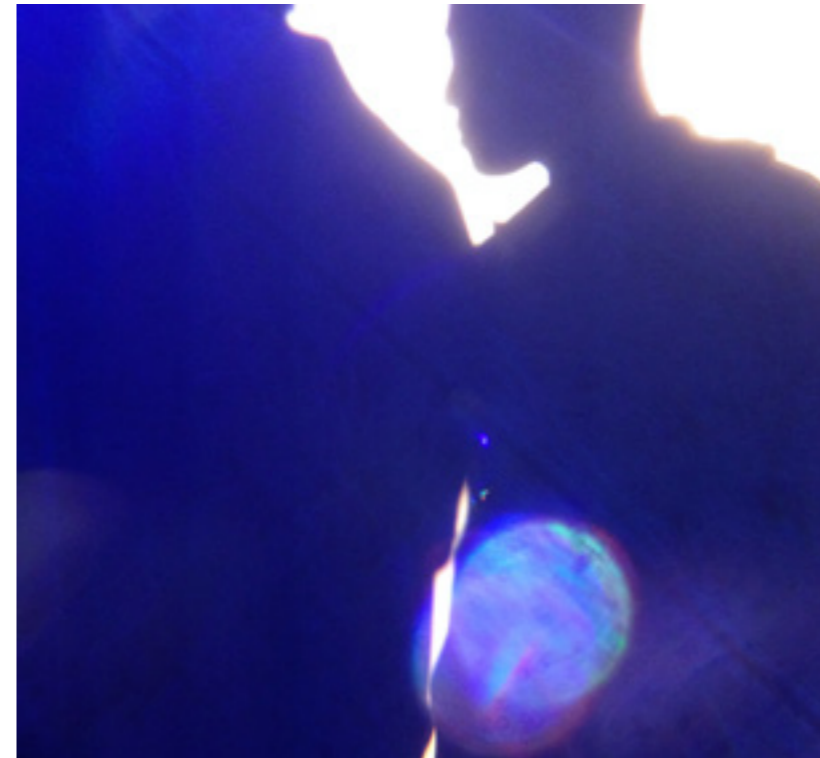
2014 Prince Claus Fund Laureate

Christopher Cozier (1959, Port of Spain) is a multi-talented cultural activator with a profound impact on cultural development across the Caribbean. His informed and incisive artwork in diverse media reflects his deep understanding of Trinidad's past and present, and beyond this, he mentors and supports local and regional artists, providing critiques, establishing dialogues with them across virtual space and initiating opportunities.

Christopher Cozier is honoured for his influential role and open inclusive approach in developing art and culture across the Caribbean; for selflessly and generously creating possibilities for others, inspiring and mentoring younger generations; for his disciplined commitment to intellectual inquiry and critical discourse.

www.princeclausfund.org









DOH FORGET

1



PICTURES FROM PARADISE: A SURVEY OF CONTEMPORARY CARIBBEAN PHOTOGRAPHY

If you plan to be in Toronto, Canada, during the month of May, then check out this amazing exhibition of contemporary Caribbean photography which will be in shipping containers behind the Powerplant Contemporary Art Gallery at the Harbourfront. Co-curated by Melanie Archer, Mariel Brown and Kenneth Montague, the exhibition, which was designed by Switch publisher, Richard Mark Rawlins, is one of the Primary Exhibitions at the 2014 edition of the CONTACT Photography Festival.

May 1 — May 25, 2014
Tues — Sun 10am - 5pm / Thur 10am - 8pm
Shipping Containers behind The Power Plant
Harbourfront Centre, 231 Queens Quay W, Toronto



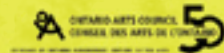
wonderland Projects



The Power Plant
Contemporary Art Gallery
@harbourfront centre



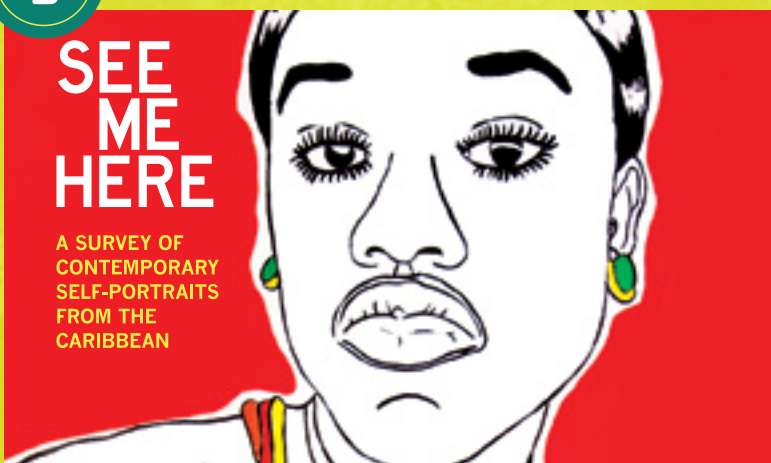
Canada Council
for the Arts
Conseil des arts
du Canada



2

SEE ME HERE

A SURVEY OF
CONTEMPORARY
SELF-PORTRAITS
FROM THE
CARIBBEAN



SEE ME HERE: A SURVEY OF CONTEMPORARY SELF-PORTRAITS FROM THE CARIBBEAN

Trinidad and Tobago illustrated book imprint, Robert & Christopher Publishers, is soon to release its latest title, See Me Here: A Survey of Contemporary Self-Portraits from the Caribbean, during the 2014 Bocas Lit Fest. The launch is open to the public and takes place at Medulla Art Gallery, Fitt Street, from 6:30pm on Thursday April 24th.



BOOKS ARE CURRENTLY
AVAILABLE AT THE
NORMANDIE HOTEL, TRINIDAD.

BOCAS LIT FEST

For the lovers of Caribbean literature, the annual Bocas Lit Fest is upon us again. The festival will run from April 23-27, and will feature readings, book launches and lots of different workshops. Fest central is the National Library and Old Fire Station in Port of Spain.



3

The logo for TWENTY features the word "TWENTY" in a bold, white, sans-serif font, centered within a black circle. To the right of the text are three white, stylized, wavy lines that resemble a stylized "2" or a series of connected loops. The entire logo is set against a background of vibrant pink wavy lines that form a circular shape around the central black circle.

TWENTY)))