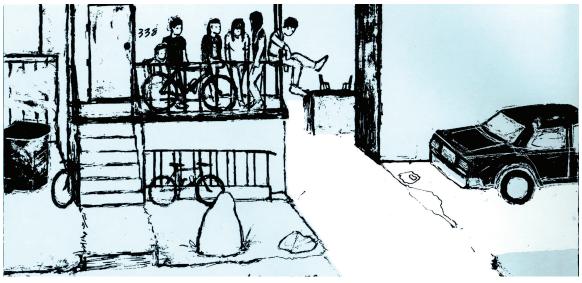
outside the lines

an art exhibit held in conjunction with the international conference Lives Outside the Lines: Gender and Genre in the Americas A Symposium in Honour of Marlene Kadar



Detail from Forming 2, hand printed silkscreen comic by Eli Howey, 2016

Exhibition dates: May 15-19, 2017 Curators' Talk: 12pm, May 16, 2017

Eleanor Winters Gallery 129 Winters College York University

this exhibit has been curated by white settler colonists, guests on the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee Nation, the Métis, and most recently, the territory of the Mississaugas of the New Credit River. This territory was the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement made in 1764 between the Iroquois Confederacy (Mohawk, Oneida, Cayuga and Seneca) and the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes.

the territory that we are guests on is also covered by the Upper Canada Treaties. Toronto or Tkaronto (this Mohawk or Kanienkehaka word arrives from one of the languages of the Six Nations that make up the Haudenosaunee Confederacy) is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island.

(writing) outside the lines

nancy viva davis halifax

Lines are both created by being followed and are followed by being created.

The lines that direct us, as lines of thought as well as lines of motion, are in this way performative: they depend on the repetition of norms and conventions, of routes and paths taken, but they are also created as an effect of this repetition.

Ahmed, Queer Phenomenology, 16.

your life has been conducted along the lines that plumb the norm : perpendicular /prone.

you think you know what a line does - but, what is a line when it is imagined as other to a practice of following its endless wearing

you put your glasses on and even then you squint as you search for that moment where figure becomes ground a path



Saturday afternoon you walk through the rain to a gallery there is an artist's talk you've come early to view the work; the people who arrive for the talk are gathered into a circle you join them, sitting to write about the work in your notebook one of the women - who appears authoritative - instructs you to stop you, living on the other side of her skin, tremble; you stammer you can't, this is how you arrange your thinking and feeling she responds bluntly, "writing is a tool of the patriarchy" you lean toward the edge you look frantically search for the person you want to have meet your eyes and they do not shame shoves you towards a door

Then the voice in your head silently tells you to take your foot off your throat because just getting along shouldn't be an ambition.

Claudia Rankine, Citizen, 55.



lines have been drawn to mark difference - to keep difference in line

you watch a bird with a twig. as it flies away a trace of the encounter, where twig was pulled flown against the grain of earth, remains

you kneel

the boys standing beside you are measured to confirm their hair does not creep below ear length, does not touch their collars one of three girls in a hallway he circles around ensuring your skirts touch the ground



the lines of the gallery floor are straight and you walk its edges the walls are painted white these meet the expectations of those who go to galleries the people who go to the gallery become an equation : straight white lines

you wonder if a line is a kind of knowledge
you resolve the scratches a graze ribbon the scribbles mangle an
alphabet



trace of blood, a burning - an arboreal lich, sound of feet walking and thinking and feeling, bear happiness of fruit abandoned rotting



you watch the children course and tumble through the clover whooping & chasing - to the barn - to the porch - to the barn after twenty minutes of back & forthing they collapse at your feet the clover trampled to the ground, a singular path; it disappears in the night



you are leaning; the wind sprays a fine mist wetting your face and hair the road vanishes into an incalulable straightaway



your cells are out of line, blurring the lines and you get it
your life beside corn and soybean fields , the small plane that flew from your
neighbours airstrip chemical plumes drifting down
your back rests against the barn, a commingling of shadow & sun - uncertain &
delicious
your cells sprout their flowering rewrites you inexorableyinvisibley



you watch the seedlings of *Asclepias* germinate cleave and fracture the tarmac its seed so strong in its orientation to light you have forgotten this scribe its green language how it ingests shining



Diana Meredith, Eli Howey, Ellen Bleiwas, Estée Klar, Erin Vincent, JoAnn Purcell, Lindsay Fisher, Naz Rahbar, Martha Newbigging, Yvonne Singer

Diana Meredith - is an independent artist, writer and critical thinker. The body is at the centre of her practice. As a person living with cancer, she is interested in challenging the dominant medical and pharmaceutical narratives of that experience. www.dianameredith.com

Eli Howey - is an artist and printmaker based in Toronto. They use traditional analogue printmaking techniques to create contemporary narrative artbooks and large-scale works on paper. They use a combination of images and poetry to express multiple understandings of narrative situations. Their work incorporates the emotional and imagined spaces within environments and stories. http://elihowey.ca/

Ellen Bleiwas – explores a relationship between sensorial bodily experience and psychological state through sculpture. Her works use space and form, with a particular interest in solitude, slowness, and sensory perception, to engender a gradual shift in consciousness through physiological engagement. Bleiwas is a Master of Fine Arts candidate at York University. www.ellenbleiwas.com

Erin Vincent - is a Toronto based-artist whose work draws on a variety of repetitive and labour intensive processes and materials. Things have always fascinated Vincent; attracted to the abject and discarded she de-categorizes them and removes established hierarchies. She explores themes of emotional intensity, intuition and the relationship between things. The sculptures she makes possess their own liveliness and ability to engage and be engaged. www.erinvincent.ca

Estée Klar is a PhD student at York University in Critical Disability Studies with a degree in Fine Art History from the University of Toronto and M.A. in Critical Disability Studies from York University. She is a curator and also the founder of The Autism Acceptance Project. Her work is a collaboration with her non-speaking son Adam, who types to communicate. Together they explore movement, hesitation and relation in their work towards conditions that support neurodiversity - attuning to the autistic way of movement and being in relation. www.esteeklar.com.

Lindsay Fisher - is a multi-disciplinary artist with practices in digital media, painting, illustration, textiles, graphic arts and curatorial arts. Her work questions representation and identity, the construction and fragmentation of gender, feminism and the body, and notions of disability and difference. She currently works in Toronto. http://lindsayfisher.net/wp/

JoAnn Purcell - is a PhD student in Critical Disability Studies at York University, combining her background as a visual artist and registered nurse using comics alongside disability and difference. She holds an MA in Art History from York University, a BScN from the University of Toronto and is a graduate of the Ontario College of Art in Toronto. She is the current and founding Program Coordinator of Illustration at Seneca College.

Martha Newbigging - Martha Newbigging is a multi-disciplinary artist with practices in drawing, comics and animation. Their work explores queer sexuality and gender through self-narrative representations of memory fragments. They are particularly interested in the implications of autobiographical drawing and comics making for critical pedagogy. www.marthanewbigging.com

Naz Rahbar - is a Toronto based Multidisciplinary Artist. Her work is often autobiographical, narrative based and centred on the dilemmas of one's identity and existence. Integrating multiple elements, the personal vs. political/universal, her recent works deal with issues of queer and immigrant identity. http://nazrahbar.ca/

Yvonne Singer - Yvonne Singer is a practising artist with an active national and international exhibition record. Her installation works employ multimedia techniques, often with cryptic texts to articulate cultural issues of disjuncture and perception. She is particularly interested in the intersection of public and private histories. www.yorku.ca/ysinger/

with support from a SSHRC Connection Grant and York University: Office of the Vice President Academic & Provost; Office of the Vice President Research and Innovation; the Faculty of Education; the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies; the Faculty of Graduate Studies; the Graduate Program in Gender, Feminist and Women's Studies; the School of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies; Glendon Gender and Women's Studies Program; the Sexuality Studies Program; Institute for Feminist Legal Studies at Osgoode Hall Law School; Graduate Program in Social and Political Thought; Department of Anthropology; Department of History; Department of Political Science; Department of Social Science; Critical Disability Studies, and the Centre for Feminist Research

design: Martha Newbigging

















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INFANTILE GRATTAL ORGANIZATION

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