Feminists to Feministas

Opening This Week: A Vibrant Look at Powerful Women of Color

We're incredibly excited to announce the opening of a new exhibit of rare posters at the GLBT History Museum, March 4. "Feminists to Feministas: Women of Color in Prints and Posters" contains 29 works of print art from the 1970s to the 1990s that visually trace the power of lesbians, bisexuals, and transwomen of color who rallied for sexual freedom and economic justice in the fight against racism, sexism, and imperialism. The exhibit runs through July 4 at the GLBT History Museum.

Join us for the opening celebration!
Friday, March 4, 7 pm-9 pm ($5 suggested donation)

The distinctly political images presented in "Feminists to Feministas" defy conventional standards of femininity, speak out against legislative abuses that disproportionately affect communities of color, and celebrate the health, beauty, and creativity of queer African American, Latina, and Asian Pacific Islander women. Come feel the power of Audre Lorde, Kiny Tsui, and Pepper from ButLEZk, as is the activism of lesbians and gays against intervention in Central America. See the dyke version of the seductive Calvin Klein underwear advertisements of the 1990s!

"The GLBT Historical Society's poster collection represents a remarkable time capsule of our community's history," says co-curator Lisbet Tellefsen. "The collection is vast in both depth and scope and visually chronicles much of our history: from arts & culture to sex, politics and beyond. I look forward to mining this rich collection for years to come and am excited to offer this small glimpse into the collection with our initial exhibit, 'Feminists to Feministas.'"

Adds co-curator Amy Sueyoshi, "So invisible are queer women of color in gay scenes of the Castro, in marriage equality, and in the countless shows that are cropping up with queer characters. Yet so tirelessly do queer women of color work for justice, scrubbing on their hands and knees until their knuckles become raw. I wanted to put together a show that underscored the tremendous cultural and political work that they do without recognition or reward. To them - to us - I dedicate this exhibition."

Read more about the exhibit here and join the Facebook invitation for the party here.

From Our New Executive Director

GLBT Historical Society at a Crossroads

by Terry Beswick

When I walk through the GLBT Historical Society archives or the museum, I never fail to be moved by the enormity of our community's experiences and the astounding breadth of our individual stories. I'm thrilled, as the Historical Society's new executive director, to play a role in not only collecting and memorializing these rich and varied stories, but in keeping these stories alive and bringing them to new audiences.

This is a responsibility I take very seriously, and I think you should, too.

How can we best preserve, interpret, and present our countless stories of human struggle and triumph? How can we best share these powerful stories with LGBTQ people - and with people who know nothing of our history and culture? In the coming weeks and months, I will be asking many of you these questions, and also sharing my vision for the organization's future - including the development of a new world-class LGBT cultural museum and archives in San Francisco.

Executive director Terry Beswick. Photo by Gareth Gooch.
Author Talk
The Last Decade of Transgender Activism
Thursday, March 10, 7 pm-9 pm
GLBT History Museum
4127 18th St., SF.
$5 suggested donation

In 2007, when bisexual transgender activist and professional biologist Julia Serano first published Whipping Girl: A Transsexual Woman on Sexism and the Scapegoating of Femininity, there was little-to-no mainstream coverage of trans lives or the issues that impact trans communities.

In this provocative manifesto, she revealed the ways in which fear, suspicion, and dismissiveness toward femininity shape our societal attitudes toward trans women, and gender and sexuality as a whole. To celebrate the release of the second edition of Whipping Girl, Serano will read from the new preface, and talk about the many changes and evolution of both trans people’s circumstances and transgender activism since the early 2000s, followed by a Q&A and discussion.

Read more about this event here, and join the Facebook invite here.