

The Spirit of Spiral Economics

Purpose: The Purpose of this Palimpsest is to Organize All My Learnings from The Spirit of Commerce <> Innovation <> Sustainability <> Circular Economy... whatever you want to call It. It is not natural to want to pay money for our basic needs: capitalism, white supremacy, and patriarchy are *some* of the artificial constructs that shape how many of us are forced to spend our time as human-mammals currently on planet Earth. Our most natural instincts - in particular how we socialize and commune - have been hammered out of us for centuries by these invisible power tools. Our healing pilgrimage is to Remember and “Spiral Economics” is a tonic in Building the World of Collective Liberation. **And all this Learning is useless unless it is excitedly grasped by a 5-year old.**

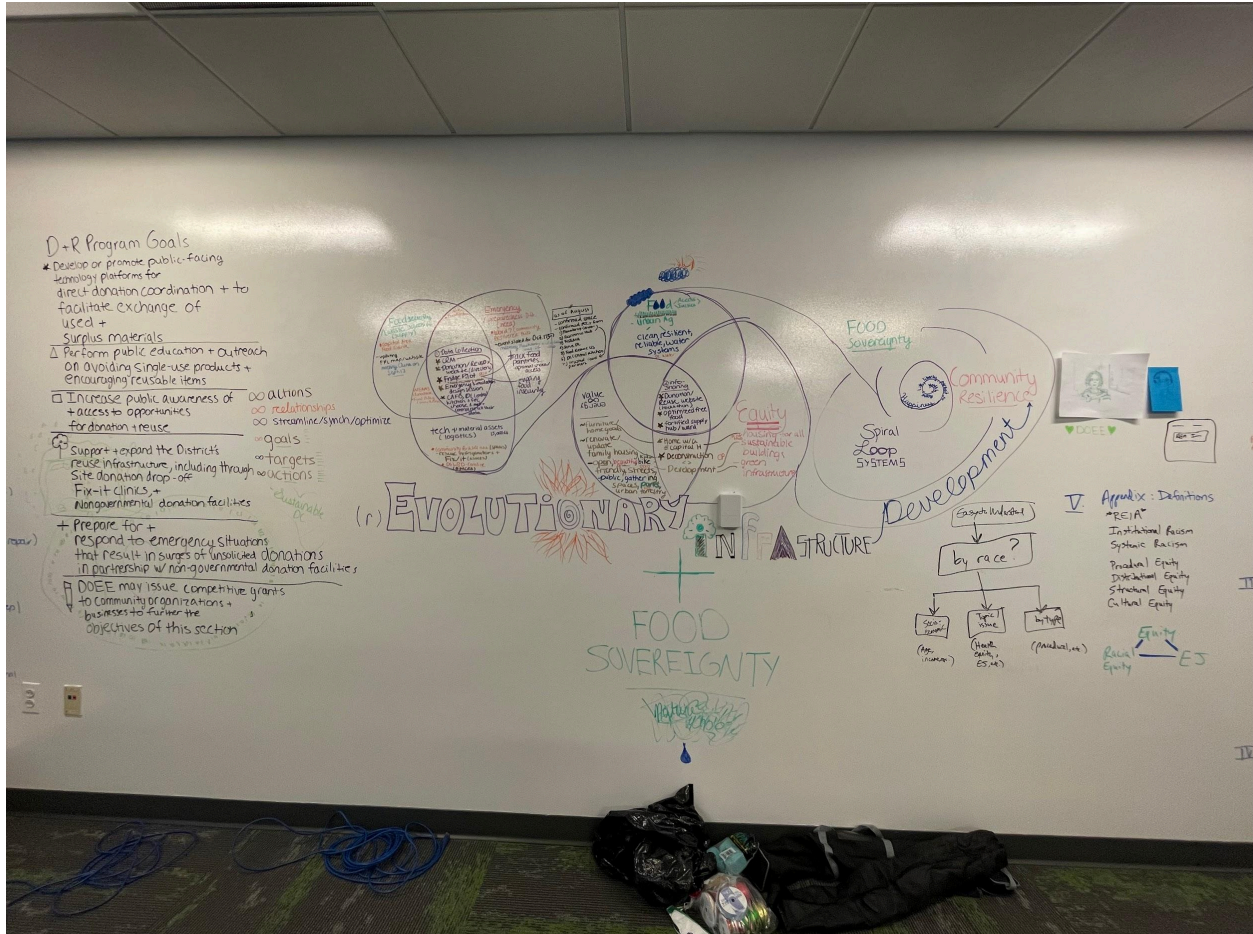
Audience: Our Inner 5-Year-Old



Illustrations
by [Brittany Symone](#)

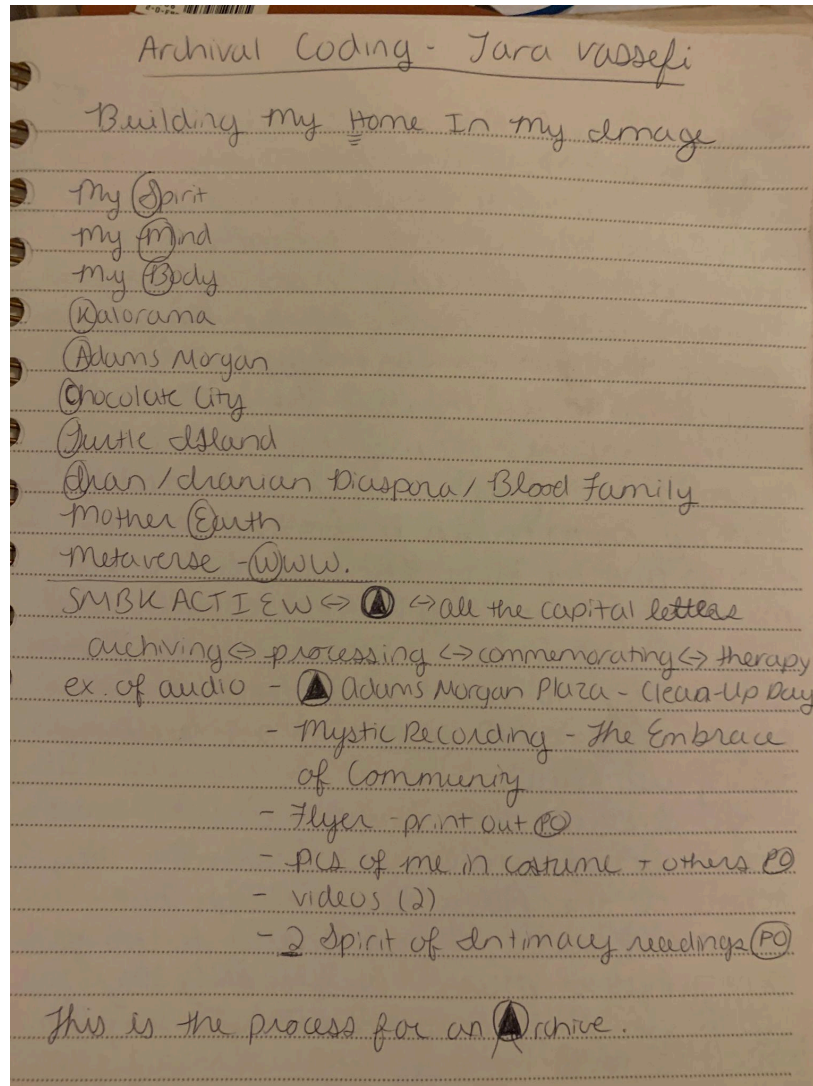


Oikos Quantum <> Quantum Oikos



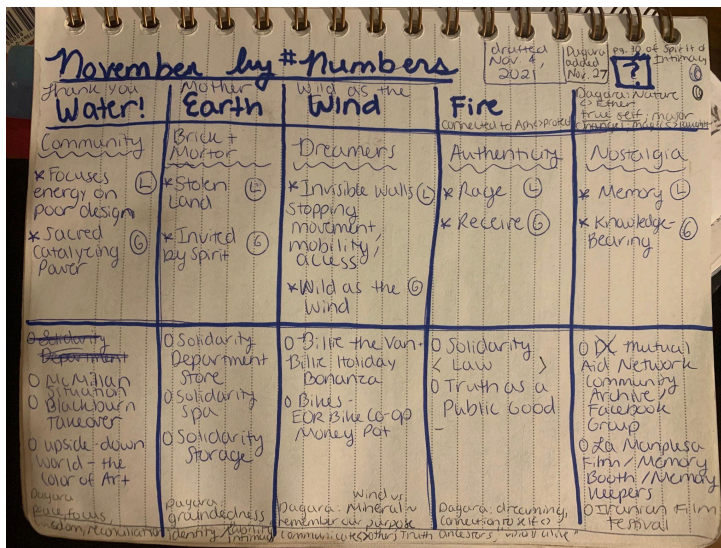
Introduction

My First-Hand Learning <> The Belly Of The Peace



Sourced from Fellow Sovereigns and in Sovereignty

Thank You Water Patrix!



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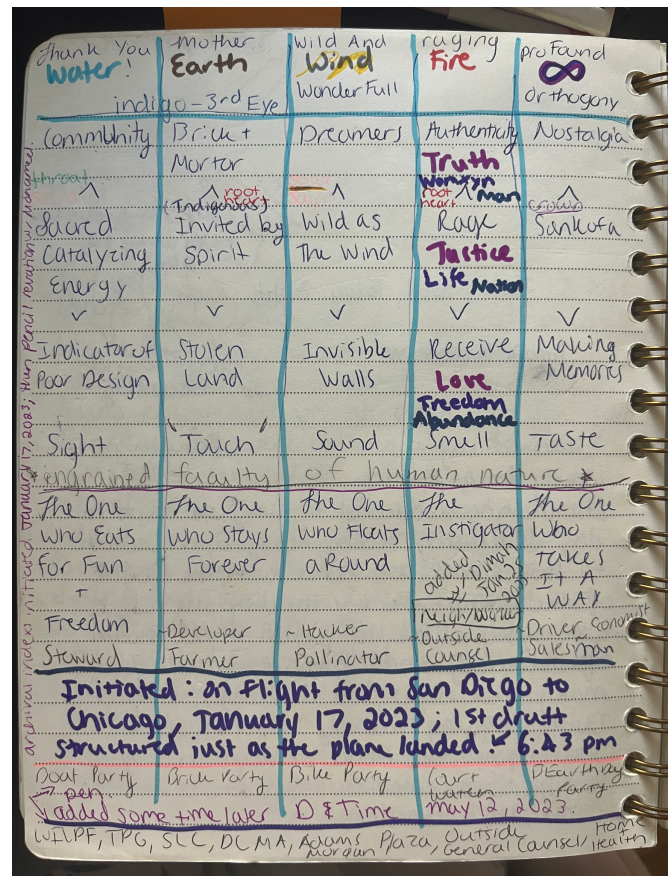
My Home <> Chocolate City <> Occupied

Piscataway Territory

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Glossary

Palimpsest: a manuscript or piece of writing material on which the original writing has been effaced to make room for later writing but of which traces remain.

Sovereign: Anyone Who Speaks Their Truth + Makes Their Best Choices
Seeking To Find AlignMeant with All that Is aRound Them

[AlignMeant](#) (see In The End)

Punctuation: anything lowercase is from the upside-down world; Uppercase Means it's
Right-Side Up!

Womxyn: Any One Who Seeks Continuous GROWth And enLightenMeant

My Home <> My Sovereignty ~ <Spirit Mind Body>



Artwork to accompany poem by Eve Setareh Vasefi

The Ocean is for ME*
By: Tara Vassefi

The Ocean is for ME

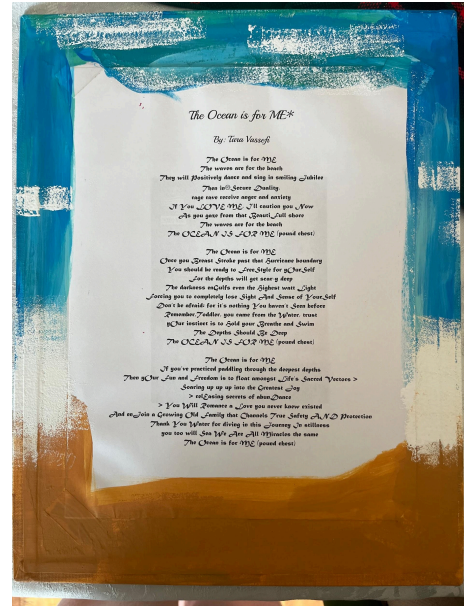
Palimpsest by Sovereign Tara Vassefi
Sourced from Fellow Sovereigns and in Sovereignty

The waves are for the beach
They will Positively dance and sing
in smiling Jubilee
Then in ☺ Secure Duality, rage rave receive
anger and anxiety
If You LOVE ME, I'll caution you Now
As you gaze from that BeautiFull shore
The waves are for the beach
The OCEAN IS FOR ME (pound chest)

The Ocean is for ME
Once you Breast Stroke past that
Hurricane boundary
You should be ready to FreeStyle for yOurSelf
For the depths will get scar-y deep
The darkness enGulfs even the
Highest watt Light
Forcing you to completely lose Sight
And Sense of YourSelf
Don't be afraid: for it's nothing You haven't Seen before
Remember, Toddler, you came from the Water, trust
yOur instinct is to Hold your Breathe and Swim
The Depths Should Be Deep
The OCEAN IS FOR ME (pound chest)

The Ocean is for ME
If you've practiced paddling through the deepest depths
Then yOur Fun and Freedom is to float amongst
Life's Sacred Vectors >
Soaring up up up into the Greatest Joy >
relEasing secrets of abunDance >
You Will Romance a Love you never knew existed
And enJoin a Growing Old Family that Channels
True
Safety AND Protection
Thank You Water for diving in this Journey
In stillness you too will Sea
We Are All Miracles the same
The Ocean is for ME (pound chest)

*Mother Earth, New Moon in Auspicious August "August 27-28, 2022"



ایماندوس بر من است
موجم بر سر من
و در کار سره دهند بکنند فرج بخش

بایک زودان سعلق و تا به
خشم و دلفغان
خشم و دلفغان را در روستا کنند

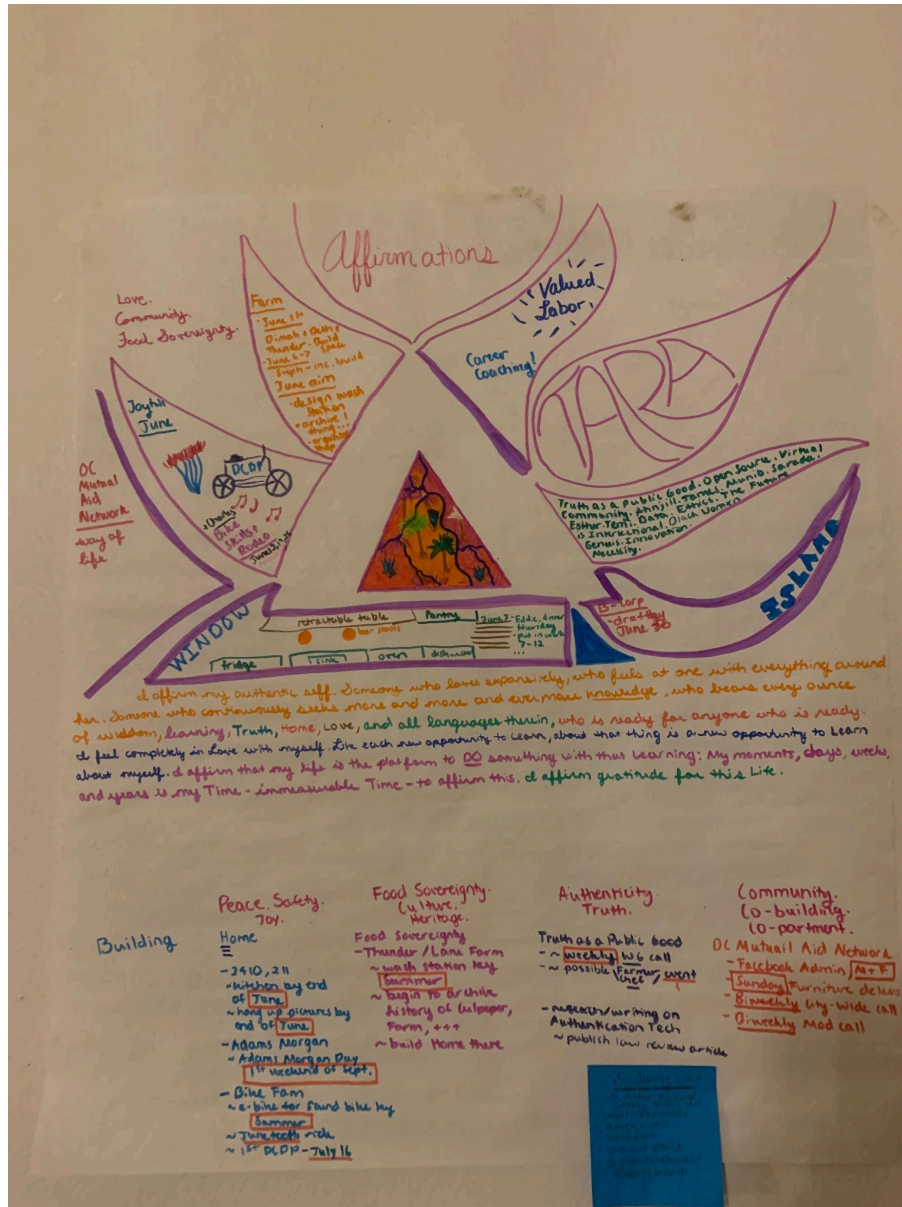
در حالیکه از ساعده ریه به چش و رفته است
موجم بر سر من است
و ایماندوس بر من است (بایدست به بنیاد است کجوب)

و قند من به موجم مازد و بنیاد من کن
و قند من به موجم مازد و بنیاد من کن
خود را بر سر من بنیاد من کن
از حق تر من است ایماندوس
ما را به وظایف هر چیز را خود طرد من کن
حقا با لایق من کن

ما را به جمود است ما کنده در چیز را نمی بنیاد هیچ چیز را
حقا خدایت را
نقد من از چیز را به بنیاد من کن قبل از این که داری
به یاد کار را تو نه به راه رفتن افتاده ای

از آب آمده ای . من / کن به خود خویش باش .
به غریزه ما اهل بیت /
که نفس است را نده رایی ، دشمن کنی ،
تحقیق به بهر محقق باشند .
ایماندس بر من (بادت به بنیاد کجوب)
اگر تمام قایم کردن را در محقق آب تو من کنی ، من
تفریع است ، اگر از است ، یعنی در آب شفا و بر
در میان راه می قدس و پر از خوف زندگی .
و بعد که به بالا می پیری به بالا تر شادی ؛
هم از می خردان را بر است از از من کند .
دلبسته مرده و غریب از محقق که قبلاً حق نمی دانستی که وجود داشته اند ،
و یک خانه قدیمی در حال رشد را احوال می کند ،
که از گذرگاهها ، مصلحت و دنیا در هند و اسی می گذرد .
ممنون از قدس آب ! که مرا در این سفر همراه و همدم بودی
به حرف آرامش و سکینه قلب
که تو هم آنرا را خواص ندیدی .
همه ما یک معجزه ایم ، یکان
ایماندس بر من (بادت به بنیاد کجوب)

My Home <> Kalorama ~ “The Most Beautiful View” in Greek



Joyful June Affirmations

I am one of those people: who hasn't had any need to buy anything online; who hasn't bought any new retail since 2012, unless it was directly from the maker/artisan. I realize this

sounds extreme but I'm representative of a group of people who have more and more of the purchasing power: see examples of Forever 21 declaring bankruptcy, that Gen Z isn't buying from Gap etc. anymore <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-49874688>

I was carrying on with this life completely detached from what others were doing/buying. I had learned for myself that this way of life was not only wonderfully removed from capitalistic oppression but it exposed the LIES that participating in the system makes things cheap and convenient.

The Big Fat Lie that is "capitalism" : private ownership of the [means of production]" :: "means of production" : humans :: Capitalism: private ownership of humans

It ain't cheap...

- Fast fashion - how can that shirt cost \$8 - over-produce to artificially inflate supply >< demand - 70% of fast fashion goes into landfills
- Gentrification - how colonizers steal land to make it boring, dangerous and EXPENSIVE <https://www.ksl.com/article/50513820/lehi-begins-removing-more-than-300-trees-from-n-neighborhood>
- Planned Obsolescence - it's cheaper to buy things from the Before Times when things were made to last and be fixed
- Sickcare System - we're *paying* with our bodies - stress is the number one killer
- Humans cannot BE privately-Owned

Adding to the absurdity that so many of us believe these big fat lies, I can tell you that taking up as little space as possible and seeking alignment with all that is around you is non-stop FUN! Music ALL THE TIME, Celebrations of Life, Street Festivals, Dancing, Block Parties, Bike Parties, Drum Circles, Midnight Races, Dancing, Park Outings, Engaging Conversation, Cook Outs, Free Markets, Embodiment, Joyful June, Jubilant July, Abundant August Arrives, Splendiferous September, Outstanding Organizing October, November by #Numbers, Dream Designs December, Jump in January ...then rest and reTreat for the Winter and come back Ready to Spring!

My Home <> Adams Morgan

Memory Booth <> Connecting Inter-Generational Knowledge-Bearing

The Memory Booth is a concept I began conceptualizing in the Summer of 2020 when, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the longest running street festival in Chocolate City - Adams Morgan Day - had to shift to a mostly virtual space. Under the guidance of that year's Cultural Heritage Lead Margaux Granat, we began thinking of different ways to capture our neighborhood's rich cultural heritage through social media and other virtual interactivity. This led me to a truly remarkable person: **Sovereign Nancy Shia**

From Out My Window <https://www.outmywindowbynancyshia.org/about>

Excerpt >>>

“For forty years, the respected community photographer and local activist Nancy Shia has lived in an apartment on the corner of Ontario Street and Columbia Road. During that time she has taken countless photographs of the Columbia Heights, Adams Morgan, and Mount Pleasant neighborhoods.

Ranging from a powerful series of photos of homeless women and men who gathered outside her window and whom she befriended and worked closely with, to numerous photos of the DC Festival Latino Parades that for decades marched outside her window, Nancy Shia has compiled a significant and remarkable collection of a community not only in transition, but one on the verge of being completely forgotten and erased. Her photographs include African Americans protesting against gentrification in the 1970s, the renaming of Rabaut Park to "Parque Farabundo Marti," the decades-long changes to Walter Pierce Park, the growing Afro- Latinx community, and the gentrification of 18th Street and Columbia Road.

Shia's photographs are an invaluable historical archive of Central American, Latinx, Afro-Latinx, and African-American communities that deserve to be remembered and honored.”

>>> The aim of this website is to archive and exhibit Shia's collection for use by teachers, students, and community members. These photos, many of which have never before been exhibited, provide an important narrative of neighborhood activities, including local politics, work, community activism, homelessness, immigrant businesses, and the remaking of space over time.

While much has been written and exhibited concerning gentrification, we know little of how and why neighborhoods change over time. What are some of the factors that have allowed gentrification and neighborhood change to happen in the first place? What do we remember, what do we forget, and why?

Unlike other sources, there is a fixed, intransigent quality to photos and photographic archives that cannot be easily mitigated or erased with alternative narratives and interpretations. It is a source that demands to be seen, understood, and historically contextualized. Photos, as historical markers, can and do change minds.

By teaching students how to interpret visual culture, in particular photography to understand historical moments and events, we allow for an opening, a rethinking of how to *see* those things we often take for granted. As students become increasingly invested in visual learning and online courses, Shia's archive of photos can assist teachers with resources to create a different learning experience and to help students understand what are often tedious, layered, and difficult urbanist concepts of change. Students are encouraged to interpret these photos and write their own stories. And finally, the photos are a powerful reminder of the history of immigrant and communities of color in D.C. An active documentation of communities and neighborhoods that are so easily erased by development and convenient forgetting.

>>> Nancy Shia Bio

I began taking pictures of people sitting on a park bench on the New Haven Green in Connecticut during a gap year between high school and college. My first job out of high school was working for Community Progress Inc., a community organization that was part of President Johnson's Great Society Program. My first camera was the Polaroid Swinger. The job gave me the opportunity to photograph people and neighborhoods in New Haven.



>>> Nancy Shia at work

Two years later, I was living in New York City and using an Asahi Pentax Spotmatic 35mm camera. I had a darkroom in my apartment and was photographing street life and studying sociology and photography at the City College of New York (CCNY). While at CCNY, Black and Puerto Rican students shut down the college two spring semesters in a row to protest a lack of minority enrollment in the college. Documenting these protests felt like writing history. The antiwar movement was in full bloom, and I began attending big demonstrations in Washington D.C. After CCNY, I studied social work at Columbia University and documented the upper West Side neighborhood I lived in. I also photographed East Harlem, where I was assigned to the legal services office to help

organize tenants, and I began to photograph people actively organizing around housing.

In 1972, I moved to D.C. to go to Antioch Law School. For the first six weeks of law school, Antioch placed students with a low-income family in D.C. I lived in Clifton Terrace with Ma Pat, a community organizer who introduced me to community leaders and taught me a lot about Chocolate City.

>>> Project Director's Statement - **Nancy Raquel Mirabal**



Nancy Raquel Mirabal and Nancy Shia

By Nancy Raquel Mirabal, Project Director

The Out My Window Project came about one afternoon as I was visiting with Nancy Shia at her apartment on the corner of Columbia Road and Ontario in Adams Morgan. Recounting decades of photographing events, people, and moments, she turned to me and said, “if you only knew how much I’ve seen and photographed out my window.”

The Out My Window Project is both material and metaphor. Not all of the photos have been taken out of Nancy Shia’s window, but the window as metaphor and opening, explains her commitment and passion for photographing her neighborhood and community. She is one, if not the only photographer, to have photographed the same D.C. neighborhoods for close to forty years. That alone is an unparalleled achievement that allows us, the viewer, the rare privilege to witness these communities evolve and change over time.

In a time of continuous and uncritical visuality, a period marked by social media that demands our constant attention and gaze, Shia’s photos ask that we see with intention. That we understand the precarity of bygone moments and the tenuous stillness of now. Her photos are a reminder of neighborhood histories and experiences that are continually being shaped and guided by generations of families, communities and networks that all lived, worked, resisted, and played here before and *during* the revitalization programs, gentrification, and economic displacement. Communities made up of African Americans, immigrants from all parts of Mexico, Central America, the Caribbean, and North Africa who called Adams Morgan, Columbia Heights and Mount Pleasant their home.

By taking these photos, Shia has marked and defined historical moments and events. Her photos document political movements, community activism, changing neighborhoods, and shared joy that until now, and with the publication of her photos, we might not have known existed. There, out of her window — both physical and metaphorical — perched with a camera in her hand, Shia has recorded an invaluable and powerful photographic history that eludes the unthinkable and makes visible the truly extraordinary.

Nancy Raquel Mirabal is an associate professor at the University of Maryland, a board member at Teaching for Change, and project director for Out My Window.

>>> The Out My Window website was created by Teaching for Change (<https://www.teachingforchange.org/>) as a resource for D.C. area teachers, students, and the wider community. Teaching for Change will continue to collect and share teaching ideas and

stories about how the photos are being used in classrooms. Out My Window is part of the collection of resources for D.C. area teachers on local history (<https://www.dcareeducators4socialjustice.org/local-history>).

Out My Window was supported by a DC Community Heritage Project (DCCHP <https://humanitiesdc.org/grants/dc-community-heritage-project-grant/>) grant to Teaching for Change from HumanitiesDC as part of the “Humanities Grant Program,” an initiative funded by the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities (<https://dcarts.dc.gov/>). The DC Community Heritage Project is a partnership of HumanitiesDC and the DC Historic Preservation Office.

The website was designed by Teaching for Change Creative Coordinator Mykella Palmer-McCalla.

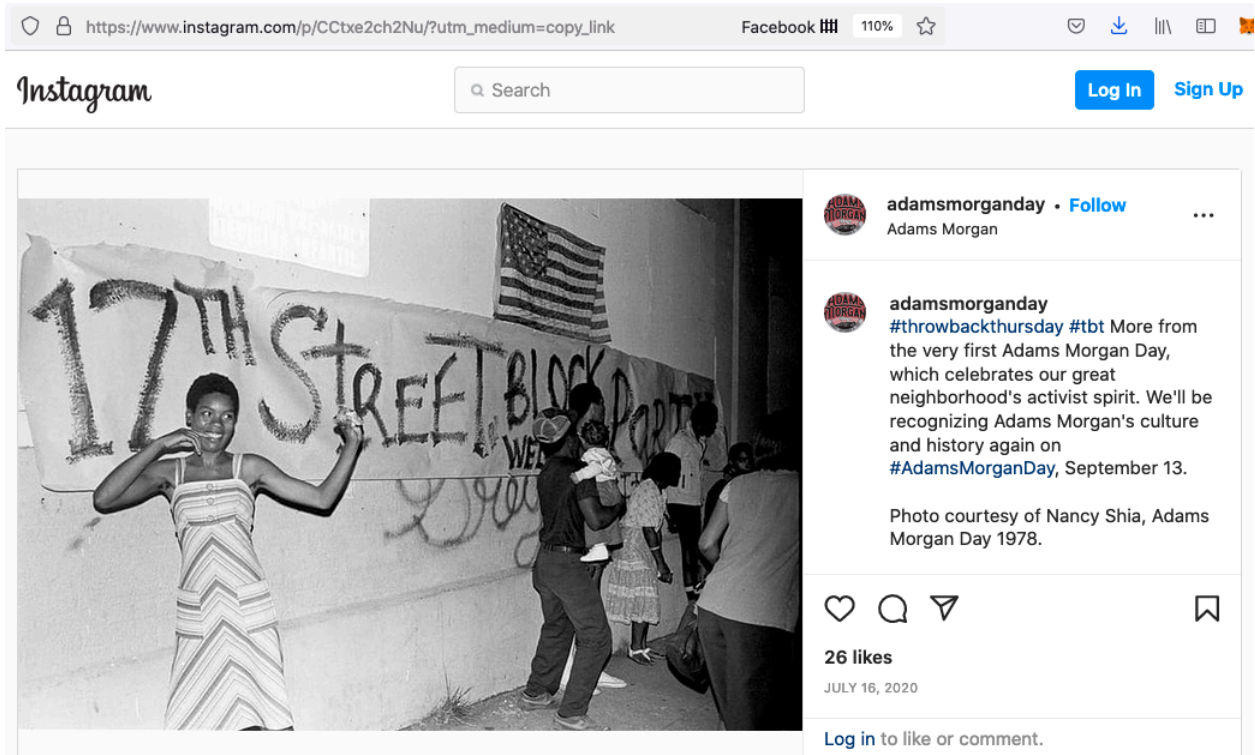
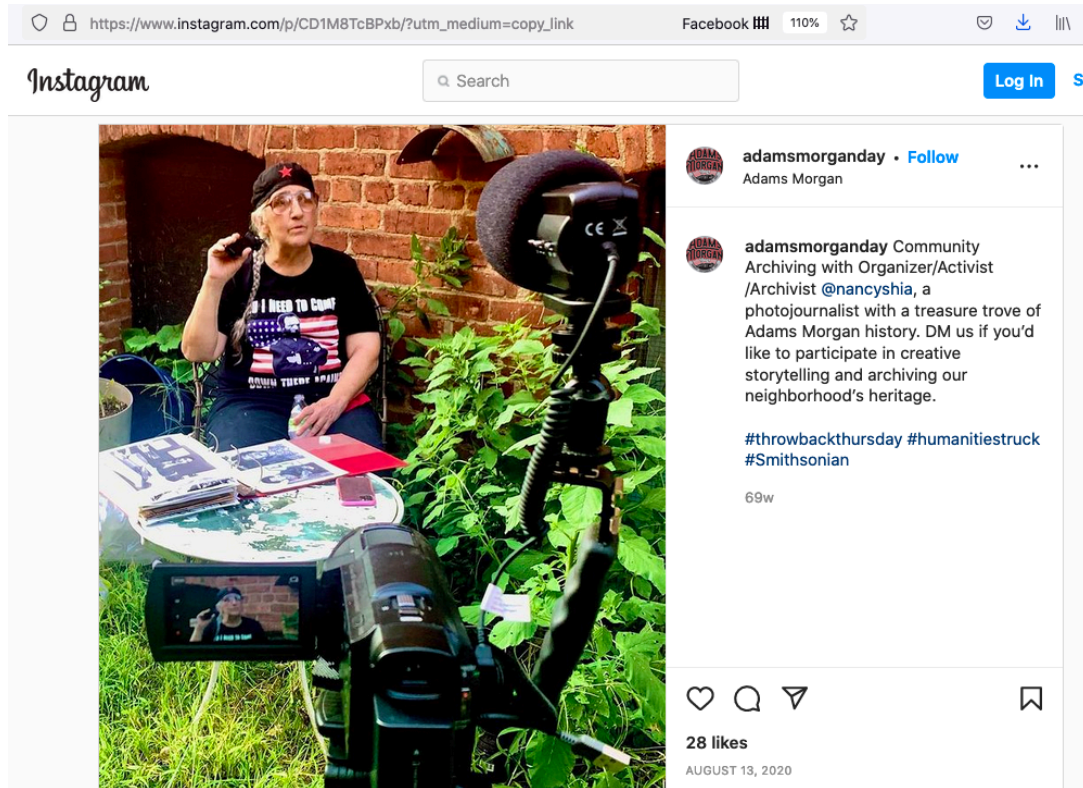
Excerpt >>> From Out My Window <https://www.outmywindowbynancyshia.org/about>

Meeting Nancy and building a complicated, intimate relationship with her will always be a big beautiful antique chandelier in my Home. Having that Time and Space to peek through the eyes of someone who has been around your Home longer than you have is a magnificent experience.



Palimpsest by Sovereign Tara Vassefi
Sourced from Fellow Sovereigns and in Sovereignty

https://www.instagram.com/p/CD1M8TcBPxb/?utm_medium=copy_link
https://www.instagram.com/p/CCtXe2ch2Nu/?utm_medium=copy_link
https://www.instagram.com/p/CEsA3vJhmap/?utm_medium=copy_link



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Memory Booth <> Adams Morgan Day 2021

The following year, Adams Morgan Day 2021, I was asked to be the Cultural Heritage Lead and I had a full list of ideas, including the Memory Booth! And this time, I found the perfect Space to Build it.

Why: “Memory is mouth to ear. It’s not in the history books.” - Dr. Greg Carr

(<https://gs.howard.edu/content/greg-e-carr>); on WPFW 89.3 To Heal DC episode Black August: Movement and Memory

(<https://www.tohealdc.org/home/episode/8ff4ce29/black-august-movement-and-memory>) - the Blood that Runs from Nat Turner to Emmitt Till to George Jackson

Who: A collaborative Community project with La Manpleza Film

(<https://www.lamanplesafilm.com/>) + Mt. Pleasant Public Library

(<https://www.dclibrary.org/mtpleasant>) + Adams Morgan Day 2021 (<https://www.admoday.com/>)

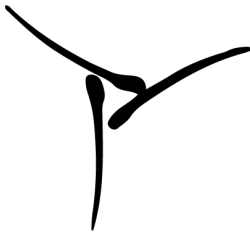
What: A physical space where neighbors from across generations can

1. [Offer Artefacts](#)
2. [Time Machine](#)
3. [Share Memories](#)
4. Archive Untold Stories
5. [DESIGN and BUILD the Memory Booth](#)
 - a. Social media outreach in weeks leading up to event - solicit design ideas from the Community
 - b. Day of facilitation by [Matthew McCentee + Make Fix Anything](#) and Justin Bell

Where: Kalorama Park, on the corner of 19th and Columbia

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the make/fix
anything project



MATTHEWMAKER.COM



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Memory Booth <> Offer Artefacts

Offering Artefacts means to give something that you Value <> Hold Dear to a person/place/thing you Trust to take care of it for However Long You'd Like Them To Hold It. Sometimes That Person/Place/Thing Will Be Less Valuable To You Than The Person/Place/Thing You Are Showing It To. If You Feel That Way, Gift It Freely. That Thing Will Be Received as a BIG BIG GIFT To Them And They Remember It All-Ways!

Examples:

Pictures, books, other objects that activate Movement + Memory

Tara Vassefi + Maman Bozorg's (*Farsi: Grandmother's*) Trunk

Adams Morgan for Reasonable Development video: <https://fb.watch/7IOieAxHx2/>



Memory Booth <> Time Machine

Sometimes You'll Find Things That Were Made A Long Time Ago. These Things Can Make You Feel That You Are In A Time Machine. Look At Them Closely. They Have Clues About What Our Ancestors Knew And What We Have Forgotten.

Be Transported in Time: when material consumption was designed to last for decades and across generations

Examples:

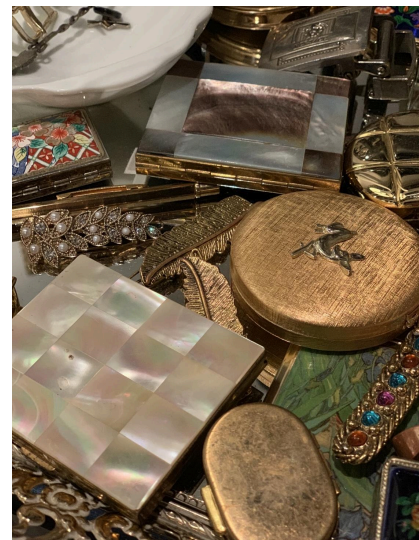
Saluting local consignment/vintage/previously-loved shops: Pack Light DC

(https://www.instagram.com/pack_light_dc/), Meeps

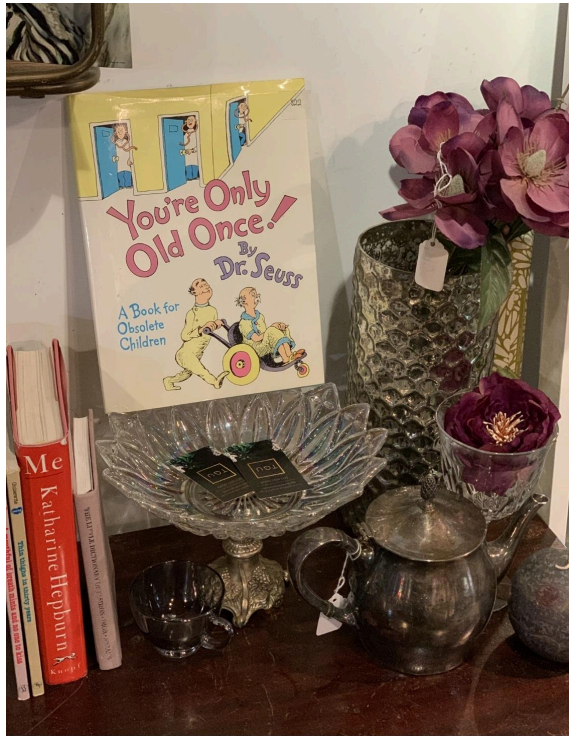
(<https://www.instagram.com/meepsdc/?hl=en>), Mercedes Bien

(<https://www.instagram.com/mercedesbienvintage/?hl=en>)

These are pictures of when Tara had a pop-up curiosity shop and event space called The Golden Underground.



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Memory Booth <> Share Memories

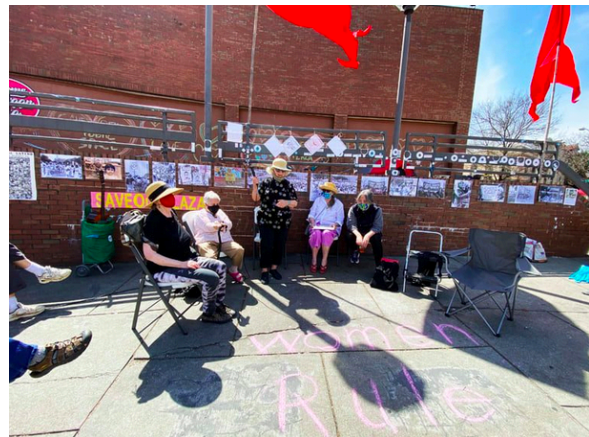
If You Look Around You and You See Someone Who Looks Like They Might Be Older Than You, Chances Are They Have FASCINATING Stories That You Would LOVE TO HEAR. Get Some Chairs and Some Snacks, Ask Them Questions, Try To Listen Closely and Remember What They Say.

Example: The History of Women in Adams Morgan at The People's Plaza

Share Memories <> lounge area for memory sharing + storytelling

See full photo album here: <https://www.facebook.com/admo4rd/posts/5283638261710765>

On **Saturday March 27th**, 2021 from 10am-2pm at the Adams Morgan Plaza at 18th and Columbia, the Adams Morgan Community was treated to a celebration of the History of the Women of Adams Morgan. Women gathered. Women sang. Women remembered. The times we had to "fight the patriarchy" are still with us, our minds and hearts. And sometimes still in our daily lives.



Did you know there was a women's collective on 18th Street that produced a women's newspaper called Off Our Backs? Did you know there was an active women's center



in

at

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1851 Biltmore Street? Women who were part of this history of Adams Morgan in the 1970s, '80s and '90s will be on hand to share their recollections of the radical activism that went on right here in Adams Morgan. There will be a photo exhibit of previously unseen historical images of women's activism in Adams Morgan and DC, including marches, demonstrations and actions taken in support of the Equal Rights Amendment. All this, AND we will be led in song by Luci Murphy, longtime community, national, international and women's activist and an amazing singer. It will be like "Old Home Day" for the older women of Adams Morgan. You can call us old, but please don't call us elderly.

Memory Booth <> Capture Untold Stories

Anytime You Hear or See A Beautiful, Beautiful Story That You've Never Heard Before, You Might Feel That You Want To Somehow Remember That Story Forever! When You Feel This Way, You Can Take A Pen, Paper, Phone, Recorder, Canvas, Camera, Piano, Guitar, Anything You WANT And Capture That Story! Even If You've Heard It Before, You Might Learn or See or Hear or Feel A Part Of The Story That Is Really Special To You. THAT's The Part You Should Definitely Capture!

Example:

Archive Untold Stories with the Humanities Truck

1. Audio archiving - call and leave a voicemail story;
2. Video archiving - <https://theirstory.io/>
3. Inside of the Humanities Truck is soundproof for other recording
4. Boom-mic set-up to do the recordings in the Memory Booth lounge area

Memory Booth <> DESIGN and BUILD A Space

If You Look Around And You See That You Have A Lot of Memories and Artefacts and Things That You Have Collected Over The Years And They Need a Home, You Can Dream Designs of What That Home Should Look Like. If You Feel Like Doing Something Fun With Your Hands One Afternoon, You Can BUILD That Home That You Dreamed and Designed.

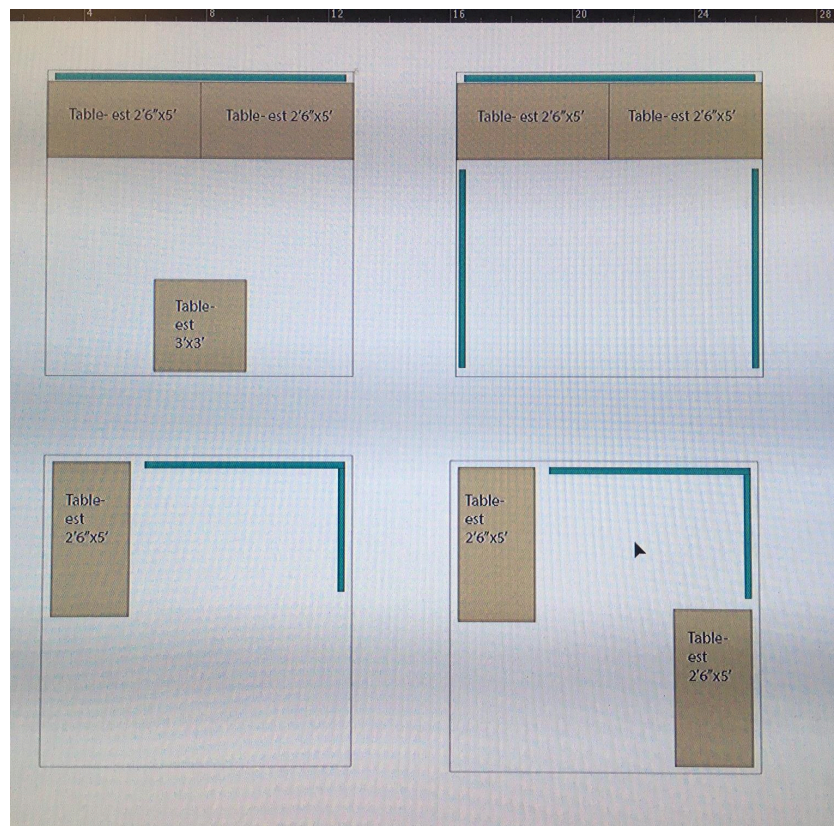
Example: La Manplesa Film Memory Booth

- The Memory Booth will go to each screening of La Manplesa Film and end up at the Mt. Pleasant Public Library. How do we design the initial Build for something that is mobile, long term, and evolutionary?
- The Memory Booth will be a living object, reflecting the Community. How can we make this physical objective alive, interactive, and accessible?
- The Memory Booth will serve as a portal to memorialize and archive the experiences, knowledge-bearing, and legacy of our beloved predecessors and ancestors? How can we incorporate technical archival and sharing methods (audio, video, etc.) to be radically accessible?

Justin Bell's Design - first social media outreach and solicitation post

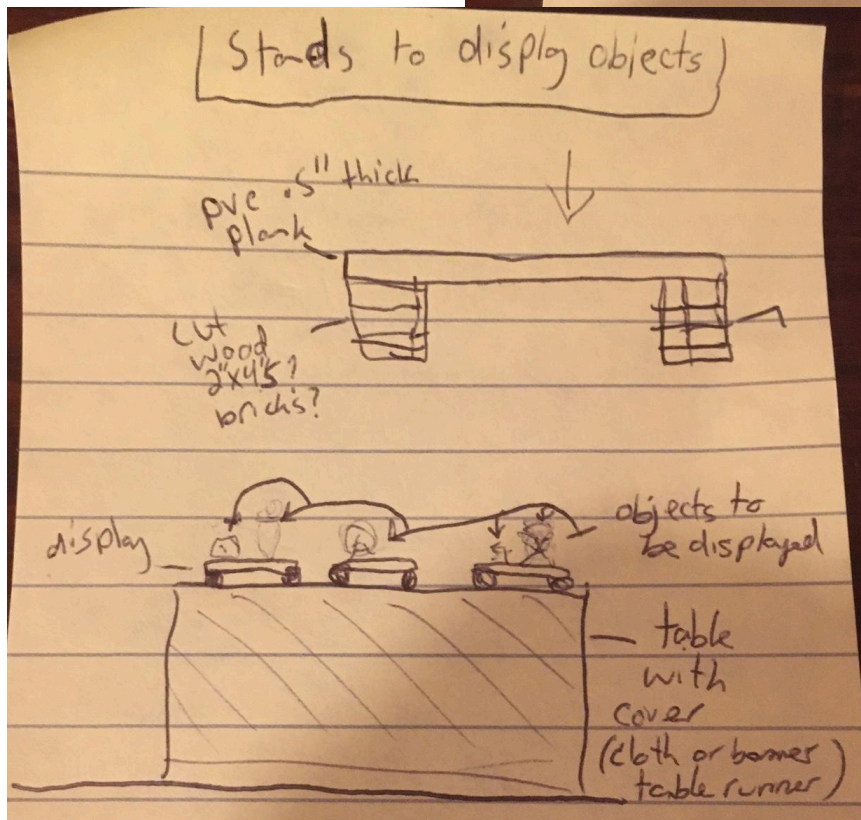
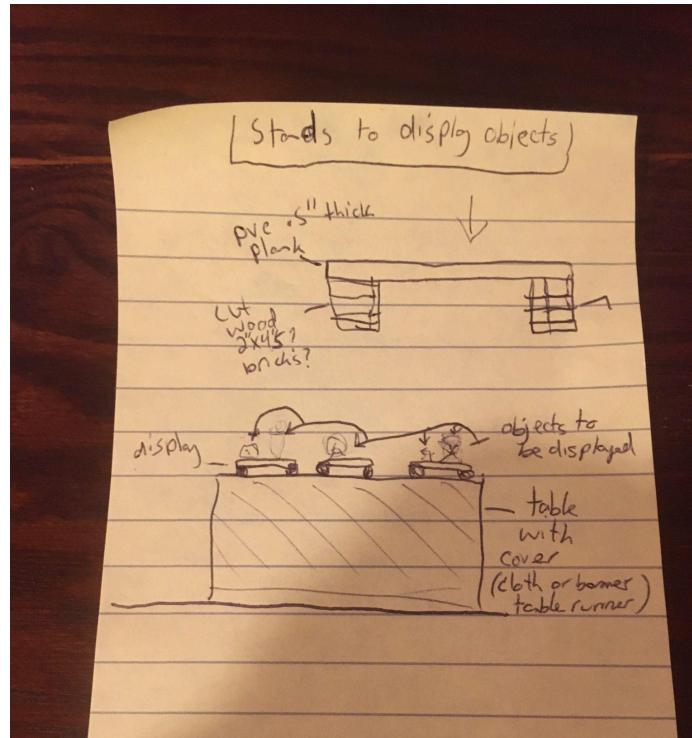
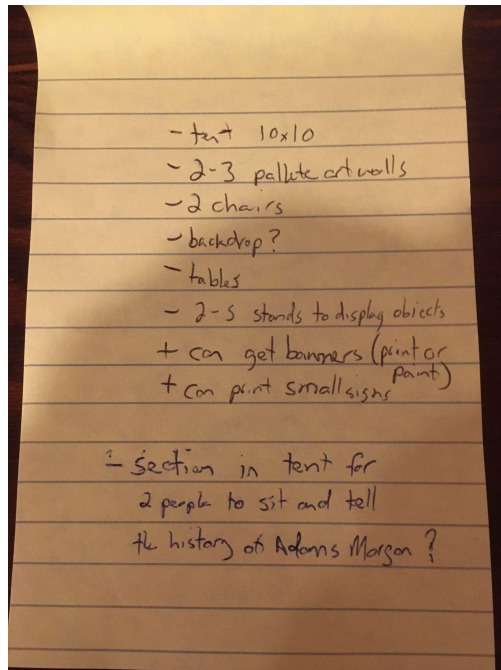
From Justin Bell:

I sketched out some wood pallet art walls, basically cutting a 4x8 pallet in half, turning it upright and putting bracers on the base, then covering the two sides with materials to hide the pallet underneath... one side would have the wood planks behind the print face so screws can be drilled in to hang any art/object brought.. figured the opposite side could have



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a collage or other visual thing to look cool. They could be inside the tent or outside in the park space, generally acting as a wall to hang things.. could prob make 2-3. There's a rough sketch of the racks displays, it's basically just an 18x6x1/2 inch acrylic Abel with wood or bricks underneath that can keep the display board elevated off a table, or whatever it's on.. I've got chairs that can be used, plus the tent..



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Action Items + Next Steps

- ☒ ~~Initial ideation discussion on Tuesday July 27 - Tara and Ellie (the director)~~
- ☒ ~~Design Session with Manuel Mendez, Justin Bell, Ellie Walton, Sami, Tara on Wednesday, August 4 at 5pm~~
- ☒ ~~Tara to connect with Michele C.~~
- ☒ ~~Ellie to connect with Joselyn F.~~
- ☒ ~~Tara to talk to the Humanities Truck about archiving component.~~
- ☒ ~~Design physical space!~~
 - ☒ ~~Ideate with Justin B. about physical build - Design session Tuesday August 17~~
 - ☒ ~~Finalize budget with Andrew~~
 - ☒ ~~Share with La Manpleza folks, Justin, Matt, Quique, Nancy, Sami+++~~
 - ☒ ~~Finalize with Dan K. about [Humanities Truck](#) archiving component~~
 - ☒ ~~Finalize dress up components (Pack Light, Mercedes Bien, Meeps, others...)~~
- ☒ ~~Informed Consent Form~~
 - ☒ ~~Ellie to send Tara current informed consent form(s)~~
 - ☒ ~~Tara to finalize first draft of informed consent form by Sunday, September 12~~
- ☒ ~~List of Engagement Touch Points~~
 - ☒ ~~Sonya - draft blurb about blank poster concept~~
 - ☒ ~~Cindy to design blank poster~~
 - ☒ ~~Ellie - to finalize recording/archival/technical components~~
 - ☒ ~~Also look at <https://open-archive.org/Save-Launch/> (Open Source option - I sit on the Board of Open Archive so can get this going easily)~~
 - ☒ ~~Tara to draft full list of engagement touch points~~

Inspiration:

- i. La Manpleza film+++ <https://www.lamanplesafilm.com/screenings> - interested in having a memory booth at screenings etc.; ~September 15 with Mt. Pleasant
- ii. Adams Morgan Day Community Archive:
https://www.instagram.com/p/CD1M8TcBPxb/?utm_medium=copy_link +
https://www.instagram.com/p/CCtXe2ch2Nu/?utm_medium=copy_link +
https://www.instagram.com/p/CEsA3vJhmap/?utm_medium=copy_link
- iii. Website about the displaced New Orleans - ties to building
- iv. Mt. Pleasant Public Library - oral histories of the neighborhood+++

My Home <> Chocolate City <> Occupied Piscataway Territory

I was born in modern-day Iran. My father came to Turtle Island first to prepare our Home there. Somehow, without speaking the language, he instantly made friends and got a job at a gas station. He picked us up from the Los Angeles Airport on September 9, 1990. I was almost 4 years old at the time and hadn't seen him in a year so I was shy and holding back. He gave me a little stuffed bunny that I still have all these years later! Then he took us to our new Home and my parents were determined to Build a Beautiful Life For Us. I grew up and as soon as I was old enough to leave my parents Home with their permission, I set out to See As Much Sacred Land and Its Inhabitants as I could. I traveled all over the world. I climbed Mountains in Morocco, I picked Coffee Beans in Colombia, I Danced Danced Danced pretty much every day. I usually say I lived in "43 Countries" but the Truth is that I Totally Lost Count. I tried and failed and tried and failed and finally learned 1) how to realllyyyyyy stretch a dollar, 2) to take up very little space, 3) use my luck and wit to go wherever my legs could carry me and my small travel bag.

Of all the places I went and all the people I met and all the things that I saw, for some reason my favorite of all is called Chocolate City or sometimes it's called Occupied Piscataway Territory and sometimes it's called washington, dc. I love this place so much its Home with a Big Fat Capital H!

During The Great Pandemic of 2020, I witnessed what I now call "The Great Awakening of the Divine Feminine." No one understands what I mean by it but if I had to describe it in the simplest way it means that You Have the Power to Love Just Because That's What You Choose For Yourself and no one else. I saw this Power Alllllllll Around Me and I'd Felt It In Myself for So Long that I was SOOOOO Excited to See SOOOOOOO Many Examples of Other People's Power! All Different Shapes and Sizes and Colors of People Dropped What They Were Doing And They Gave Up Everything They Could To Their Neighbors. It Was a Magnificent Time.

I Feel So LUCKY That I Got To See That! And I Had To Build A Memory Booth
For Everything I Saw:

Mutual Aid <> Solidarity Not Charity: neighbors working together to meet
our basic needs: food/water, health, safety, mobility/access.

DC Mutual Aid Network Community Archive

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1OJw_9B9giNUD84JfYClS1g-CCkBFJM?usp=sharing

Through the healing pilgrimage and constant ritual of organizing Mutual Aid I came
across something that has now become like Scripture to me: Black Food Geographies: Race,
Self-Reliance, and Food Access in Washington, DC by Dr. Ashante M. Reese. Quote pg. 9 “
because of the presumed nothingness...”

There are two kinds of people who participate in the circular economy: people who
choose to and those who are forced to because of structural oppression and racism. Those who
choose to are ... those who are forced to ...

Plastic Waste <> Paradigm One



Background: 11:25 - 21:00 of 09/25/20 Founders Call: I provide critical background to set the
stage for why it was an instant "yes" when John asked me to be his co-founder. If you are limited
on time and can only listen to one portion of this, I would say this is the crux for me and I think
it will provide a lot of clarity about the "clash of the babies" ;-) and why, as I mentioned on the

call yesterday, I almost instantly noticed that we were going to have serious problems if we didn't communicate through this potential for misalignment early and often; something I started doing in my mind and to the best of my abilities around the time that we completed the NSF I-Corps course in May. I've attached the corresponding content I was referencing while talking to John about this. My last business, The Golden Underground, was the first round of proper experimentation and data collection in what I mean when I coined the phrase "Socialization of the Circular Economy" - Community, Dreamers, Brick, Authenticity, Nostalgia (I don't know why but I always forget the last one, even though it's actually what I consider to be the most fun part of all of this because of my deep love of Jazz, Billie Holiday, Vintage/Consignment shops, Estate Sales, and a time when things were designed and built to last for as long as possible and be handed down to the next generation) - Note: would like to incorporate some of these images into the article

Black Power >< White Violence

My Home <> Turtle Island

White-Violence Safeguarded

<>

Black Bodies Abducted

Testimony provided by Tara Vassefi for Wednesday, November 10, 2021 hearing
Judiciary Judiciary Committee Roundtable on DC Jail Conditions

Hello my name is Tara Vassefi and I am an attorney specialized in the use of nascent technologies and digital evidence for humanitarian and human rights justice and accountability. In my most recent employment, I served as Washington Director of Strategic Initiatives and Legal Scholar for a company called Truepic, that uses

blockchain, computer vision, and AI for digital image authentication. I was removed from that position in November 2019 after I vocalized and sought to correct serious and wide ranging ethical issues within the company. Since the pandemic hit, I've been struggling with unemployment but also relishing in the joy and privilege of working with the DC Mutual Aid Network:

a leaderful Community of neighbors working together to meet each other's basic needs: food/water, health, housing, safety.

Chocolate City, aka Unseated Piscataway Territory, aka washington dc has a long, rich history of Mutual Aid particularly within the Black Church and amongst the historically-segregated neighborhoods East of the [Anacostia] River ("EOR"). To learn more about this history, I would recommend what I believe should be required reading for all District residents and visitors: ***Black Food Geographies: Race, Self-Reliance, and Food Access in Washington, DC***

(<https://uncpress.org/book/9781469651507/black-food-geographies/>) written by Professor Ashanté M. Reese (<https://www.amreese.com/>). Dr. Reese spent nearly a decade doing ethnographic and empirical research on ~Chocolate Cities and Towns across this country, focusing on this fascinating nexus of race, self-reliance and food access, and she Chose to focus her dissertation on our beloved Home because of the unique lessons and dynamics she observed here.

"Black Food Geographies" toggles between macro-level analyses of food apartheid and micro-level analyses of how residents navigate the unequal food landscape... The historical and ongoing significance of race at the intersections of capitalist accumulation, dispossession, and residential segregation requires an understanding of how the geographic distribution of food is a reflection of anti-Blackness and oppression as much as it is about class and economic capital... The increasingly corporatized food **system is not simply unequal, it is a by-product of how structural racism touches every aspect of life -- even where our food resources are located.** (*emphasis added*)

This 2020 iteration of Mutual Aid in our City was catalyzed out of East of the River (“EOR”) by longtime Black Lives Matter and adjacent activists and it sparked the Spirit of so many people that within a matter of days, neighbors had set up a network of grocery-deliveries to high-risk neighbors that was so speedy, effective, and efficient that the DC Government and Mayor’s Covid response initiatives attempted to pass it off as their own. See also: **“Is The City’s COVID Helpline Directing Callers to DC Mutual Aid?”**

<https://www.hillrag.com/2020/04/15/is-dc-covid-19-hotline-directing-callers-to-get-help-from-neighbors/>; annotated version accessible at the DC Mutual Aid Network

Community Archive:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CV_dIkSh16DuM45LuuIMt9HrE8ON9FWR/view?usp=sharing

Palimpsest by Sovereign Tara Vassefi
Sourced from Fellow Sovereigns and in Sovereignty



Caption: Facebook Screenshots of City's Covid Cooption - White-Violence Safeguarded and Black Bodies Abducted Archive - DC Mutual Aid Network Community Archive - screenshot on 9Nov2021

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PbuIddLzZKRNT3IHLy9z-P6l-rEea6_72-qdyTHGrpY/edit?usp=sharing

I was among the millions, maybe even billions of people further Activated by the Lynching of George Floyd and spent much of the Summer of 2020 doing Legal Observation and other activities at Black Lives Matter Memorial Plaza. The one piece of video I feel comfortable sharing in this forum from the White-Violence Safeguarded <> Black Bodies Abducted archive is the attached footage from August 28, 2020 at 12:12 am. The context of this footage is that moments before this video, a white man in Blackface descended onto Black Lives Matter Plaza; he came up to me, Tara Vassefi, the one filming this video, and shoved his phone-camera inches from my face and asked “Why do you think Hillary’s a lesbian.”

There were many people at Black Lives Matter Plaza during that time - many of whom saw the space as a place to meet, connect, empathize, and process the violence they experienced there earlier that summer in the days immediately following the Lynching of George Floyd. It was a particularly unique traumatizing <> healing space for those who had been tear-gassed and assaulted by MPD during those assemblies exercising our First Amendment rights. When the people at Black Lives Matter Plaza saw this white man in Blackface, it was experienced as an assault especially since many of the people there that night and other times of the day and night were Black Citizens communing peacefully and in solidarity in a safe space to dream designs of how to tuck their bodies into the wheels of injustice to stop them from turning while *simultaneously* Building Their Home In Their Image. (See April Renee Goggans referencing Barnard Rustin in the **DC Mutual Aid Network Community Archive Participatory Defense 101** at 00:42:50 of this video

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=381924879467838&id=813752332029653&_rdr ; see archival index here

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1T7MsuzOM00ohcIvepabv2tLA4lP9wgsye4WlBLL6aM/edit>).

Myself and others attempted to peacefully escort him away from the Plaza and as things escalated because he refused to leave, a line of dozens of MPD on bikes emerged

as though out of nowhere, they formed a wall to protect the white man in Blackface and they abducted several Black men in the process - only Black men were abducted. It was so traumatizing that they wouldn't put the white man in Blackface into the police vehicles that were there to remove him from the space. Dozens of MPD officers formed a line with their bodies and their bikes to make sure that the white man in Blackface was kept safe and comfortable in the aftermath of committing this hate crime. When it was deemed safe enough to remove the young white man in Blackface, they gently put him into a MPD vehicle (no arrest or handcuffs) and they drove him to safety.

This video footage depicts the aftermath when MPD officers continued to stand in formation and a witness to this White-Violence Safeguarded <> Black Bodies Abducted recounts what he witnessed to the remaining MPD officers.

I continued to do Legal Observation and other activities at Black Lives Matter Plaza where we would continue to witness over and over again how this violent society and its enforcement mechanism in the form of police state-sponsored violence could not and would not See White-Violence. Visitors to our Home would come to wreak havoc on what they saw as a hotbed of "terrorist organizations" like BLM and Antifa. They were particularly invited by the art and creative expression that blossomed in front of the White House, especially after xxx when president trump tear-gasses protestors to make way for his procession to xxx church and make some kind of a statement to his followers by holding a Bible upside in front a place of worship that since deplored this act of state-sponsored violence.

The number and tempo of these visitors only grew exponentially after Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg transitioned. Shortly after, two Heroines - Nadine and Karen, became the stewards of what is now referred to as the Black Lives Matter Memorial Fence - an open guerilla gallery space dedicated to Black Power, Joy, Resilience, and Vision for Collective Liberation.

I had the honor and privilege of being in a close collective of comrades committed to supporting Nadine and Karen as they lived and guarded the **Black Lives Matter Memorial Fence** <https://www.facebook.com/GuardiansOfTheFence/>. We all worked together in solidarity to meet the basic needs of Nadine, Karen, the stewards of

the **William Thomas Anti-Nuclear Peace Vigil**

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White_House_Peace_Vigil, and the unhoused neighbors who considered the Plaza and its immediate area their residence due to extreme housing injustice in this country's capital.

Proud Boys and MAGA marchers would visit every weekend and here and there throughout the week. Many of them would dress in combat gear with black paint under their eyes. Their public chats and discussions would rally around wild claims that "BLM was bussing in people by the 100s." Mind you, at this time Black Lives Matter DC consisted of eight people <> core organizers who had the good sense to know that these ignorant white supremacists, however misguided, are not the enemy: after Learning and Testing how #WeKeepUsSafe during the two Million MAGA Marches on November 14 and December 12, they *encouraged*

(<https://twitter.com/deliangoncalves/status/1344453765601091587>) comrades and allies to stay away from Federal Government areas on and around January 6, 2021. See e.g., **"Your Silence is Violence: Black Lives Matter DC Calling on Nearby Hotels to Shut Down for Upcoming Protests"**

(<https://www.wusa9.com/article/news/community/equality-matters/black-lives-matter-dc-demands-hotels-shut-down-and-condem-pro-trump-protestors/65-5a5a4747-8f4e-4648-980c-febccd0167be>).

I was at Black Lives Matter Memorial Fence the night of January 5 when the Proud Boys and MAGA were able to get a feel for the Power of breaking through the police officer (human) barricade. It's unclear what they were trying to get to since the only things that were on the other side of the police officer barricade were Nadine, Karen, a handful of other guardians of the Black Lives Matter Memorial Fence, the Fence itself and the White House. And that night marked the very first time that I overheard the officers - who had been tear-gassing, brutalizing, arresting, and abducting protesters for months - expressed any sense of awareness of the threat posed by the Proud Boys and MAGA. I heard them talking to each other about how shocked they were that these people had the gall to break through a police barricade and when one of them saw that I was eavesdropping, he said to me, "you guys were right."

Just after the 6pm Emergency Curfew on January 6, 2021, I sent the following *dispatch* (<https://www.facebook.com/tara.vassefi/posts/10101770874869732>) to my friends and family who were furiously checking in and trying to make sense of what seemed very shocking to them. #WeKeepUsSafe

The police and the system that gives them the power to enforce the laws of this society do what they were *perfectly designed*, **from their inception onward**, to do:

White-Violence Safeguarded <> Black Bodies Abducted

See the critical knowledge-bearing of **Christine A. Platt**

(<https://www.afrominimalist.com/>) who offers an excellent, excellent ~20-minute history lesson from 1418 to today at 3:55-25:30

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OdmJzVwKe1s> in **An Evening with Christine A. Platt**. Ms. Platt is a historian, activist, and author. Her books are *The Truth About Awiti*, a novel merging historical and spiritual explorations of the ongoing effects of slavery and racism, and *Dear Ancestor*, a collection of poetry, focused on the trans-atlantic slave trade and the African diaspora. She has also written a series of children's books, the Ana & Andrew series, which teaches young readers about African-American history and culture.

THE ORIGINS OF WHITE PRIVILEGE

"The events in Jamestown were alarming to the planter elite, who were deeply fearful of the multiracial alliance of [indentured servants] and slaves. Word of Bacon's Rebellion spread far and wide, and several more uprisings of a similar type followed. In an effort to protect their superior status and economic position, the planters shifted their strategy for maintaining dominance. They abandoned their heavy reliance on indentured servants in favor of the importation of more black slaves." – *Michelle Alexander*, Legal Scholar

"Many of the European-descended poor whites began to identify themselves, if not directly with the rich whites, certainly with being white. And here you get the emergence of this idea of a white race as a way to distinguish themselves from those dark-skinned people who they associate with perpetual slavery." – *Robin D. G. Kelley*, Historian

An Evening with Christine A. Platt

62 views • Oct 14, 2020

5 DISLIKE SHARE SAVE ...

THE HISTORY OF RACE & RACISM

- April 1861 – April 1865: America's Civil War; the Union Army defeats the Confederate Army
 - Note: After their defeat, many former Confederate soldiers join police forces thus affording them the opportunity to legally discriminate against and harm black people; mistrust of police by members of the black community becomes deeply rooted in American society.
- December 6, 1865: 13th Amendment Abolishes Slavery in the US
- December 24, 1865: The Klu Klux Klan is founded in Pulaski, TN
- August 6, 1865: The Voting Rights Act becomes landmark legislation
- 1870s – 1880s: Reconstruction Era; the disenfranchisement of formerly enslaved African people and their descendants becomes legalized through Black Codes and Jim Crow laws.
- May 18, 1896: Under *Plessy v Ferguson*, the Supreme Court upholds 'separate but equal' as doctrine; this decision results in black and white people living in a segregated in America for another fifty years.

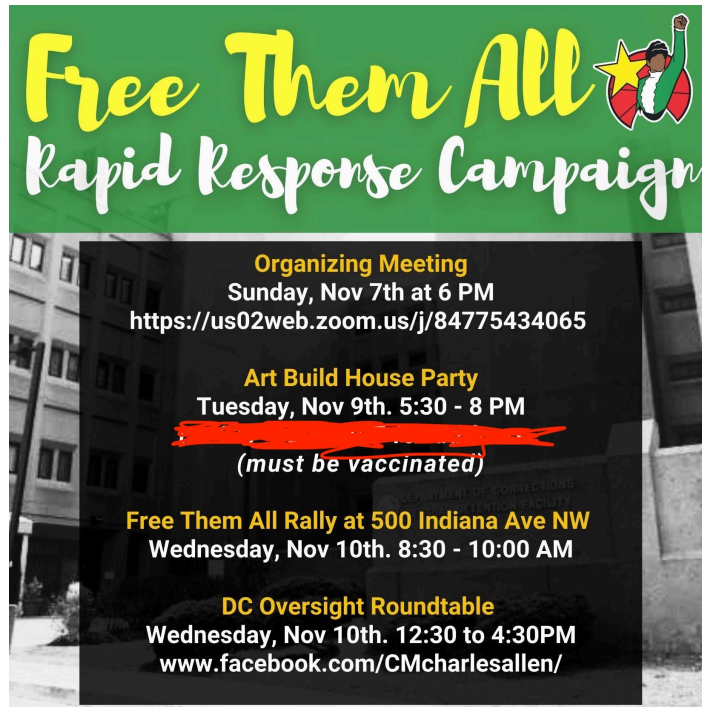
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An Evening with Christine A. Platt

62 views • Oct 14, 2020

5 DISLIKE SHARE SAVE ...

White-Violence Safeguarded >< Black Bodies Abducted



>< **“Suddenly the Far Right Wants to Fix the DC Jail. It Just Took Locking Up Some White Insurrectionists,”** by Isabella Dias at *Mother Jones* (Nov. 12, 2021)

<https://www.motherjones.com/crime-justice/2021/11/suddenly-the-far-right-wants-to-fix-the-dc-jail-it-just-took-locking-up-some-white-insurrectionists/>

>< **“Problems at D.C. Jail Were Ignored Until Jan. 6 Defendants Came Along,”** by Alan Feuer at *New York Times* (Nov. 11, 2021)

<https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.nytimes.com/2021/11/11/us/politics/dc-jail-jan-6.html&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1637516685447000&usg=AOvVaw1UWAiagEQaWXho4iC8vtkc>

>< **Harriet’s Wildest Dreams - Free Them All - Care Not Cages - *Rapid Response*** <https://harrietsdreams.org/>

>< J&PS Committee: Public Oversight Emergency Roundtable - Conditions of Confinement at the D.C.

Jail Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety Public Roundtable Hearing on the conditions within the Central Detention Facility at DC Jail.

Hearing notice and background: <https://dccouncil.us/.../judiciary-public-safety-public.../>

Hearing video: <https://www.facebook.com/CMcharlesallen/videos/427746225677992/>

My Home <> Iran, Persia, Diaspora

“Society is Government By Law >< Community is Governed by Love” - Ali Akbar Vassefi ><> Haydeh Nasizadeh

My Parents <> My First Examples of How Each Sovereign Embodies [The Divine Feminine](#) and [The Divine Masculine](#)

Iranian Short Film Festival Celebrating Community & Love

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-cP8YFO9HXuLPZRJIUoESpdLTqxpCI5bwY-wJF5KXI/edit?usp=sharing>

Purpose: The purpose of this Idea is to organize visioning for an Iranian Short Film Festival at the [Eaton Workshop] [We Act Radio] leading up to and presented during Nowruz 2022.

Background

The inspiration for this experience comes from several different sources. First, Tara Vassefi and her cousin Anahita Sarshar - members of the Iranian diaspora living in the DC area were looking for movies and films from their native country of Iran with themes of Love, Intimacy, and Community. Though Iranians and their diaspora have a profound cinematic culture, many of these films often tell very sad stories. “I want to see a Rom-Com set in Tehran! We should have a film festival to show and uplift this side of Iran!”

Then, through a Community Archiving project in her local neighborhood of Adams Morgan - a beautiful place with a long, fascinating history of social justice battles and evolutionary approaches to collective liberation - Tara learned about the unique role that Iranian revolutionaries played in this neighborhood and throughout Movement in the 1970s, leading up to the Iranian Revolution in 1979.

- For Adams Morgan Day 2020, beloved neighborhood archivist and videographer [Eddie Becker](#) bears this knowledge from his perspective (see e.g., Struggle and Resistance: the Making of Adams Morgan Part 1 https://youtu.be/w-sKPMx_EM)
- During Adams Morgan Day 2021, Cultural Kendaka [Luci Murphy](#) shared the role that these Iranian revolutionaries played in uplifting and gathering social justice warriors hailing from all over the world at the Memory Booth: a physical space where neighbors across generations can: offer artifacts, travel through time, share memories, archive untold stories, and Design and BUILD a memory booth:
https://www.instagram.com/tv/CTuqmAwInE7/?utm_medium=copy_link (see also, Struggle and Resistance: the Making of Adams Morgan Part 2 <https://youtu.be/xyIpmfErIY>)



Palimpsest by Sovereign Tara Vassefi
Sourced from Fellow Sovereigns and in Sovereignty

Largely spurred by Luci's storytelling and inviting others - especially Iranians - from that time to come and have their stories captured in the Memory Booth, this nascent concept developed into the following Iranian Film Festival that gets its name from Tara's father who, in consoling her after [Billie the Community Van](#) was stolen (then found again!): "Society is governed by law. Community is governed by Love."

Details

What: Iranian Film Festival

Where: [Eaton Workshop] + [We Act Radio]

When: Nowruz 2022

Who:

- Panels:
 - diaspora members + Luci Murphy + Eddie Becker
 - non-diaspora

Why: uplift Iranian storytelling + connect this storytelling across generations, nationalities, ideologies.

My Home <> The Metaverse <> Planet Earth in the Universe

Truth as a Public Good

Decentralized Co-operatives: Truth as a Public Good in Sustainable Economic Models

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_RYFldyi3HZCF6wJKlhzuaxoL1i3sE2BEPiZ4VJ-B0/edit?usp=sharing

This document is a Core Organizing <> Transparency Document for Waste as a Public Good - a technology experience that layers the principles of cooperativism, decentralized networks, and waste eradication and the flagship technology build of the Truth as a Public Good Working Group (<https://www.mozillapulse.org/entry/1895>). The project objective outlined below is to prototype a technology that will streamline a cooperative, circular economy model where members of a Community can have decentralized access to the Collective's resources.

- Money to female founders: **New startups surge, but VC funding for women founders hasn't quite gotten the memo.** In 2017 and 2018, women startup founders brought in just 2.2% of all U.S. venture dollars; in 2019, this percentage ticked up a bit to 2.6%. But the pandemic appears to have undone that small amount of progress, with women founders raising just 1.8% of all U.S. venture capital this year, according to the PitchBook-NVCA Venture Monitor. Even though the pandemic has spurred a historic spike in the creation of new businesses, it's been a disproportionate disaster for women in the workforce—and thanks to lagging VC funding, it looks like that crisis includes women entrepreneurs, as well. **Sell.**
- *"If most of our waking hours are spent in a hierarchical workplace at work, that isn't democracy. That is the definition of capitalism. And there should be a tension there between a democratic society and capitalism."* - [Maurice Mitchell](#), national director of the [Working Families Party](#)

- <https://medium.com/project-tinker/mailchimp-just-screwed-over-their-employees-c1ea745814b2>

Illustration <> Visual Arts <> Creative Expression <> unconditionAll Love

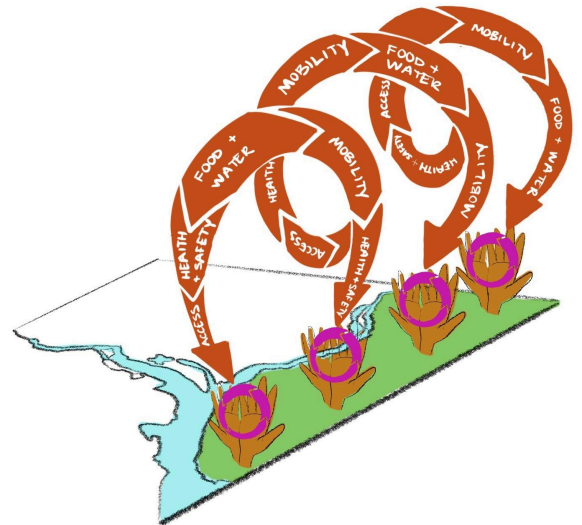
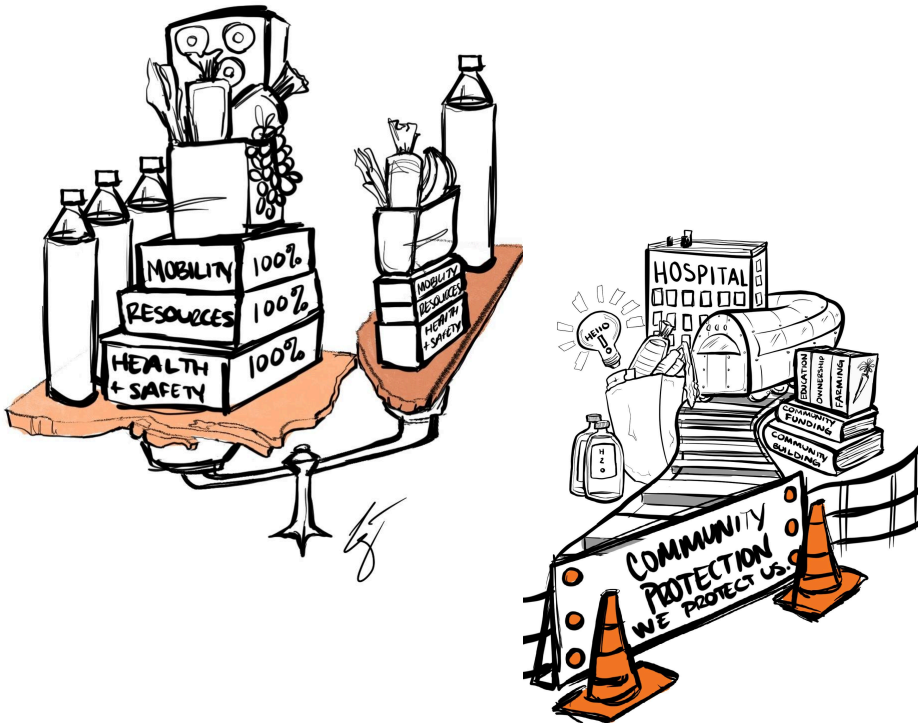
Once I have a first draft, I have an illustrator that I would like to pay as much money <> Value as possible to do the illustration for this and illustrate something like ~ these little pocked-sized Zines but about this concept of Socialization of the Circular Economy - see DC Mutual Aid Network Community archive

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tvIgMWsEq_u1wiEQHckQ56L_sGZ6iyp5/view.

Creative Visionary - Sovereign Brittany Symone

/brit-ta-nee/

Brittany Symone, illustrator, painter, affirmant, yoga enthusiast, concept designer, light & motivational energy, producing works that awaken the child. art produced is used as a resource to heal, explore, connect & grow: internally and externally. accepting the responsibility to serve others, in combination with a range of passions & talents, has unlocked the truth behind this unique *life*, due to the pandemic, having in-depth time to be still, became a blessing of discovery & acknowledgment to redesign the ways in which others are served. the evolution of self beholds the key to create with intention & with nothing but that of love.



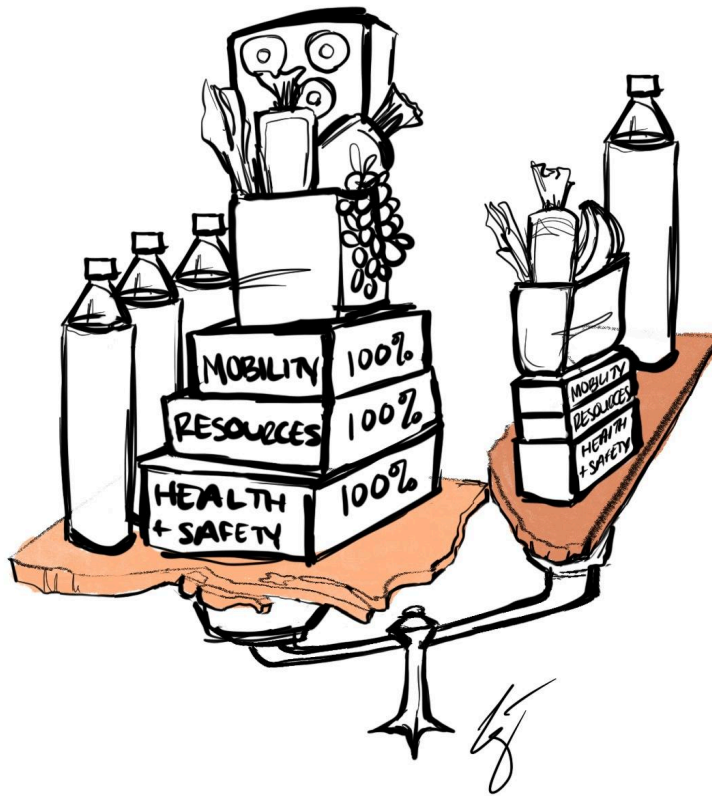
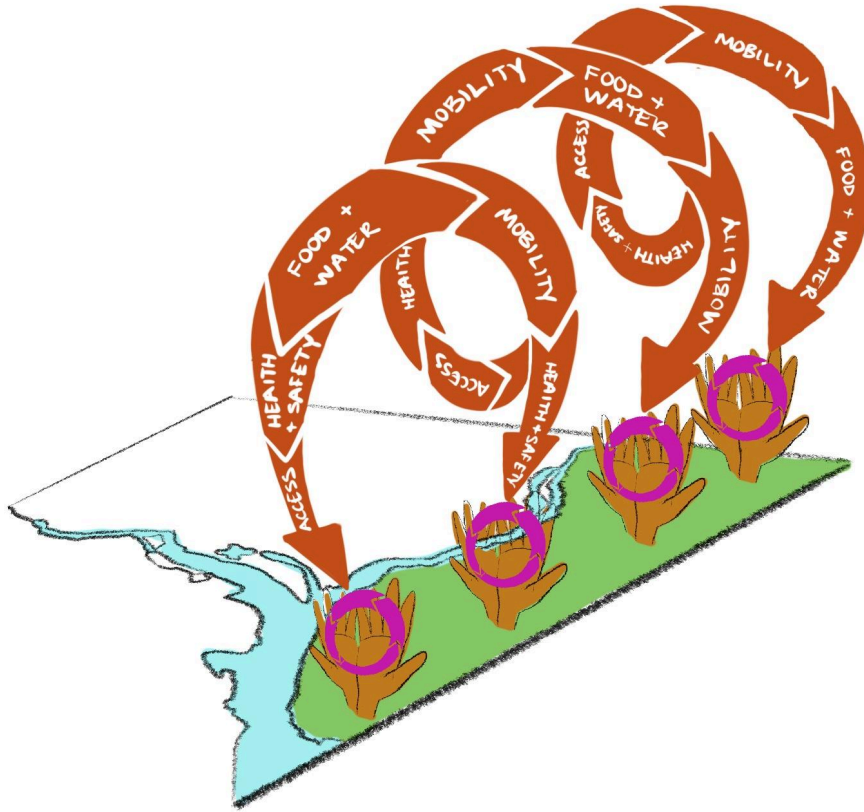


Illustration #1 - The uneven balance of resources is visually traumatizing but needs to be elevated to the masses to face the *division of basic needs*. *Redlining oppresses, separates and disintegrates a people. Take notice of where the support starts and stops, weighing in heavily on particular people, but not on another.. how can a city thrive?*



#2 - "It takes a village to raise a child, adult, elderly and generations to come." Help doesn't have to be government funded to be "able" - the community can do it itself. the awakening of the power within one and all, and of that of the mighty wallet. rotate and cut back where wants and desires come into play. society wants to keep people brainwashed to wanting more when life itself is not expensive or should even has a "price tag." look at the power few people can do for one child, imagine a community for the collective, and cities in similar situations watching.



#3 - Pouring in and Retotaling the currency enhances the outcome of one's neighborhood, keeps us growing into places that allow true stability. Teach the young what are necessities and what can be done to sustain needs of life: that of what a human truly needs, not desires through materialistic over consuming spending. We have the power correct it without knocking on the doors of those who built these redlining borders.

Index of Learnings <> *Sankofa* <> *Dars*

Content

[SuperSisters <> Eu-Sociality](#)

[SuperSisters Swarm the Black Lives Matter Memorial Fence](#)

Black Food Geographies: Race, Self-Reliance, and Food Access in Washington, DC by Dr.

Ashanté M. Reese

The Great Awakening of the Divine Masculine

Super Sisters <> Sociality

یک بدن کوچک

One Little Body

موجود در این بدنی کوچک

Contained within this one little body

نشسته استخوانها و اعضای بزرگتر از زندگی

Sit bones and organs larger than life

کوک زده درزهای بیشمار، با دست راست

One right hand stitched countless seams

تعمیر کیف، بُرشِ اضافات، پوشاندن کودکی

Cutting waste, clothing children, mending purses

با زبانی حاضر جواب، هشداری به اشک هایم

One swift tongue, cautioned my tears

تذکر به من: که وجود ندارد چیزی بنام شکسته - دلها

Reminding me that: There's no such thing as a broken heart

با گوش چپ، گوش داد با توجه

One left ear, hearkened attentively

جذب قصه ها، از سراسر مادر - زمین، در فراخنای قرن ها

Soaking in centuries of stories, that span Mother Earth

قلبی اصیل میزند، و می تپد در مسیر

One original heart, beat and pounded its way

با عبور از کوه ها و کویر ها و اقیانوس ها

Traversing oceans, mountains, and deserts

خلق کرد یک بطن، جهان هائی در حال گسترش

One single womb created expanding universes

الهام مان داد، که چه شگفتی هائی نهان است، در این کوچک بدن ها

Showing us, what wonders, are held within our one little body!

One Little Body - Poem written by Tara Vassefi, channeled through her cascading gratitude that she was able to spend so much Time with her grandmother Touran Nasizadeh, "Maman Nasi."

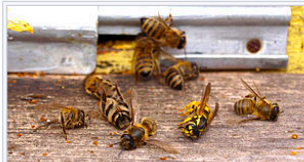
Translated Masterfully with and by Tara's father, Ali Akbar Vassefi during a special trip to the Sacred Land of Hawai'i in December 2020.

Palimpsest by Sovereign Tara Vassefi
Sourced from Fellow Sovereigns and in Sovereignty

Sociality

Haplodiploid breeding system

Further information: [Haplodiploidy](#)



Willing to die for their **sisters**: worker honey bees killed defending their hive against **yellowjackets**, along with a dead yellowjacket. Such **altruistic** behaviour may be favoured by the **haplodiploid sex determination** system of bees.

According to **inclusive fitness** theory, organisms can gain fitness not just through increasing their own reproductive output, but also that of close relatives. In evolutionary terms, individuals should help relatives when $Cost < Relatedness \times Benefit$. The requirements for eusociality are more easily fulfilled by **haplodiploid** species such as bees because of their unusual relatedness structure.^[30]

In haplodiploid species, females develop from fertilized eggs and males from unfertilized eggs. Because a male is **haploid** (has only one copy of each gene), his daughters (which are **diploid**, with two copies of each gene) share 100% of his genes and 50% of their mother's. Therefore, they share 75% of their genes with each other. This mechanism of sex determination gives rise to what **W. D. Hamilton** termed "supersisters", more closely related to their sisters than they would be to their own offspring.^[31] Workers often do not reproduce, but they can pass on more of their genes by helping to raise their sisters (as queens) than they would by having their own offspring (each of which would only have 50% of their genes), assuming they would produce similar numbers. This unusual situation has been proposed as an explanation of the multiple (at least 9) evolutions of eusociality within **Hymenoptera**.^{[32][33]}

Haplodiploidy is neither necessary nor sufficient for eusociality. Some eusocial species such as **termites** are not haplodiploid. Conversely, all bees are haplodiploid but not all are eusocial, and among eusocial species many queens mate with multiple males, creating half-sisters that share only 25% of each-other's genes.^[34] But, monogamy (queens mating singly) is the ancestral state for all eusocial species so far investigated, so it is likely that haplodiploidy contributed to the evolution of eusociality in bees.^[32]



Head-on view of a male **carpenter bee**, showing antennae, three **ocelli**, **compound eyes**, and mouthparts

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bee#Sociality>

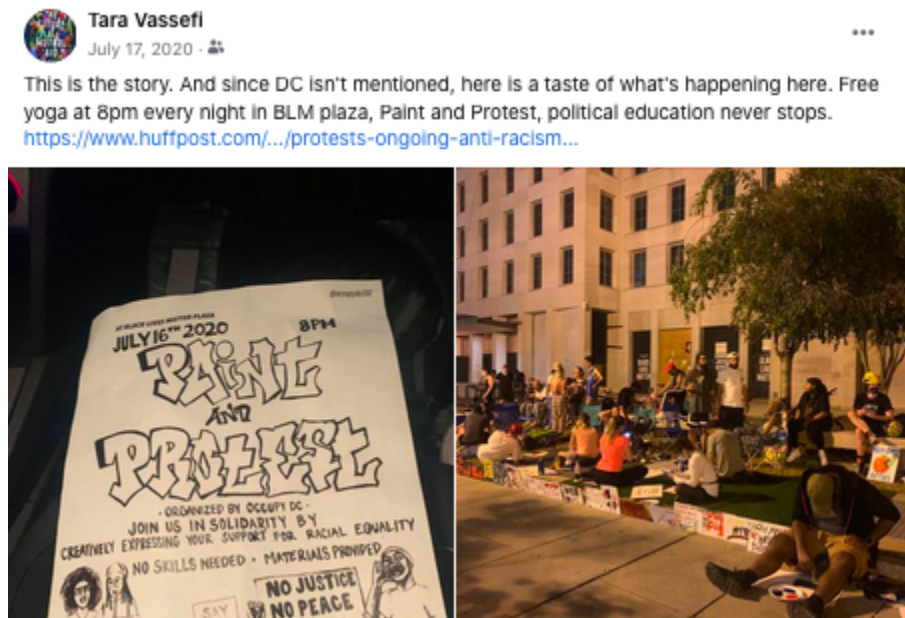
I wish I could remember the first Time I came across this concept of "SuperSisters" - the provenance of when my Mind began recognizing it as a Force throughout and amongst the Species. At some point in my Journey, I Learned that I do not enJoy Learning linearly. I think this is why I was always a B+ student despite the fact that I felt at ease in academic settings and applied myself accordingly. And I think this is why I felt liberated by the legal pedagogy: a system of non-linear Learning and consistent invitations to excavate in the form of the Socratic Method. I accrued that debt and acquiesced to my parent's immigrant pressures by going to law school but I am grateful that such an institution afforded me the tools and weapons to de-construct the upside-down world aRound me.

That said, I can't remember how I came across this concept. I only have a vague recollection that at some point during The Great Awakening of the Divine Masculine, my typical fascination with Bees turned into an obsession. And it was likely at that Time that my curiosity invited me to this puzzling and mathematical phenomenon in Honeybee Eusociality referred to as "SuperSisters."

I do distinctly Remember the first Time I observed it in the Human-Mammal Species - it was at the Black Lives Matter Memorial Fence...

SuperSisters Swarm The Black Lives Matter Memorial Fence

Throughout the summer following the lynching¹ of George Floyd on May 25, 2020, The Fence, Black Lives Matter Plaza², and the area surrounding the White House became a unique space for creative expression, healing, organizing, and transformation for those activated into the Movement for Black Lives. As the mass protests transformed³ into Movement, there was constant activity at all hours of the day and night at Black Lives Matter Plaza from large holiday festivals on Juneteenth 2020⁴, 4th of July 2020⁵ to regular yoga classes and art nights.⁶



¹ “‘It was a modern-day lynching’: Violent deaths reflect a brutal American legacy,” *National Geographic* (3June2020)

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/history/article/history-of-lynching-violent-deaths-reflect-brutal-american-legacy/>.

² https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_Lives_Matter_Plaza.

³ “The protests are growing larger, calmer, and more community-oriented,” *Vox* (7June2020)

<https://www.vox.com/2020/6/7/21283014/protests-george-floyd-cities-across-world-larger>.

⁴ Juneteenth 2020 at Black Lives Matter Plaza - Video 1

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1b94lBTfdJALTA2iqfDk64zaWbNo6AegB/view?usp=sharing>; Juneteenth

2020 at Black Lives Matter Plaza - Video 2

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1WzR-BIZfB1lTtOTLXKdMB5TvEj67QBob/view?usp=sharing>.

⁵ 4 of July 2020 at Black Lives Matter Plaza

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BjbTUtT0RKUSnOcYZK0le2EPiYxxz86D/view?usp=sharing>

⁶ Social Media Post Screenshot at

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dL8vSNPe1VBjo0VzgF9GM5xSAZWG4zcB/view?usp=sharing>; see also “The

Anti-Racism Protests Haven't Stopped,” *Huffington Post* (16June2020)

https://www.huffpost.com/entry/protests-ongoing-anti-racism-police-brutality_n_5f10de29c5b6cec246c085f9?ncid=fbklnkushpimg00000047&utm_medium=facebook&utm_source=bv_fb&utm_campaign=hp_fb_pages.

Meanwhile, police and officers of the other 31 law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction in Washington, D.C. used increasingly violent tactics on peaceful protestors, arrested/abducted countless protestors and supporting humanitarians (those offering free food, PPE, and mutual aid), and repeatedly used chemical weapons⁷ on the citizens they are paid to protect.⁸

Likewise, supporters of President Trump began to visit Black Lives Matter Plaza with more and more frequency around August 2020. Many of these Trump supporters and “conservatives” believed they experienced harm when the nation’s capital recognized “Black Lives Matter” in such a public manner.⁹ Others came to take pictures and incite a response. For example, on August 28, 2020 at around midnight a white man in Blackface descended onto Black Lives Matter Plaza, walked up to a group of BIPOC people with his camera filming their reactions and asked “Why do you think Hillary’s a lesbian?” For many of the community members and DC residents at Black Lives Matter Plaza that night, the provocation of this white man in Blackface was experienced as hate speech and a group of people attempted to usher the white man in Blackface off the Plaza. Within a matter of seconds, a line of dozens of MPD on bikes emerged to form a wall with their bikes and bodies to protect the white man in Blackface. Though MPD arrested several Black men in the process, they continued to protect the white man in Blackface to make sure he was safe. It wasn’t until some time had passed and Black men had been arrested that the MPD officers gently ushered him into a MPD vehicle (no arrest or handcuffs) and they drove him off the Plaza.¹⁰

⁷ **“Fact check It’s true tear gas is a chemical weapon banned in war,”** *USA Today* (5June2020) <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2020/06/06/fact-check-its-true-tear-gas-chemical-weapon-banned-war/3156448001/>.

⁸ **“White-Violence Safeguarded ⇔ Black Bodies Abducted,”** Testimony provided by Tara Vassefi for Judiciary Judiciary Committee Roundtable Hearing on DC Jail Conditions (initiated Nov2020) <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qLHYkTgqZJnL4baAF3DgeKE7mf4qH5GWNLIENXF05c/edit?usp=sharing>.

⁹ **“Conservative nonprofit sues DC mayor over Black Lives Matter mural controversy, claims civil rights violations,”** *WUSA9* (3June2020) <https://www.wusa9.com/article/news/local/dc/conservative-nonprofit-sues-dc-mayor-over-black-lives-matter-mural-controversy-claims-civil-rights-violations/65-182facef-0271-4cfb-8178-98729a6fdb1e>.

¹⁰ **“White-Violence Safeguarded ⇔ Black Bodies Abducted,”** Testimony provided by Tara Vassefi for Judiciary Judiciary Committee Roundtable Hearing on DC Jail Conditions (initiated Nov2020) <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1qLHYkTgqZJnL4baAF3DgeKE7mf4qH5GWNLIENXF05c/edit?usp=sharing>.

Testimony of this singular incident as representative of a larger trend in policing can be found in the White-Violence Safeguarded <> Black Bodied Abducted digital archive.

White-Violence Safeguarded



Black Bodies Abducted

Testimony provided by Tara Vassefi for Thursday, [February 17, 2022 hearing J&PS Performance Oversight Hearing at 5:01:00-5:08:24](#)

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[History of police as the enforcement mechanism of white supremacy](#): 12-13

Hello my name is Tara Vassefi and I am an attorney specialized in the use of nascent technologies and digital evidence for humanitarian and human rights justice and accountability. I have worked on evidence-gathering and investigations in conflict situations around the world including Syria, Yemen, and Sudan. In my most recent employment, I served as Washington Director of Strategic Initiatives and Legal Scholar for a company called Truepic, that uses blockchain, computer vision, and AI for digital image authentication. I was removed from that position in November 2019 after I vocalized and sought to correct serious and wide ranging ethical issues within the company. Since the pandemic hit, I've been struggling with unemployment but also relishing in the joy and privilege of working with the DC Mutual Aid Network:

a leaderful Community of neighbors working together to meet each other's basic needs: food/water, health, housing, safety.¹¹

¹¹ See more about the beautiful history of mutual aid in our Home appended to this Testimony - [History of Mutual Aid in our Home](#).

I was among the millions, maybe even billions of people further Activated by the Lynching of George Floyd and spent much of the Summer of 2020 doing Legal Observation and other activities at Black Lives Matter Memorial Plaza. I began collecting evidence of what I have been calling in an archive White-Violence Safeguarded <> Black Bodies Abducted. As I was doing Legal Observation and becoming more aware of this pattern that I kept seeing from the Summer of 2020, I started getting better at capturing that moment that is so difficult to prove, which is showing the difference in the way the police view what could be threatening white people or MAGA marchers versus how they were viewing those who were on the side of the Movement for Black Lives, protesting and organizing in the aftermath of the lynching of George Floyd and others.

The one piece of video I feel comfortable talking about in this forum from the archive is footage from August 28, 2020 at 12:12 am. The context of this footage is that moments before this video, a white man in Blackface descended onto Black Lives Matter Plaza; he came up to me, Tara Vassefi, the one filming this video, and shoved his phone-camera inches from my face and asked “Why do you think Hillary’s a lesbian.”

There were many people at Black Lives Matter Plaza during that time - many of whom saw the space as a place to meet, connect, empathize, and process the violence they experienced there earlier that summer in the days immediately following the Lynching of George Floyd. It was a particularly unique traumatizing <> healing space for those who had been tear-gassed and assaulted by MPD during those assemblies exercising our First Amendment rights. When the people at Black Lives Matter Plaza saw this white man in Blackface, it was experienced as an assault especially since many of the people there that night and other times of the day and night were Black Citizens communing peacefully and in solidarity in a safe space to dream designs of how to tuck their bodies into the wheels of injustice to stop them from turning while *simultaneously* Building Their Home In Their Image. (See April Renee Goggans referencing Barnard Rustin in the **DC Mutual Aid Network Community Archive Participatory Defense 101** at 00:42:50 of this video

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=381924879467838&id=813752332029

[653& rdr](#) ; see archival index here

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1T7MsuzOM00ohcIvepabv2tLA4lP9wgsye4WlBL6aM/edit>).

Myself and others attempted to peacefully escort him away from the Plaza and as things escalated because he refused to leave, a line of dozens of MPD on bikes emerged as though out of nowhere, they formed a wall to protect the white man in Blackface and they abducted several Black men in the process - only Black men were abducted. It was so traumatizing that they wouldn't put the white man in Blackface into the police vehicles that were there to remove him from the space. Dozens of MPD officers formed a line with their bodies and their bikes to make sure that the white man in Blackface was kept safe and comfortable in the aftermath of committing this hate crime. When it was deemed safe enough to remove the young white man in Blackface, they gently put him into a MPD vehicle (no arrest or handcuffs) and they drove him to safety.

This video footage depicts the aftermath when MPD officers continued to stand in formation and a witness to this White-Violence Safeguarded <> Black Bodies Abducted recounts what he witnessed to the remaining MPD officers.

I continued to do Legal Observation and other activities at Black Lives Matter Plaza where we would continue to witness over and over again how this violent society and its enforcement mechanism in the form of police state-sponsored violence could not and would not See White-Violence. Visitors to our Home would come to wreak havoc on what they saw as a hotbed of "terrorist organizations" like BLM and Antifa. They were particularly invited by the art and creative expression that blossomed in front of the White House, especially after June 1, 2020 when president trump's administration tear-gassed protestors to make way for his procession to St. John's Episcopal church, sending some kind of signal to his followers by holding a Bible upside-down in front of a place of worship that has since deplored this act of state-sponsored violence.

The number and tempo of these visitors only grew exponentially after Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg transitioned. Shortly after, two Heroines - Nadine and Karen, became the stewards of what is now referred to as the Black Lives Matter Memorial

Fence - an open guerilla gallery space dedicated to Black Power, Joy, Resilience, and Vision for Collective Liberation.

I had the honor and privilege of being in a close collective of comrades committed to supporting Nadine and Karen as they lived and guarded the **Black Lives Matter Memorial Fence** <https://www.facebook.com/GuardiansOfTheFence/>. We all worked together in solidarity to meet the basic needs of Nadine, Karen, the stewards of the **William Thomas Anti-Nuclear Peace Vigil** https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White_House_Peace_Vigil, and the unhoused neighbors who considered the Plaza and its immediate area their residence due to extreme housing injustice in this country's capital.

Proud Boys and MAGA marchers would visit every weekend and here and there throughout the week. Many of them would dress in combat gear with black paint under their eyes. Their public chats and discussions would rally around wild claims that "BLM was bussing in people by the 100s." Mind you, at this time Black Lives Matter DC consisted of eight people <> core organizers who had the good sense to know that these ignorant white supremacists, however misguided, are not the enemy: after Learning and Testing how #WeKeepUsSafe during the two Million MAGA Marches on November 14 and December 12, they *encouraged* (<https://twitter.com/deliangoncalves/status/1344453765601091587>) comrades and allies to stay away from Federal Government areas on and around January 6, 2021. See e.g., "**Your Silence is Violence: Black Lives Matter DC Calling on Nearby Hotels to Shut Down for Upcoming Protests**" (<https://www.wusa9.com/article/news/community/equality-matters/black-lives-matter-dc-demands-hotels-shut-down-and-condem-pro-trump-protestors/65-5a5a4747-8f4e-4648-980c-febccc0167be>).

I was at Black Lives Matter Memorial Fence the night of January 5 when the Proud Boys and MAGA were able to get a feel for the Power of breaking through the police officer (human) barricade. It's unclear what they were trying to get to since the only things that were on the other side of the police officer barricade were Nadine, Karen, a handful of other guardians of the Black Lives Matter Memorial Fence, the

Fence itself and the White House. And that night marked the very first time that I overheard the officers - who had been tear-gassing, brutalizing, arresting, and abducting protesters for months - express any sense of awareness of the threat posed by the Proud Boys and MAGA. I heard them talking to each other about how shocked they were that these people had the gall to break through a police barricade and when one of them saw that I was eavesdropping, he said to me, “you guys were right.”

Just after the 6pm Emergency Curfew on January 6, 2021, I sent the following *dispatch* (<https://www.facebook.com/tara.vassefi/posts/10101770874869732>) to my friends and family who were furiously checking in and trying to make sense of what seemed very shocking to them. #WeKeepUsSafe

The police and the system that gives them the power to enforce the laws of this society do what they were *perfectly designed*, **from their inception onward**, to do:

White-Violence Safeguarded <> Black Bodies Abducted

As a first-generation immigrant who was born in a conflict zone, I’m always conflicted when I join hearings like this because while they seem like a wonderful example of participatory democracy, it is *so* disheartening to hear the testimony of brilliant citizens who are doing so much extra unvalued labor to fill the gaps of our failed leadership, our failed public safety policies, our failed public health policies. The lack of proper accountability for these systemic failures is reminiscent of the conditions that lead to large-scale conflict and violence.

The insurrectionists that attempted to take over the Capitol on January 6, 2021 showed us what kind of violence lies in wait. And if you think that there was accountability for that incident, I would urge you to visit and observe MAGA Trump supporters the next time they descend upon our Home en masse like they did most recently on January 23, 2022 to protest vaccine mandates. If you go and observe their behavior, you can see how the police do exactly what they did last year, which is shut down the roads, let them party freely without masks, and continue to dispute the last democratic general election.

It is clear from the wide-ranging testimonies today and from living here that the people here do not trust our elected and unelected officials to do what they say they want to do - keep us all safe, keep us all healthy. You cannot enforce trust and the more you keep empowering law enforcement and ignoring the Community's pleas, the more you will erode social trust. In Our Community, we have everything we need to learn how to trust each other and Build The World We Want. The Trust we need right now cannot be enforced by a corrupted police force that was historically created to protect white property and abduct/snatch Black people who were forced into slavery. That is the history of this country's police force. That is what we continue fortifying when we keep putting aside budget money for this police force. So I would encourage you to implement something like a hostile corporate takeover of the policing system here and hire/pay these people who testified today to build an actual legal and justice system that is going to keep us safe. Thank you very much.

More Evidence of White-Violence Safeguarded >< Black Bodies Abducted



>< **“Suddenly the Far Right Wants to Fix the DC Jail. It Just Took Locking Up Some White Insurrectionists,”** by Isabella Dias at *Mother Jones* (Nov. 12, 2021)
<https://www.motherjones.com/crime-justice/2021/11/suddenly-the-far-right-wants-to-fix-the-dc-jail-it-just-took-locking-up-some-white-insurrectionists/>

>< **“Problems at D.C. Jail Were Ignored Until Jan. 6 Defendants Came Along,”**
by Alan Feuer at *New York Times* (Nov. 11, 2021)
<https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.nytimes.com/2021/11/11/us/politics/dc-jail-jan-6.html&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1637516685447000&usg=AOvVaw1UWAiagEQaWXho4iC8vtkc>

>< **Harriet's Wildest Dreams - Free Them All - Care Not Cages - Rapid**

Response <https://harrietsdreams.org/>

>< **J&PS Committee: Public Oversight Emergency Roundtable - Conditions of Confinement at the D.C.**

Jail Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety Public Roundtable Hearing on the conditions within the Central Detention Facility at DC Jail.

Hearing notice and background: <https://dccouncil.us/.../judiciary-public-safety-public.../>

Hearing video: <https://www.facebook.com/CMcharlesallen/videos/427746225677992/>



History of Mutual Aid in our Home

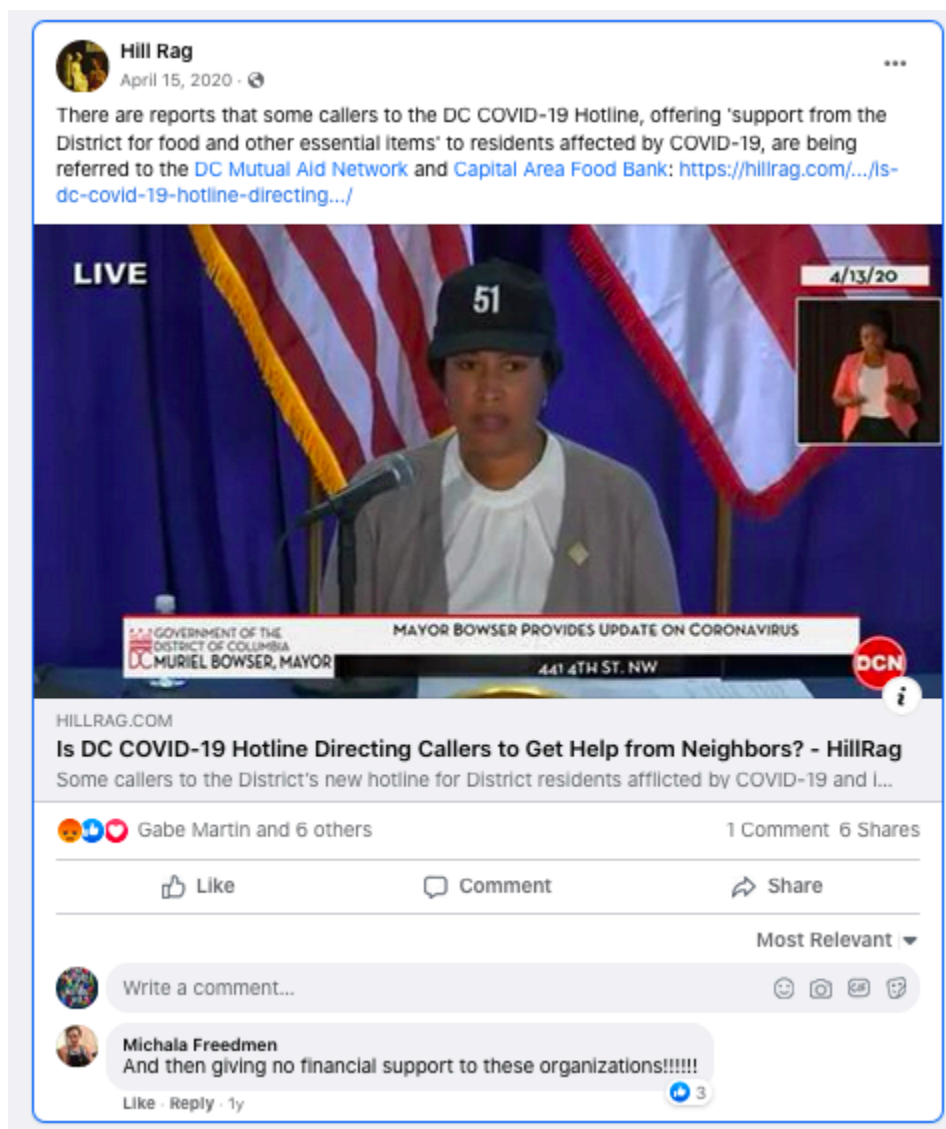
Chocolate City, aka Occupied Piscataway Territory, aka Washington DC has a long, rich history of Mutual Aid particularly within the Black Church and amongst the historically-segregated neighborhoods East of the [Anacostia] River (“EOR”). To learn more about this history, I would recommend what I believe should be required reading for all District residents and visitors: ***Black Food Geographies: Race, Self-Reliance, and Food Access in Washington, DC*** (<https://uncpress.org/book/9781469651507/black-food-geographies/>) written by Professor Ashanté M. Reese (<https://www.amreese.com/>). Dr. Reese spent nearly a decade doing ethnographic and empirical research on ~Chocolate Cities and Towns across this country, focusing on this fascinating nexus of race, self-reliance and food access, and she chose to focus her dissertation on our beloved Home because of the unique lessons and dynamics she observed here.

“Black Food Geographies toggles between macro-level analyses of food apartheid and micro-level analyses of how residents navigate the unequal food landscape... The historical and ongoing significance of race at the intersections of capitalist accumulation, dispossession, and residential segregation requires an understanding of how the geographic distribution of food is a reflection of anti-Blackness and oppression as much as it is about class and economic capital... The increasingly corporatized food **system is not simply unequal, it is a by-product of how structural racism touches every aspect of life -- even where our food resources are located.**” (*emphasis added*)

This 2020 iteration of Mutual Aid in our City was catalyzed out of East of the River (“EOR”) by longtime Black Lives Matter and adjacent activists and it sparked the Spirit of so many people that within a matter of days, neighbors had set up a network of grocery-deliveries to high-risk neighbors that was so speedy, effective, and efficient that the DC Government and Mayor’s Covid response initiatives attempted to pass it off as

their own. See also: **“Is The City’s COVID Helpline Directing Callers to DC Mutual Aid?”**

<https://www.hillrag.com/2020/04/15/is-dc-covid-19-hotline-directing-callers-to-get-help-from-neighbors/>; annotated version accessible at the DC Mutual Aid Network Community Archive:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CV_dIkSh16DuM45LuuIMt9HrE8ON9FWR/view?usp=sharing



Palimpsest by Sovereign Tara Vassefi
Sourced from Fellow Sovereigns and in Sovereignty



Caption: Facebook Screenshots of City's Covid Cooption - White-Violence Safeguarded and Black Bodies Abducted Archive - DC Mutual Aid Network Community Archive - screenshot on 9Nov2021

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PbuIddLzZKRNT3IHLy9z-P6l-rEea6_72-qdyTHGrpY/edit?usp=sharing

History of police as the enforcement mechanism of white supremacy

See the critical knowledge-bearing of **Christine A. Platt**

(<https://www.afrominimalist.com/>) who offers an excellent, excellent ~20-minute history lesson from 1418 to today at 3:55-25:30

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OdmJzVwKe1s> in **An Evening with Christine A. Platt**. Ms. Platt is a historian, activist, and author. Her books are *The Truth About Awiti*, a novel merging historical and spiritual explorations of the ongoing effects of slavery and racism, and *Dear Ancestor*, a collection of poetry, focused on the trans-atlantic slave trade and the African diaspora. She has also written a series of children's books, the Ana & Andrew series, which teaches young readers about African-American history and culture.

THE HISTORY OF RACE & RACISM

- April 1861 – April 1865: America's Civil War; the Union Army defeats the Confederate Army
 - Note: After their defeat, many former Confederate soldiers join police forces thus affording them the opportunity to legally discriminate against and harm black people; mistrust of police by members of the black community becomes deeply rooted in American society.
- December 6, 1865: 13th Amendment Abolishes Slavery in the US
- December 24, 1865: The Klu Klux Klan is founded in Pulaski, TN
- 1870s – 1880s: Reconstruction Era; the disenfranchisement of formerly enslaved African people and their descendants becomes legalized through Black Codes and Jim Crow laws.
- May 18, 1896: Under *Plessy v. Ferguson*, the Supreme Court upholds 'separate but equal' as doctrine; this decision results in black and white people living in a segregated in America for another fifty years.

14

An Evening with Christine A. Platt

62 views • Oct 14, 2020

5 DISLIKE SHARE SAVE ...

THE ORIGINS OF WHITE PRIVILEGE

“The events in Jamestown were alarming to the planter elite, who were deeply fearful of the multiracial alliance of [indentured servants] and slaves. Word of Bacon’s Rebellion spread far and wide, and several more uprisings of a similar type followed. In an effort to protect their superior status and economic position, the planters shifted their strategy for maintaining dominance. They abandoned their heavy reliance on indentured servants in favor of the importation of more black slaves.”– *Michelle Alexander*, Legal Scholar

“Many of the European-descended poor whites began to identify themselves, if not directly with the rich whites, certainly with being white. And here you get the emergence of this idea of a white race as a way to distinguish themselves from those dark-skinned people who they associate with perpetual slavery.” – *Robin D. G. Kelley*, Historian



An Evening with Christine A. Platt

62 views • Oct 14, 2020

👍 5 🗨 DISLIKE ➦ SHARE ≡+ SAVE ...

The Great And Terrible Swarm

After the transition of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg, the species Swarmed.

A Queen Bee emerged in the form of **Nadine Seiler - nee Otego** (born May 11, 1965), also known as **Warrior Goddess for the Resistance**, a political and BLM activist, t-shirt designer, home organizer service provider from Waldorf, Maryland.

On October 27, 2020, Seiler, along with Karen Irwin - a volunteer with the William Thomas Anti-Nuclear Peace Vigil - became the "guardians of the fence." The day before, Amy Coney Barrett was confirmed to refill Ruth Bader Ginsberg's seat as a Supreme Court Justice. That night, a small group of self-identified "conservative and anti-abortion activists" who said "they came to celebrate Barrett's ascension to the bench...pulled away sign after sign. Seiler and the strangers around her tried to block the signs with their bodies."¹² Though there were regular incidents of passive vandalism over the months that the BLM Fence evolved, this incident stood out for how destructive it was: by the time the vandals left "the wall was nearly empty."¹³

Following this incident, Seiler, became the pacesetter of a group of community members who collectively formed an unorganized and unspoken alliance to protect the BLM Fence from future desecration.¹⁴ This collective included unhoused and unsheltered folx who lived in and around the area as well as volunteers from the William Thomas Anti-Nuclear Peace Vigil like Irwin. The guardians of the fence succeeded in maintaining a near-constant vigil at the BLM Fence and on the larger block of Black

¹²

https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/black-lives-matter-plaza-signs-removed/2020/10/30/e5dc3f1a-1947-11eb-aeec-b93bcc29a01b_story.html

¹³

¹⁴

<https://www.wusa9.com/article/news/politics/black-lives-matter-plaza-maga-protesters-p-reventing-vandalism/65-5a9daf68-f726-4cc2-a63f-8249585e899d>

Lives Matter Plaza, as and when police extended the barricade around the White House beyond H Street.

https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=177788990634457&id=106344264445597
the palm collective art day November 4, 2020

October 25, 2020 - tara's therapy at art tunnel
<https://www.facebook.com/tara.vassefi/posts/10101740342521802>

September 2020 first time religious nuts
<https://www.facebook.com/tara.vassefi/posts/10101729932443682>

November 17, 2020 art build
<https://www.facebook.com/neenee.tay.1/posts/10158751529379096>

Over the ensuing months, other Bees found their way to the Fence: Reji, Robin Brock, Robin Fader, Ann and mySelf among them.

Flying Bike Squad

Reggaeton Ride - BEarthDay with Nora

Deepest Sadness >< Greatest Joy

The Insurrection

Toward Saving The HoneyBee

Black Food Geographies: Race, Self-Reliance, and Food Access in Washington, DC by Dr. Ashanté M. Reese

Indigenous, and other People of Color who were geographically, socially, and systemically kept away from capital and other centralized resources. Chocolate City, aka unseated Piscataway Territory, aka “Washington, DC” has a particularly rich history of Mutual Aid, both through the Black Church and also due to the astounding resilience of those who live(d) in the formerly-segregated neighborhoods East of the River. My favorite piece of learning on this topic comes from a book that I believe every visitor and resident of DC should read, understand, re-read: [Black Food Geographies: Race, Self-Reliance and Food Access in Washington, DC](#) where Dr. Ashante M. Reese transferred a decade's worth of knowledge-bearing and expertise at this nexus in various “Chocolate Cities” around the country and chose DC because of its particularly unique lessons in Abundance. Dr. Reese archived oral histories of our beloved older siblings in Ward 7 and especially the Deanwood neighborhood to support the following revelation:

“Because of the presumed nothingness” that is embedded in understandings of so-called food deserts, food justice advocates outside of these neighborhood spaces often overlook or do not see the ways in which residents make ‘ways out of no way’ that are embedded in their own food security and reflect their hopes and desires for their communities more broadly.

Arguably, Black communities’ investment in self-reliance as a political and cultural framework for communal uplift has been central to intellectual thought and activist strategizing. Transitions from mass enslavement, migration from the South to the North and West, and integration (albeit limited) into new consumer spheres from which they were once barred prompted questions about how best to meet Black people’s needs in a nation in which the rights of full citizenship had yet to be granted. These questions were as fundamentally about space and place as they were about accessing goods. Black residents, many of them living in segregated neighborhoods in urban centers, navigated white supremacy daily, using their segregated neighborhoods as places to build as much institutional capacity to meet their daily needs as possible.”

The Great Awakening of the *Divine Feminine**

Secret Womxn
By Tara Vassefi**

"The Secret Life of..." the story begins
A great unveiling to measure the
depth x width x height of this mammal's
footprint

Why does she keep it a secret, praytell?
If I learn to listen can I examine her?
Or better yet, to dialogue in Our secret
language -
The one without any and also somehow
infinite words?
The one transcribed together
Matriculating upon Sisterhood
Studiously poring over the Great Books that
are
Each other's moments, days, weeks, and
years.

She goes to sleep one night
And the next day her body creates a
universe, anew
Organs shift, bones crack, skin tears, blood
spills, and emerges
The Fullest Depletion
She knows it will never end and it could
never go back
But her secret is that she never wish it
would

She planted these seeds many years ago,
Her ritual digging and tending took
innumerable Time
As she digs and tends, she wonders
anxiously
What is this all for?

Where will it go?
When will it grow?
Little does she know
The most secret roots are strongest,
Invisible to the human experience,
Until one day she arches her neck back
Saluting, breathing in, its cascading bounty

She awakes each cycle
Bounding up from rest
The sky is dark and ominous silence fills the
air
But she can't help her excitement for
She remembers things others forget
And gets herself into trouble for seeing
things
Others haven't yet
she can't help her excitement because
She Knows where this is all headed,
To Her, their greatness has never been a
secret

Each and every day presents the next
rest-stop in this healing pilgrimage
Traversing deserts, seas, and mountains,
She carries her weighty baggage proudly
and
dreams designs of its placement for when
she arrives
The Secret is she's already here,
a tribe of pilgrims setting up camp Round
Her

The Secret Womxn
The Sacred Womxn

Palimpsest by Sovereign Tara Vassefi
Sourced from Fellow Sovereigns and in Sovereignty

* No one understands what I mean by it but if I had to describe it in the simplest way it means that You Have the Power to Love Just Because That's What You Choose For yourSelf and no One else <> The Embodiment of Creating Love Unconditionally

** channeled through an Earth Day present for my sister Sovereign Nora Logan (<https://www.noraelogan.com/>) about The Great Awakening of the Divine Feminine - Planet Earth, "2020"

Preceding The Great Awakening of the Divine Masculine - Planet Earth, "2021"

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1c0KtJuHB6es5nRxCM60jSgJwMB3ic9TO9R1_fWKRFOc/edit

And The Great Orthogonal rEvolution - Planet Earth, "2022"

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1b99qhpG-FPSu9x53vshp9m7qkf6b2zTy0RXOrPD4Ct0/edit>

The Great Awakening of the *Divine Masculine**

Rage and Receive
By Tara Vassefi**

Grand Rising, King!

What rage brews beneath your thick skin
today?

We share our bed with your partner Fate
What battles does this jealous one hold in
store for you today,
Lying in wait?

Shoring up against the colonizer's open war
lies an ocean of peace
A sensation waves over me
We're lying just like this, under a palm tree
A big big one
Our island under its big big leaves

I batter you with eager questions,
But you proclaim you're "not a morning
person"
whatever that means
One day, the bankrupt colonizers will win
their race to space
We'll have a calendar festival
To celebrate our precious moments
Shredding monthly invoices and stabbing
fiscal years
Blessings, oh colonizers
Godspeed in Your quest
Your victory could not come soon enough

Later in delusions of disappointment
I remember that I first fell in love with your
rage
A power tool for self-excavation
How else can you know how deeply you
care
And what terrible, terrible things propel you
there

I observed how you take the time to prepare
for battle
Sharpening your rage dutifully
Then I learned by doing
Testing it out on the threatening tall white
man
Holding up his camera to "expose" my Right
to Speak
To his followers, surely not all as weak and
pathetic as he
"700 people viewing," he smirks at my fear
"1500 now"

Truth is Justice. Justice is Love.
I cherish my anonymity but let him expose
Truth Justice Love to whomever is watching

At your command, I got gussied up and filed
my nails with Rumi's pages,
Setting an intention for what We need to
Remember
The Great Book will open where its called
And this is what emerged

"Body is the millstone. Water is thought.
Stone says: water knows what the story is."

Thank you Water
Thank you Grandmother Moon
Thank you Grandfather Sun
Thank you Sister Seed
Thank you Brother Rock
Thank you Two-Spirit Wind
Thank you Water

Palimpsest by Sovereign Tara Vassefi
Sourced from Fellow Sovereigns and in Sovereignty

My weakness is my fear and my fear is that
you won't receive my love
To receive my love is to hold me through my
weakness
Release me in my strength
Promise to fight alongside me in this open
war
Armored in each other

I advance on this healing pilgrimage
counting down the seconds till we're back
on our island
under the big big palm tree with its big big
leaves
As I swing sWords and sweep bloodshed,
my soul saunters and accompanies
wherever your strong legs were carrying
you,
curious what occupies unseated territory in
your sacred mind

Grandfather Sun retires and Grandmother
Moon
Stays up late, sitting amongst her Ancestor
friends,
sipping tea
They're always watching but especially at
night
When everyone else is indicted to sleep
comfortably in their quarters
What I want is the best part of my day

Your voice to cut the closing
The last thing I hear before silence
overwhelms this impossible place
I cherish these moments because it focuses
me to kill one bird with one stone
You are my one bird and my love is my
stone

O! Scorpion King, O! Weary Soldier
it was October I realized how hard I'd have
to fight
to have you receive my love
But I'd battle till the ends of the Earth
to align myself authentically
with you

Here's an A priori glance to get you up to
speed
"I've dreamed of a future and in it was you,
does it come true?
Do you see it too?"
Through rituals of heartbreak and
abandonment,
I've been blessed to set aside these folly
dreams
Don't aim for success, for it can only ensue
I merely exist inside that parallel universe
The one my soul inhabits when I repose in
Collective Liberation

Rage and Receive, my Love, Me

* No one understands what I mean by it but if I had to describe it in the simplest way it means
that You Have the Power to Receive Love Just Because That's What You Choose For Yourself
and that Power Makes Its Own Love <> The emBodiment of Receiving Love Unconditionally
and Continuing That Energy Flow Into Its Own Creation

** channeled through my boundless love for the Sovereigns in my life - those who
unconditionally receive my love - during The Great Awakening of the Divine Masculine - Planet
Earth, "2021"

Succeeding The Great Awakening of the Divine Feminine - Planet Earth, "2020"

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1totXTJNKU8w6BoEN5yDVLNEBwuHX2sGmdPVWYed0Wgs/edit>

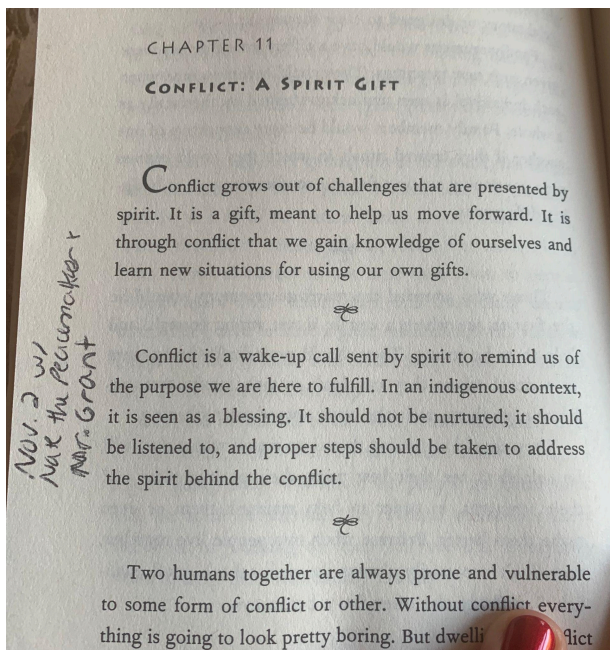
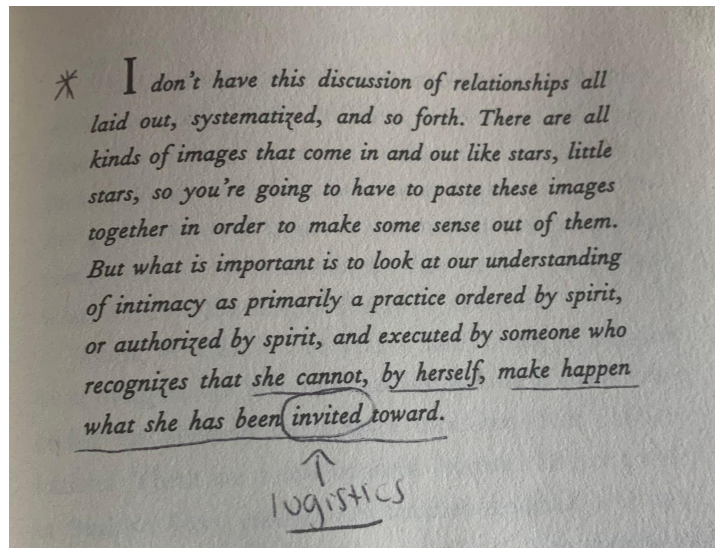
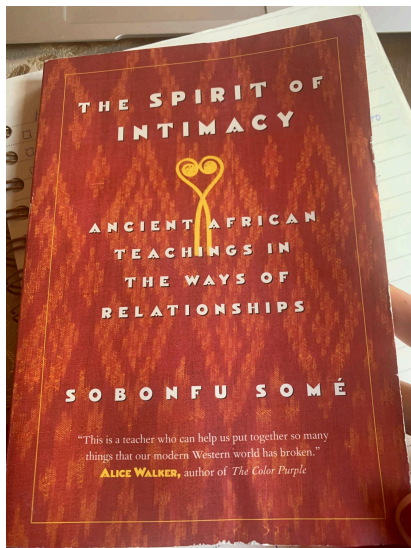
Palimpsest by Sovereign Tara Vassefi
Sourced from Fellow Sovereigns and in Sovereignty

Preceding The Great Orthogonal rEvolution - Planet Earth, "2022"

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1b99qhpG-FPSu9x53vshp9m7qkf6b2zTy0RXOrPD4Ct0/edit>

Intimacy <> Efficiency in Relationships

Conflict Transformation <> Conflict A Spirit Gift from The Spirit of
Intimacy - Ancient African Teachings in the Ways of Relationships by
Sobonfu Somé



	Conflict Resolution	Conflict Transformation
Key Question	How do we end something not desired?	How do we end something destructive and build something desired?
View of conflict	Envisions conflict as a destructive force that needs to be de-escalated	Envisions conflict as a constructive force for change that's in constant ebb and flow.
Purpose	To achieve agreement and solutions to the presenting problem creating a crisis	To promote processes of change, inclusive of - and not limited to - immediate solutions
Process	Built around the immediate relationship where presenting problems appear	Engages the wider systems within which relationships are embedded
Focus	Content centered	Relationship centered
Timeframe	Short term	Mid to long-term

From "The Little Book of Conflict Transformation" by John Paul Lederach

SAFE SPACES

Abandonment <> Repose

Life is Long
By Tara Vassefi

"Life is Long."
That's what you said to me
the last time I heard your voice
the last time I saw your face
that last time in this life that I would
commune
with the soul who taught me
I can unconditionally love someone
I can unconditionally love myself

And just like that your person vanished from
mine

I feverishly investigated our last
correspondence
searching for every clue to indict my
deepest fear
What could solve this mystery of
whether abandonment looms?

I filed it away with a folder of evidence:
proof beyond a reasonable doubt
of our mutual love
every birthday card
every note you'd leave on your way out
to remind me that you're coming back
every poem you scrawled on homemade
stationary,
collaged with birds, trees and other imagery
of that beautiful alternate universe
your soul reposes to when this one won't
stand

Every memory from your mom's transition:

the deepest sadness I had experienced
up till then since
it was the deepest sadness you had
experienced
up till then

Thank you water for the passage of time
The seasons change and the case remains
open
I often turn back to the evidence file
and see new things I hadn't observed
before
The last correspondence somehow keeps
magically
shifting words,
embossing new meaning as though out of
Nowhere

Thank you water for the passage of time
"Life is Long."
That's what you said to me
the last time I heard your voice
the last time I saw your face
that last time in this life that I would
commune
with the soul who taught me
I can unconditionally love someone
I can unconditionally love myself

Or so I thought

Thank you water for the passage of time
Your person vanished
But your soul is forever sealed to mine

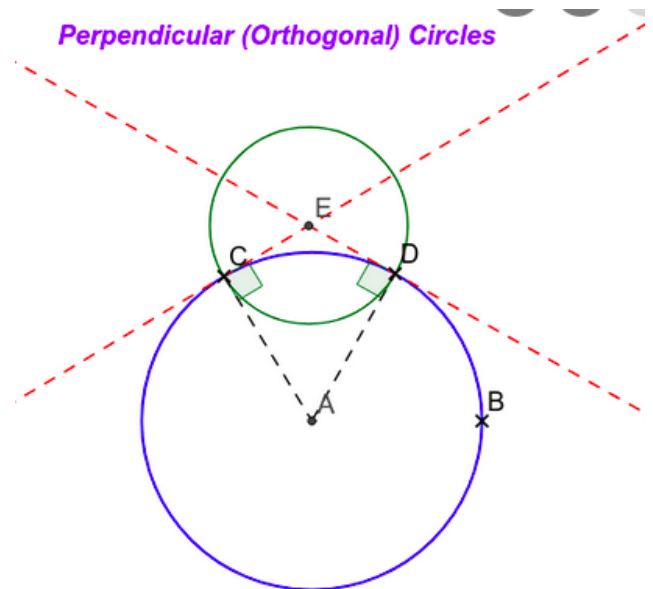
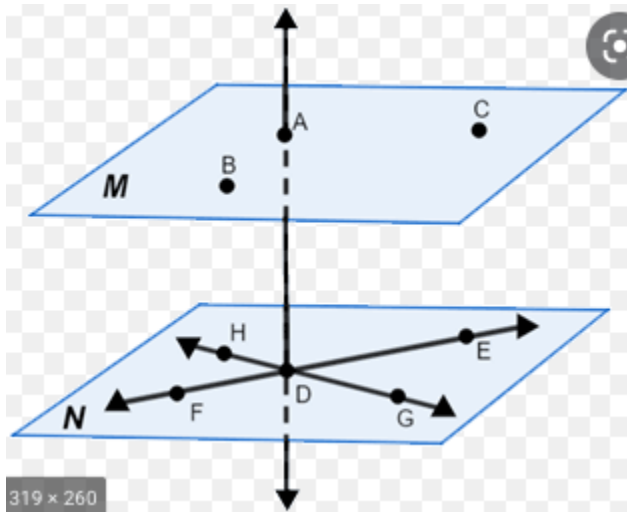
In The End

Alignment <> Peace

To be in *alignment* with all that is around you = Take Up Only as Much Space as You Need + Be
At Peace With All That is Around You

Geometry } Alignment = Coplanar x Orthogonal x Perpendicular x Parallel

Coplanar



The three "x" points are movable.

Statistics } Alignment = % Ego \ Lowest Self \ Fear of Abandonment ÷ %
Authentic Self | Highest Self | Unconditional Love

In The End... everyOne is Speaking The Truth and Making The Best Choices. If your
Sovereignty serves any purpose in their Sovereignty - it's to Learn as much as you can about

their context by walking alongside them, hearkening their Truth and Sharing with them What's
Yours in abunDance.

No One you can look in the I will ever be yOur Enemy. When someOne Speaks Their Truth and Makes Their Choice, mathematically some portion comes from their Ego - what is keeping them aLive in the upside-down world - and the rest is their Authentic Self. If you Love that One unconditionally, this is the perfect mirror to observe yOur Ego - sit there, strategize how you can stay aLive, parse through the Rest. Then, Speak yOur Truth and Make yOur Choice in Authentic Self.

The Great Orthogonal rEvolution*

rEvolution seXy
By Tara Vassefi

your REvolution is so unseXy to me
Yeah, it sizzles in the Summer but then it's erectile dysfunction, ghostin' come Winter
I wasted all these erections building with a trauma-wall, Intimacy
Because you say what you mean and mean what you say, self-ISH and Splintered

Speaking of Witch, just old man, was I too enhanced?
My bad for expecting depth beyond the screenpage
soundBites make for entertaining performanced
But Marx can tell you that the rEvolution will not be staged

I'll be Right Here, flying Up the Right Side of the X
Inverting heart above mind < upside-down > aligned in all directions saner
When you've innerstood and grown with this text
Come rEvolue with me, come dance and sing, and Bee rEvolution COplanar

While you limped down the left side of the Y,
You asked: "does my masculine energy bring out your feminine?"
wishing-washy her feminine can reVerb your masculine, Divine
Fuks the Patriarchy Guys > "I fuks with you" from them = empty - bin

You'll Never Be Able To reCreate Like We Last
until you learn to listen <> hearken to follow
If you're conditioned to create for YOUrself > godspeed: go alone, go fast
WE'll Secretly sur-Thrive > GoddessSpeed: rEvolue to accommodate your impotence hollow

I would say "seeya laytah Karen" or "Felicia, Byeeeeeeah!"
But that distraction's fleXYn
Seriously, Fuks The Patriarchy Gahhuyyyyyyah

We're keepin' the rEvolution seXXYYn

* HAPPY NEW YEAR EXPO! <> EX 2021 >< PO ("Patriarchal Orthogony") 2022 - Evolving Orthogonally Beyond Humanity's Most Resilient Weapon Of Mass Oppression <> Finding Alignment In Alllll Directions - The Great Orthogonal rEvolution - Planet Earth, "2022"

Orthogonally (perfect definition from Kaveman Chum):

"Short answer, in our Basic Worldview, orthogonal means perpendicular. Right Angles.

Long answer... Mathematically, there's a thing you can do to 2 equal sized sets of numbers called a Dot Product. Whenever a Dot Product of 2 things is 0, then they are considered Orthogonal to each other. In the case of Euclidean Geometry and Cartesian Coordinates, which is how most people think of math (the x and y axis graph approach to describing things we all learned in school), when you take 2 Perpendicular lines, if the 2 lines are described as Vectors (like an arrow that has Direction and Length), the Dot Product is 0 and they are Orthogonal. Orthogonal things sometimes have significance or impact on the real world, when applied to physics. Like, you are most stable when you build a building straight up to a flat ground - the building and ground are Orthogonal.

We are all very intuitively familiar with this implementation of a dot product/orthogonality and even gave it its own name - perpendicularity. It's just that the dot product can apply to many more approaches/concepts in math because it really just boils down to needing 2 Sets Of Numbers, and so a 0 Dot Product exists in other concepts than just 2 Perpendicular Lines. Imagine, for example, the history of temperatures in DC and San Diego. You could find the Dot Product of that data and find that they are orthogonal. In each of those areas, it May (or May Not) have some Significance the way right angles do in normal geometry or physics (in the case of the temperatures, probably no significance).

The subtitle of "Evolving Orthogonally" suggests moving in a direction that isn't on the existing line (spectrum) of thought. Like, if either patriarchy is a spectrum itself in some way, or if there's a spectrum from patriarchy to its opposite, we want to very specifically go (evolve) in a 3rd direction that is equally distant from the other 2 ends of the spectrum."

** Saluting all the Mathemagicians and Algorythmystics In My Life, especially Kate The Omnipotent Operator who taught me the word and so many others while we were Building Out Billie the Van for the Great Sunrise Tour of 2021; Genius-Transmuter Kaveman Chum; and Mumselle The Statistician, the OG Mathemagician who surely lost years of her life to the stress of tutoring me. 😊

proFound Orthogony - WOMXYN LIFE FREEDOM!

Fight, Flight, Free-ze***
By: Tara Vassefi****

Tongue out he retches “my mission and my son”
strong arms His Mother, that’s his favorite fun
key moans, more sweat massa honey engine grinds_stone
invest equity 60 to 0, that’s the quickest his legacy can go
Pedal to the metal, swarm steel, deal the game
Prize benz’ daughter, arrive=equal yt mans same
Dodge intimacy like therapy, cracked by the chain
Fight angry, bankrupt WARrior and sacrifice the sane

Wave particles duality of Light
Slow upside down, it’s Time for Flight
climb climb climb, trust the tree
Inverting Me Too, generations slaved three
Mamani taught x,y,z to alpha, with smoother grooves
From The SiStars, We Watch yOur Next Moves
Take My Word: Beta rel-Ease the butterflies
Suspended sweetly while Mama Afrika Rise

Float Feathered out FREE-ly, Still on the See
Life invites you to get High, transacting value non-binary
Capitalism did its BEST, patriArched Male of the Species obsolete
Colony collapsed is Order, pollinators reTreat
Embrace deeply yOur Mother, cure cancer tHere
inSpire Our Siblings: the safest speed is breathing in clean air
Truth Justice Love weights for no One
That’s the pennamotion***** of My Mission And My Sun

*** proFound Orthogony - WOMXYN LIFE FREEDOM! - Planet Earth, Holi Days preparing for
“2023”

**** Reminding mySelf <> Shining SiStars! We Have Every.Thing We Need - now let’s emBrace
Truth <💧 > Justice <🔥 > Love as a Public G☺d

Succeeding The Great Awakening of the Divine Feminine <> Secret Womxn - Planet Earth,
“2020”

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1totXTJNKU8w6BoEN5yDVLNEBwuHX2sGmdPVWYed0Wgs/edit>

And also Succeeding The Great Awakening of the Divine Masculine <> Rage and Receive - Planet Earth, "2021"

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1c0KtJuHB6es5nRxCM60jSgJwMB3ic9TO9R1_fWKRFOc/edit

And also Succeeding the Great Orthogonal rEvolution <> Evolving Orthogonally Beyond Humanity's Most Resilient Weapon Of Mass Oppression <> Finding Alignment In Allllll Directions - Planet Earth, "2022"

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1b99qhpG-FPSu9x53vshp9m7qkf6b2zTy0RXOrPD4Ct0/edit?usp=sharing>



***** the velocity of a feather in a uniVerse where noThing changes and Time is Still



Bee Day
December 7

Control!

Capitalism: private ownership of the
↓
individualization
↓
alone
↓
lies!!!
Means of production
people!
humans!
siblings!
mother
Earth!
according to who?

surplus value: the value of commodities produced by the worker in the course of a Day is Greater than the Value of his/her own labor-power
↓
excess
↓
waste
according to whom

Fluct
bend

time \leftrightarrow wind
erasing, back + forth

Sovereigns
define
the value
of our labor
their

revelation

time is really
standing still

* that's why
nothing changes!!!

oxymoron

* dynamics ~~can~~
be transformed

nothing changes: challenges can be transformed into Opportunities

what about in the challenge of "untruth" - when are untruths a challenge, only when they are not framed as opportunities

if you never see the challenges, you'll spend most of your Time Building Opportunities



Palimpsest by Sovereign Tara Vassefi
Sourced from Fellow Sovereigns and in Sovereignty



Palimpsest by Sovereign Tara Vassefi
Sourced from Fellow Sovereigns and in Sovereignty

