

WHO TAUGHT YOU HOW TO LOVE?

RUBY SALES TALKS ABOUT HOW "INTIMACY IS THE TRIGGER FINGER OF EMPIRE." EMPIRE, SHE SAYS, WANTS TO DESTROY THE WAYS IN WHICH WE KNOW EACH OTHER. SHE IS SPEAKING PARTICULARLY OF HOW BLACK COMMUNITIES ARE TARGETED BY IDEOLOGIES OF POWER AND WHITE SUPREMACY.

RUBY SALES INVITES US ALL TO CONSIDER THE CULTIVATION OF INTIMACY AS A RADICAL ACT OF PROTEST AND REPAIR.

INTIMACY AND DISCOURSE

DESPITE THE FACT THAT WE CANNOT BE IN EACH OTHER'S PRESENCE LET ALONE PACKED LIKE SARDINES INTO A DARKENED THEATER WE CAN TAKE PART IN THE CULTIVATION OF INTIMACY AND DISCOURSE.

WE CAN PARTICIPATE IN RADICAL ACTS OF PROTEST AND REPAIR.

SO WE* MADE THE FUTURE IS PRESENT

* CHARLOTTE BRATHWAITE, JUSTIN HICKS, JANANI BALASUBRAMANIAN, SUNDER GANGLANI, JUNE CROSS, ALYSSA SIMMONS

TFP IS A PROCESS AND A PRACTICE, IT'S A MODEL FOR BUILDING COMMUNITY IN A VERY SMALL AND INCREDIBLY POWERFUL WAY - AND IN THIS SENSE, IT'S THEATER.

WE BUILT A SMALL COMMUNITY OF BLACK AND INDIGENOUS YOUNG PEOPLE BELIEVING THAT THEIR EXPERIENCES, THEIR VOICES AND VISION NEEDED TO BE CENTRAL IN THE PROCESS OF IMAGINING AND MAKING WHAT'S TO COME.

AND WE BUILT A SMALL COMMUNITY OF YOUNG ARTISTS* AT BARD WHO LISTENED INTENTLY AND MADE OFFERINGS BACK TO THE YOUTH.

TATY
ADRIAN
HAKIMA
CAM
DANI
MENGCHEN
MEGAN
ANYA

WE MET FOR HOURS AND HOURS ACROSS SEVEN WEEKS. WE ASKED AND ANSWERED EACH OTHER'S QUESTIONS, WE MADE ART TOGETHER AND SHARED OUR JOYS AND STRUGGLES,
WE REHEARSED

WE PROJECTED OURSELVES INTO A FUTURE IN WHICH WE ARE LOVED ABSOLUTELY AND WE REHEARSED OUR LIVES THERE

THE YOUTH COHORT CREATED DEMANDS ON OUR COLLECTIVE FUTURE, AND THE BARD COMMUNITY MEMBERS LISTENED, DEEPLY.

TOGETHER, WE UNDERWENT A PROCESS OF AMPLIFYING THOSE DEMANDS WHICH EXIST IN THE WAY A PERFORMANCE SCRIPT OR SCORE EXISTS - TEXT TO BE TRANSFORMED, ENLIVENED, EMBODIED, EMBEDDED, SPOKEN AND SUNG.

THE ARTISTS AT BARD HAVE MADE A FILM FOR THE YOUTH COHORT AND WILL BE RELEASING IT NEXT MONTH.

INTIMACY AND DISCOURSE

THIS IS AN INVITATION TO YOU TO PARTICIPATE, SOMEHOW, ON TERMS THAT MAKE SENSE IN YOUR COMMUNITY. WE WOULD LOVE TO TALK ABOUT WHAT THAT MIGHT MEAN FOR YOU.

REACH OUT AT

COORDINATOR@THEFUTUREISPPRESENT.XYZ

SERIOUSLY, REACH OUT.

WITH GRATITUDE, TFP

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