

FanXoa: 24 Electric Heroines – Punk, Guerilla, Philosophy



Seizing Freedom: speech and expressions of the body, commitments and reflections on the world

Through 24 portraits of women corresponding to the 24 hours of a day, this imaginary journey, which is both graphic and intellectual, establishes virtual connections between different characters, different cultures and different spaces. Each portrait is accompanied by a visual, textual or audio document that makes it possible to establish these fictitious links between the artistic and intellectual production of the 24 authors. This exhibit combines three themes Punk, Guerrilla, and Philosophy that comprise the artistic and intellectual construction of the display's creator.

Three-eighths of this 24-hour day offers an immersion into the punk rock culture through eight iconic figures. The exhibit then moves into the domain of action through eight portraits of "guerilleras". Finally, it extends into intellectual reflection through eight portraits of women philosophers. Identity, resistance and gender are the key words of this iconographic staging, which intends to dissolve the barriers between culture, action and reflection by combining them in a road-video set-up that presents these female authors in their own words. Each woman depicts an affirmation, a reflection or a questioning of the world. These positions are highlighted through texts, music or videos.

Artistically, by re-appropriating and diverting the photographic image, the project flirts with the FanArt perspective and addresses the issues raised by the New Figuration Movement, which included a participatory dimension through narrative and its relation to social life. These portraits are either acrylics, drawings, or collages, and at times a combination of these different media. They are of relatively small dimension, so as to maintain a certain intimacy between the viewer and the pictorial representation. This proximity is suggested by the alignment of the portrait's eyes. Through a neo-expressionist type of approach and through the textual extracts presented, the portrait as a graphic representation becomes simultaneously the vector of emotions and of reflection. The fourth wall of the exhibit invites us to read and react to the memorable texts selected for a huge annotated collage presented as a "Feminist Dazibao". Finally, each visitor is invited to personally contribute to the project by writing down the names of other important female figures in a Guest Book placed at the end of the exhibit. A "Part 2" will be available online.

FanXoa (traduction with the help of Layla Roesler)

« I want a twenty-four-hour truce during which there is no rape » / Andrea Dworkin at the National Organisation for Changing Men, 1983.