

Now Announcing: *transfluent*
Pearly Foam and Trisha Shattuck: Machinations of a Monk
EXHIBITIONS AT-A-GLANCE

EXHIBITION TITLES: *Trisha Shattuck: Machinations of a Monk* and *Pearly Foam*

OVERVIEW: *Transfluent* is a three month-long public engagement in support of trans representation and advocacy. These two exhibitions are held concurrently at Center on Halsted and David Weinberg Photography.

Trisha Shattuck: Machinations of a Monk (on display October 9 – January 5, 2016) is a selection of cerebral oil paintings from the subject of the award winning documentary film, *From This Day Forward*.

Pearly Foam (on display October 23 – January 9, 2016) includes the work of Sofia Moreno, Wolfie E. Rawk, and Oli Rodriguez. The exhibition features photography, sculpture, and installation work that investigates gender politics and queer culture from a spectrum of political positions. Although the content varies, a similar setting of a dream-like seascape connects the three artists' works. Find out more online at: www.d-weinberg.com/pearly-foam

LOCATION & HOURS: *Pearly Foam* is on display at David Weinberg Photography, 300 West Superior Street, #203, Chicago, IL., Mon. – Sat., 10am to 5pm.
Trisha Shattuck: Machinations of a Monk is on display at Center on Halsted, Third Floor Gallery, 3656 North Halsted Street Chicago, Ill., open daily, 8am – 9pm.

NON-PROFIT PARTNER: *Pearly Foam* and *Trisha Shattuck: Machinations of a Monk* are curated in collaboration with Center on Halsted. All exhibition proceeds support this nonprofit organization and the artists.
www.centeronhalsted.org

ABOUT DAVID WEINBERG PHOTOGRAPHY: David Weinberg Photography is a gallery with the mission to educate and inform the public on issues of social justice. The gallery aims to provide an engaging environment for discourse on critical contemporary issues that concern the Chicago community and beyond. Joining artists with organizations in support and solidarity of their cause, the gallery works to drive change and cultivate a culture of consciousness. www.d-weinberg.com

Admission is Free. Art is available for purchase upon request.

All Media Requests: Please contact Orly Telisman Public Relations at 312-375-1230 or orly@orlypr.com.

Pearly Foam

Exhibition Press Release

For Immediate Release. (Chicago, IL). Opening October 23 (through January 9, 2016), David Weinberg Photography (d-weinberg.com) is pleased to present *Pearly Foam*, an art exhibition that questions cultural positioning of transgender identities and queer communities through the amended narratives of each artist. The artwork explores themes of identity, memory, and fantasy from the setting of a fictional and nonfictional waterscape.

Pearly Foam is a part of **trans**flu^{ent}, a three month-long public engagement in support of trans representation and advocacy. Developed in partnership with Center on Halsted, all exhibition revenue supports this nonprofit organization and the featured artists.

A free public reception for *Pearly Foam* will be held October 23, 5 – 8 pm at David Weinberg Photography, 300 W. Superior Street, #203, Chicago, IL.

Dream interpretation is a practice of analyzing metaphors from the images our unconscious minds reveal. The setting of a beach in a dream can indicate the convergence of two states of mind; your rational mind meeting your emotional self or your physicality and your spirituality represented through the symbols of water and sand. The title *Pearly Foam* is meant to illustrate the product of this meeting of selves, similar to the way in which the artist often produces a work of art from an analogous intersection of the psyche and material exploration.

Pearly Foam includes the work of Sofia Moreno, Wolfie E. Rawk, and Oli Rodriguez. The exhibition features photography, sculpture, and installation work that investigates gender politics and queer culture from a spectrum of political positions. Although the content represented varies, a similar setting of a dream-like seascape connects the three artists' works.

Setting the scene of our sea-dream exhibition, a selection from Rodriguez's work *The Papi Project* line the gallery walls. Drowsy photographs of deserted cruising sites investigate the effect of technology on queer hook-up culture, while also referencing the generational loss resulting from the AIDS epidemic. Rodriguez returns to his father's former hook-up spots – from the shores of the Chicago lakefront, to the beaches in Key West, the sunny lawns in the Großer Tiergarten, and palm tree-lined boulevards of Los Angeles. Adventitiously this compilation of sites renders a setting that reads like a respite at the water's edge or a tropical vacation. The granular images captured on 110-film are timeless at first glance but dig deeper into the photograph where one might ask - *where is everyone?* As the distance

between you and all of those missing people becomes greater, so does the devastating, sinking feeling of loss.

Selections from Moreno's ongoing interdisciplinary project *Porn Again: Vol. 2 – A\$\$Mutation*, retelling the classic tale of *The Little Mermaid*, adorn the gallery in the form of installations and sculptures. For *Pearly Foam*, Moreno reinstates "the beach", an installation resembling the millennial wasteland version of a Disney's "under the sea" sing-along. Her sculptures combine synthetic and natural materials, twisting together chaotic forms that speak to themes of trans-identity, technology, and the sex industry. Intimate fabrics are transformed with rope, paint and jewels to become hybrid sea nymphs that give birth to new myths. The art object becomes a reliquary for old lovers made new with brilliant splashes of paint and sequins. Moreno sheds her sea snake skin to build an aquatic myth that is handmade, in relation and in adulation to her body.

Rawk's paintings and display case, titled *Cargo Island (trans separatist, a tourist trade)*, imagines a fantasy cargo island reminiscent of a B-Horror film set as an extension of a fabled trans separatist island. On the envisioned trans separatist island, the inhabitants are sequestered and removed from a toxic world, therefore left to sell their goods to the voyeuristic tourists of their utopia turned dystopia (and vice versa). The gallery becomes their balmy gift shop. Among the bounty of goods, Rawk displays ceramic shark's teeth with a single bright red drop of blood and sifted postcard images, welcoming the sightseers to look on with caution.

A roster of free public events complements *Pearly Foam*, including a book release, film screening and performances. For details, please visit:

www.d-weinberg.com/pearly-foam-programming

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ABOUT CENTER ON HALSTED: Center on Halsted is the Midwest's most comprehensive community center dedicated to advancing community and securing the health and well being of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) people of Chicagoland. More than 1,000 community members visit the Center every day, located in the heart of Chicago's Lakeview Neighborhood. www.centeronhalsted.org

High-resolution images of artwork are available upon request.

Media Requests: Please contact Orly Telisman Public Relations at 312-375-1230 or orly@orlypr.com

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Trisha Shattuck: Machinations of a Monk
Exhibition Press Release

For Immediate Release. (Chicago, IL). Opening October 9 (through January 5, 2016), David Weinberg Photography (d-weinberg.com) is pleased to co-present, *Trisha Shattuck: Machinations of a Monk*, with Center on Halsted. This exhibition is a selection of cerebral oil paintings from the subject of the award winning documentary film *From This Day Forward*.

The show is a part of **trans***flu·ent*, a three month-long public engagement in support of trans representation and advocacy. Developed in partnership with Center on Halsted with support from Chicago Media Project, all exhibition revenue supports this nonprofit organization and the featured artist.

A free public opening reception will be held October 9, 7 - 9 pm at Center on Halsted, Third Floor Gallery, 3656 North Halsted Street Chicago, Illinois 60613.

Trisha Shattuck is a transgender artist living in Northern Michigan and primarily working in oil on canvas. Her paintings are a colorful, expressionistic blend of figurative and abstract work, which often renders a surreal image. Working outside of the canon of painting, Shattuck deals with the concepts of balance and duality, a mixture of controlled line and blended edges balancing between chaotic forms and delicate mark making. For Trisha, painting is a primordial practice that is deeply spiritual in nature. Through listening to her inner voice, an image is rendered upon the surface of the canvas until a narrative unfolds much like a dream presenting an allegorical tale. *Machinations of a Monk* is a selection of paintings made in dialogue with the canvas from the quiet room. Shattuck is the subject of the film *From This Day Forward*, screening at Center on Halsted on November 19th. The film kicks off a weekend-long series of films in honor of Trans Day of Remembrance. Please visit our website for more programming information: www.d-weinberg.com/pearly-foam-programming

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transfluent
Calendar of Events
Now Through January 9, 2016

Transfluent is a three month-long public engagement in support of trans representation and advocacy. Through varied forms of expression – visual, performative, and conversational – this program invites patrons and visitors to engage with the question: Am I **transfluent**?

In celebration, two art exhibitions – *Pearly Foam* and *Trisha Shattuck: Machinations of a Monk* – are being held concurrently at Center on Halsted and David Weinberg Photography. With an exhibition anchored at each site, corollary programming is scheduled throughout the season between the two spaces to offer individuals the opportunity to engage with artistic forms of trans representation coupled with moments of critical learning and understanding. Programming for the season extends beyond the two art shows to include conversations with the artists, screenings of their work, the Trans Day of Remembrance commemoration, the **trans flu·ent·ial** film festival, and a legal panel highlighting trans rights.

Please join us at the following public events, also formed in partnership with [Chicago Media Project](#). For more information: www.d-weinberg.com/pearly-foam-programming.

October 9, 7-9 pm

Opening Reception: *Trisha Shattuck: Machinations of a Monk*

Location: Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted St., Chicago, IL. Third Floor Gallery

Join Center on Halsted, David Weinberg Photography, and Chicago Media Project at the opening reception for *Machinations of a Monk*.

October 21, 6-8 pm

***Pearly Foam*: Artist Panel Discussion**

Location: Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted St., Chicago, IL. Third Floor Gallery

Join Center on Halsted and David Weinberg Photography for a discussion with *Pearly Foam* artists Sofia Moreno, Wolfie E. Rawk, and Oli Rodriguez.

October 23, 5-8 pm

Opening Public Reception: *Pearly Foam*

Location: David Weinberg Photography, 300 W. Superior St. #203, Chicago, IL.

November 8, 1-4 pm

Oli Rodriguez: Artist Talk and Book Launch

Location: David Weinberg Photography, 300 W. Superior St. #203, Chicago, IL.

Please join us for *The Papi Project* book launch. Created by artist Oli Rodriguez, this interdisciplinary project expressed through 3D photographic sculptures, video, photography, and performance is now sequenced as a beautiful artist's monograph.

November 14, 6 pm

Wolfie E. Rawk: *a Duplicate Me Jaws AKA The Payback (or how I learned to quit worrying and love the taste of flesh)*

Location: David Weinberg Photography, 300 W. Superior St. #203, Chicago, IL.

Working continuously around the B-Horror film genre, Rawk presents a never-before-seen cut of the cult classic *Jaws*.

November 19, 6 pm

Screening: *From This Day Forward*

Location: Center on Halsted 3656 N. Halsted St., Chicago, Ill. Third Floor Gallery

Join Center on Halsted, David Weinberg Photography, and Chicago Media Project for the screening of *From This Day Forward*, an award-winning documentary featuring artist Trisha Shattuck. Trisha's work is on display in Center on Halsted's third floor gallery beginning October 9 through January 5, 2016. The screening is free and open to the public. To reserve your seat please visit: www.centeronhalsted.org/newevents.cfm.

November 20, 6:30-8 pm

Trans Day of Remembrance

Location: Center on Halsted 3656 N. Halsted St., Chicago, IL. Third Floor Gallery

Each year on November 20, Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) events occur throughout the world to honor the memory of those whose lives were lost in acts of anti-transgender violence in the past year. To mark this solemn day, we invite you to join us at the Center as we come together for an interactive evening of reflection, discussion, and advocacy.

November 21, 12:30-7 pm

trans flu·ent·ial Film Festival

Location: Center on Halsted 3656 N. Halsted St., Chicago, IL. Third Floor Gallery

The very first **trans flu·ent·ial Film Festival** at Center on Halsted is a daylong celebration of films that capture the unique and influential journey accompanying the trans experience. Programs will include feature length films, short films and several talk back sessions. Screenings are open to the public with a \$5 suggested donation. Please RSVP in advance to save your seat, www.community.centeronhalsted.org/transfluential.

December 3, 12-1:30pm – Trans Rights Panel

Location: David Weinberg Photography 300 W. Superior St. #203, Chicago, IL.
ACLU LGBT Project Director, John Knight leads a panel discussion on transgender rights.

December 4, 6-9pm

Sofia Moreno: Performances

Location: TBD

Sofia Moreno presents selections from the *Porn Again* video series. This event features live performances from Moreno's entourage of sea queens and collaborators throughout this project.

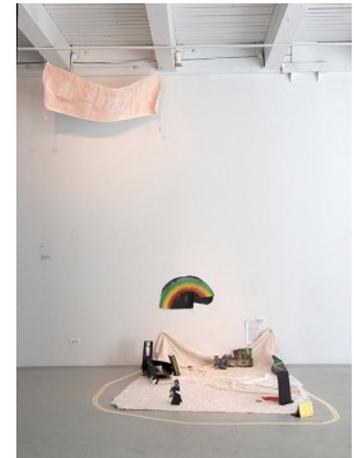
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Pearly Foam Exhibition
ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES



Sofia Moreno is a multimedia artist whose subjects include expressions of the sacred and profane, the body, sexuality, religion, and socio-political issues within contemporary culture. Moreno is currently working on the follow up to her three-year project *Porn Again*. "I'm interested in the essence of the body rather than the form itself. I paint a sexually and spiritually confused youth." She was born and raised in Coahuila, Mexico. In 1994, she immigrated to the United States, where she currently lives and works. Prior to moving to Chicago, Moreno lived in Dallas, Texas.

Wolfie E. Rawk is an interdisciplinary artist based in Chicago. They have exhibited their work and lectured at venues including the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, EXPO Chicago, Fiber Philadelphia Biennial and ACRE Projects. They obtained an MFA in Fiber and Material Studies from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2013, and a BA in Art and Art History from Hampshire College in 2008.



Oli Rodriguez is an interdisciplinary artist working in video, photography, and performance. His projects often conceptually intersect and dialogue within consent, queerness, childhood, and sexuality. Oli has screened, performed, lectured and exhibited at such institutions as The Banff Centre, Schwarzer Kanal, Berlin, Germany, Smart Museum, University of Chicago, Bridge Art Fair (New York City), Co-Prosperity Sphere, Hyde Park Art Center, X Initiative Gallery (New York City), Cornell University, Columbia College Chicago, Museum of Contemporary Art, and The Swimming Pool Project Space (Chicago). A Chicago native, he began his undergraduate career at DePaul University studying Psychology, Gender Studies and Photography. Oli pursued his MFA at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in the Film, Video, New Media and Animation Department. Currently, he serves as faculty in the Photography Department at the School of the Art Institute in Chicago.



Please visit www.d-weinberg.com/pearly-foam for more information.

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Pearly Foam

Curatorial Statement; Meg Noe

Gazing into the water from the land, sleepy-eyed from orgasm, the tide folds the air into each wake and disperses tiny bubbles on the sand. Foam is the combination of elements air and water as they touch the earth. Is this a clouded memory or a verisimilar dream? In a beach dream the rational (water) and emotional (sand) converge at the boundaries of one's physical body and spiritual Self. Here on this shore, the sea collects our haunting memories; our toxic waste and vanishing tears and deposits on the sand a frothy play of colors, a hypnogogic state. *Pearly Foam* is a product of these elements in transition.

*Cool waves wash over me
Cool water running free
Lay your sweet hand on me
- Jason Pierce*

Pearly Foam features the work of three artists: Sofia Moreno, Wolfie E. Rawk, and Oli Rodriguez. Although each artist represents radically different political positions, they share the themes of water, transition, identity, and fantasy. Moreno, Rawk, and Rodriguez construct realities and provide observations from the shoreline of desire, utopia, and trans/queer politics. Selections from Moreno's ongoing installation and video project *P o r n A g a i n: Vol. 2 – A\$\$Mutation* retells the classic tale of the Little Mermaid. Intimate fabrics become hybrid sea nymphs and give birth to new myths. For *Cargo Island*, Rawk constructs a fantasy cargo island reminiscent of a B-Horror film set. The artist's associated work, *Mirage*, is concurrently on view at the Learning Machine in Bridgeport. Rodriguez's drowsy photographs of deserted cruising sites on the coast of Key West and Chicago's lakefront investigate the effect of technology on queer hook-up culture. The artist also references the generation's loss to AIDS.

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Pearly Foam (October 23, 2015 – January 9, 2016)

David Weinberg Photography, 300 W. Superior #203, Chicago, IL 60654. www.d-weinberg.com

Center on Halsted is grounded by our mission of advancing community and securing the health and well being of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) people of Chicagoland. Since its founding in 1973 as Gay Horizons, we've grown from a nascent liberation movement to acquiring rights and affirming identities nationally, locally, within our communities, and amongst our families. Despite these advances, our journey is not over. Along the way, our coalition has grown and our terminologies expanded to include all on the gender and sexual orientation spectrums underneath the broad LGBTQ umbrella. As a diverse and ever evolving community, we believe that our strength comes from recognizing the differences amongst each other and that this understanding will allow us to thrive and live powerfully in supportive inclusive environments.

With transgender visibility at the nexus of conversations both nationally and locally, the timing of Center on Halsted's partnership with David Weinberg Photography on trans representation could not be more apt. Leaders in the trans community have welcomed allies and the public into understanding the disparities and inequities facing this population. At Center on Halsted, our services for the trans community aim to tackle and abate these areas, including housing instability, education, legal issues, employment services, and access to healthcare. Yet, Center on Halsted's unique position as a community center that provides both social services and cultural programming allows us to bridge this gap in a unique way and further the conversation, by providing individuals with the opportunity to engage with the various aspect of trans representation at the personal level. Art, a form of expression that is uniquely tied to the individual, is thus a natural entry point.

Center on Halsted is proud to co-produce, with David Weinberg Photography, **trans flu·ent**, a season of trans culture. Through varied forms of expression – visual, performative, and conversational – we welcome patrons and visitors to engage with the question: Am I **trans flu·ent**?

Resting with two exhibitions anchored at each site – *Trisha Shattuck: Machinations of a Monk* at Center on Halsted and *Pearly Foam* at David Weinberg Photograph – corollary programming is scheduled throughout the season between the two spaces to offer individuals the opportunity to engage with artistic forms of trans representation coupled with moments of critical learning and understanding. We at Center on Halsted invite you all to participate in this conversation and urge transformative action in creating a society where we are all equal.

Modesto Tico Valle

CEO, Center on Halsted

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