

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 3/2/20

Exhibit Highlighting the Ubiquity of Sexual Harassment and Assault to Open at Local Bookstore

Me Too: Unwanted Collections Opening Reception on International Women's Day, March 8

Long Beach, CA: On Sunday, March 8 at 4pm, Page Against the Machine Bookstore will host an opening reception for the exhibit *Me Too: Unwanted Collections*.

Me Too: Unwanted Collections is a women-centric art exhibit curated to illustrate the multitude of #metoo moments that each woman carries. This exhibit is intended to illuminate a new path for the #metoo movement, one which centers the narrative with the women themselves.

The exhibit consists of six pieces by different women. Contributors to this exhibit are not artists by trade. They are not collectors. They are extraordinary women bravely sharing their ordinary experiences in the hope of inspiring a change of action, thought or breath in order to create a new kind of collection together.

The reception will include remarks by the curator, Faith Pinho and each of the artists as well as a special presentation by Distinguished Toastmaster, Susan Cameron. Refreshments will be provided by Restauration.

About the Exhibit

A Receipt of Experiences

Caroline

In this piece, the artist morphs a meme into a catalogue of experiences in the form of a receipt of her first kiss at 17, college hook-ups, workplace sexual harassment and post-grad dating.

A Summer Waitressing in Paris

Pauline Legrand

These quotes were all collected within the span of one month (July 2019), during which the artist worked in a famous Parisian café.

Delicate Data

Sarah Pinho

This artist chose to treat her own stories as she would primary research data. What resulted was a neat and tidy sum total of the wounds inflicted upon her person.

Empty

Pauline Legrand

This work deals with the self-guilt that can follow a non-consensual sexual experience and the consequences it can have on one's sexuality and self-confidence.

Memorial de Agravios

Gina Rodríguez

Memorial de Agravios draws upon the centuries-old political tradition of documenting the offenses and grievances endured by pueblos or communities in Latin America.

Healing My Womb Every Day

Zebrina E. Maloy

Healing My Womb Every Day is a multi-dimensional art piece that represents the mental, physical, and spiritual healing that happens after experiencing sexual assault.

"Healing isn't linear. Some days, your garden is going to be filled with vibrant flowers and other days weeds are growing rampantly. You must choose to pull the weeds out of your garden to help it become fruitful and abundant. Choose to heal yourself every single day. I believe in you. The strength is within you – it is within all of us." – Zebrina E. Maloy

About *Unwanted Collections*

This exhibit is intended as a space for women to share their unwanted collections of experiences. After several conversations with various women about multiple incidents of harassment, Faith Pinho was inspired to curate *Unwanted Collections*. "I wanted to change the paradigm from cataloguing #metoo experiences by listing the accused man and the scores of women associated with him to illuminating the women and the numerous experiences they collect. I wanted to show that this isn't a matter of individual bad actors who prey on multiple women, but something pervasive and ubiquitous."

About Page Against the Machine

Page Against the Machine, a 400-square-foot pocket store on Long Beach's Retro Row, offers "fightin' words for mass defiance, empowerment, and self-reliance!" This fiercely independent bookstore is a place to not only accommodate but spark community, activism and inspiration. Page Against the Machine offers a highly curated selection of new and used books on a variety of political, social, and literary topics. The store also hosts art exhibits and events designed to further ideas and discussion about issues in today's society.

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