

class, or who otherwise fall outside of the definition of LGBT respectability and inclusion. These include, but are not limited to, the removal of Toronto's public meeting space known as "The Steps" in 2005, which seemed to host too many of the wrong kind of people, and the short-lived existence of the "Maitland and Homewood Safety Association" which was organized in 2008 to use policing, harassment, and traffic restrictions to prevent cars from entering Homewood Avenue at night, effectively attempting to run trans sex workers out of the neighbourhood where they had worked for years. Hanhardt further argues: "Although I assert that mainstream LGBT political discourse has substantively transformed the category of anti-LGBT violence from the social to the criminological, and that this shift was grounded in privatized claims to neighborhood, the process was neither foretold nor total." Indeed, multi-issue LGBT organizing and resistance persist, and the timeless activist call for urban justice; "Whose Streets?" remains a question under constant negotiation amongst various local forces. What is certain is that locally and abroad, we have inherited a disjointed legacy of a movement, and as people who feel connected to an LGBT movement we must understand the historical and political context in which we seek safety and belonging, or else risk calling for systemic violence in the name of gay safety.

RIO RODRIGUEZ is a queer latinx educator and health worker whose work is based in queer, trans and POC communities. Rio's Master in Environmental Studies from York University examined key moments in Toronto's gay village history, highlighting how urban planning has promoted white gay safety while displacing and criminalizing queer and trans bodies of colour. Rio currently spend their time in nursing school, working as a reproductive health educator, and leading radical walking QTBIPOC walking tours of the Church-Wellesley Village.

Contributors

Kokila Bhattacharya, 23, is a freelance visual artist/illustrator and activist. She has been involved with many issues—the Bhopal Carbide disaster being the principal one. She has kick-started quite a few campaigns and has exhibited around India. Kokila co-runs a co-working space in Bhopal and facilitates workshops around gender & alternate sexualities. She previously worked with the Remember Bhopal Museum and was featured on India's first Environmental reality show. Currently coordinating a project called 'Youth for Children,' she is also associated with a few youth organizations. Nihilism remains her unwavering muse. Music, dance, poetry, and intersectional art are vital elements in her work. She is keen on collaborating with journalists and activists to visualize socio-political/environmental issues as a part of 'Eyes Wide Shut' independently.

Kathleen Brown writes fiction, poetry, and plays. She has conducted poets' theatre works with Erin Robinsong, Oana Avasilichioaei, Greg Debicki of Woulg, and the PataGraduates. She currently lives in Alberta with her partner and their new son—who is her most amazing poem ever!

Melissa A. Dean (aka The M.A.D. Poet) is an award-winning dub poet, community arts professional, youth mentor, curator, and scholar. Through art, Dean works tirelessly to re-imagine the black experience and rebuild the black community, one mind, one heart, at a time. On November 6, 2011, Dean was honoured with the Canadian African Caribbean Unsung Heroes Award in Youth Arts and Entertainment. The Award ceremony was held at the Jamaican Canadian Association (JCA) headquarters, in tribute to Marcus Mosiah Garvey. As Education Artist-in-residence at the Art Gallery of York University (AGYU), Dean curated the award-winning group exhibition "Lost and Found: (Finding) Hidden Beauty in the 'Hood'(OAAG, Public Program Award). She also created the innovative "If We Ruled the World" Youth Mentorship Program (OAAG, Education Award), which worked to find creative ways of incorporating youth voice into the Urban Planning decision-

making process. Dean completed her Master in Environmental Studies at York University, with major research work entitled "Learning for Liberation: Critical Black Poetry Pedagogy and Transformative Education."

Erica Ann Gajewski received an M.F.A and B.F.A from the Savannah College of Art and Design, in Savannah, GA. She is presently engaged in doctoral studies at York University in Toronto, where she continues to explore the intersection of animals, art, and environmental thought. Her artwork highlights the entanglements between human lives and the lives of other animals. Each work is a testament to an animal life, created in an attempt to see, think about, consider and remember them.

Tina Garnett is 6th generation Canadian Black; her roots in Canada began at the Great Lakes Black Settlement in Collingwood, Ontario, in 1831. She has been developing equity based programs and services for two decades. As a co-founder and executive director of a northern rural aboriginal youth organization, she challenged the systemic and systematic historical and current oppression that exists for Aboriginal communities. Tina's work with sexually exploited Aboriginal women led her to clearly identify her commitment to equity and inclusion work. It was this cutting edge work that led the way for her future anti-racist and anti-oppression work for marginalized communities in Ontario. Upon returning to Ontario, she continued to work with vulnerable communities and individuals, who are further marginalized because of their converging political locations and identities. Most recently she returned to academia in pursuit of her Master in Environmental Studies; with a specialty in creating culturally safe trauma services for Indigenous and Black women. Tina balances her work by finding joy with her children, grandchildren, and her partner.

Peter Hobbs is a Toronto-based academic-artist. He is a recent graduate of the PhD program in Environmental Studies at York University.

Contributors

Jan Kucic-Riker completed his MES from York University in 2015. He currently works as a researcher at the University of Sydney. His research interests include the political economy of environmental problems, postdevelopment theory, and critical perspectives on economic growth. Jan can be reached at j.kucic@hotmail.com.

Dylan McMahon is a graduate of York University with a Master in Environmental Studies. His research has focused on the 'extractive imaginary' and the ways in which resource development and settler-colonialism intersect in Northern Ontario's 'Ring of Fire.' He currently lives in Ottawa where he helps implement and negotiate treaties.

Maya Nye is currently a doctoral student in the Department of Occupational and Environmental Health Sciences at West Virginia University's School of Public Health. Her research is guided by her experiences growing up in West Virginia's "Chemical Valley," and investigates the systemic barriers faced by vulner-

able communities who are disproportionately impacted by environmental burdens and their struggle in obtaining health equity. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Antioch College and is the former Executive Director of People Concerned About Chemical Safety, a 33-year old community organization dedicated to the health and safety of all of those who work, study and reside within the vicinity of toxic chemicals.

Reena Shadaan is a doctoral candidate in the Faculty of Environmental Studies at York University. Her work explores environmental justice broadly, and in particular, gender and environmental racism, gender and environmental health, and reproductive justice. Since 2013, she has been a Coordinating Committee member of the North American solidarity tier of the International Campaign for Justice in Bhopal (ICJB)—an environmental justice and corporate accountability campaign that is led by survivors of the 1984 Bhopal gas disaster, and seeks justice for the ongoing disaster in Bhopal, India.

Rachel Small is a community builder, artist, wordsmith, and facilitator. She spends much of her time working within environmental justice movements, and, more specifically, has been working in solidarity with communities impacted by Canadian extractive projects in Latin America for nearly a decade. She organizes in Toronto with the Mining Injustice Solidarity Network and Breaking the Silence, and has a Master in Environmental Studies from York University.

Carmen Umana K. is a Master's candidate in the Faculty of Environmental Studies at York University with a background in fine arts, history, and anthropology. Her research examines the links between how freshwater is understood and valued, and how it is used and managed. By bridging her fine arts training with academic pursuits, Carmen hopes to continue experimenting with creative mediums both within collaborative research methodologies and within a future PhD program.