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# COMPOSITION

100 sheets/200 pages

ROSANNA MCLAUGHLIN MARCH/2017  
APRIL

WIDE RULED

07/03/2017

To do:

Write up notes on the Biennial

A strange day. Tried a tour of the Jamaica National Gallery with Ralph Lauren's son, Andrew, and his girlfriend Natasha, who were being shown around the island by a hotelier - they'd stayed on in Jamaica. It turned out, after a wedding at Montego Bay.

He was wearing a Ralph Lauren Polo shirt, chinos and dark shoes - repping for the family dynasty. A nice guy, but sort of insipid in the way that the extremely wealthy tend to be. He worked out, for sure, but his muscles had never been put to use. There is a little forpor about wealthy bodies, shaped as they are only by whims and wants, and not by necessity.

Anyway, we walked around Pever House - built in the late 1800s by Jamaica's 1st black millionaire, in plantation-style. The building is unequivocally fabulous, but the shadow of slavery - of colonialism - hangs heavy over the Wedgwood medallion in the ceiling. Lauren and his girlfriend liked all the colonial



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feature: best - and took shape for inspiration for interior design. As I say, a strange day.

### SCHEDULE

Monday at 10:30 AM

DAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM
11:30 AM	11:30 AM	11:30 AM	11:30 AM	11:30 AM
12:30 PM	12:30 PM	12:30 PM	12:30 PM	12:30 PM
1:30 PM	1:30 PM	1:30 PM	1:30 PM	1:30 PM
2:30 PM	2:30 PM	2:30 PM	2:30 PM	2:30 PM
3:30 PM	3:30 PM	3:30 PM	3:30 PM	3:30 PM
4:30 PM	4:30 PM	4:30 PM	4:30 PM	4:30 PM
5:30 PM	5:30 PM	5:30 PM	5:30 PM	5:30 PM
6:30 PM	6:30 PM	6:30 PM	6:30 PM	6:30 PM
7:30 PM	7:30 PM	7:30 PM	7:30 PM	7:30 PM
8:30 PM	8:30 PM	8:30 PM	8:30 PM	8:30 PM
9:30 PM	9:30 PM	9:30 PM	9:30 PM	9:30 PM
10:30 PM	10:30 PM	10:30 PM	10:30 PM	10:30 PM
11:30 PM	11:30 PM	11:30 PM	11:30 PM	11:30 PM

09/03/2017

to do:

- write to P. Ruby Rich - asking questions about the trial - and the division between women.
- write to Paula Cooper Gallery - ask for Andre's side of the story
- write to Guerrilla Girls. Decide about posters? Send over 5 questions. Apologise for delay.

What do I want to know?

What it was like during the trial. But also, what do those on the pro-Mandela camp make of Coco's criticism? Tread lightly...

Questions for me...

How critical to be of WIAM? Is it worthwhile to deconstruct a feminist movement at a time like this?

My issue is that WIAM are also 'post-truth' - like Trumpism they rely on belief over information.



10/03/17

To Do

Email Birkie Hadle at Alison Jacques  
about Estate of Mendietta

- questions - from basic factual info to critical position.

e.g. How long have you worked with her?

How many works do you have - and also,  
how many have been designated artworks  
post-mortem.

- How do you deal with the political situation?

- What is the Estate's line on AM's death  
and ~~the~~ her popularity as a protest figure?

- ~~Is the popularity of~~ ~~to~~ there still an affinity  
towards thinking Mendietta's work?

↓  
I'm interested in how to distinguish between  
life, death + work.

Some artists - Coco Fusco - extremely critical  
of AM's post-death conversation

- Possible to speak with someone in the family, her sister -  
about her experience of AM's post-mortem fame?

13/03/17

Saturday: Tambora Army March

Baking heat - made about 150 metres.

Protest in purple, drumming ceremony to introduce.

It's position, here - dramatic palpable between ~~wealthy~~ wealthy white feminists and black

Tamarans. Funny how the same struggle re-emergs: the established political demographic - in this case, the white feminist-taking umbrage at the perceived interloper.

A small but vital protest, so different to the massive marches in the UK, where

100,000 tuned up - and marched so

quietly you could hear the camera shutter click, and the helicopters overhead.

The London march was ~~dominated~~ peopled by those who had until recently been the unshakable status quo - liberal, middle-class, predominantly white + educated, but feel themselves at threat with the rise of Trump + xenophobia.

Many had never marched before, and were not in any way used to the role of 'outsider'. The TA march, on the other hand, was fighting against the status quo here that makes misogyny ~~about~~



~~commonplace~~. commonplace. And to add to this the group was organized by black leaders who oppose the church: on the line, to say the least.

Today last night I interviewed Charsten Clifford who organized the AM protests in NYC, chuckling about the pavement in front of DLA's Andre retrospective. Like a number of people devoted to Mandieka she is ~~has~~ been sexually abused. She was amazing to speak to, actually, sincerely open & thoughtful.

Today, I interviewed Susan B, who knew Carl A. a little, and AM even less. She's not down with the protests, believes, if anything, that CA has been victimized.

Remembering how unguarded people still are, despite the possibility, in 2017, for any comment published on any platform to whip up a shit storm.

20/05/2023

Read: Where Is Ana Mendota? Koddab

Anna Chavez Graves End ✓

Art forum review



20/03/2017

16/03 Bus to Montego Bay from Kingston

Tried to read *Testa Junkie* by Paul & Peinado at the bus stop. While a taxi driver outlined his plans for our marriage. We would move to the UK, open a restaurant, he would cook Jamaican food, I would cook British.

He asked if I was married, to which I said yes, not specifying whether I was married to a woman.

Since it turns out sexy queer theory is ~~incompatible~~ with sudden re-assertion of patriarchy, but the contrast was nevertheless amusing.

Immediately ~~after~~ bus, I went to the ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ final installation of the ~~billboard~~. It was a good fit for Montego Bay - an ~~urban~~-rural installation that presented in ~~an~~ ~~urban~~ - ~~Flavel~~ ~~with~~ ~~lies~~ - a sort of ~~hedonistic~~ 'natural' trip. Magic mushrooms? America ~~tricks~~ everywhere. drinks ~~and~~ leaking money ~~and~~ beer. The weather is beautiful but completely ~~recited~~ - you have to pay to get a ~~to~~ the beach, and once there, everything is catered

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friends US tourists. This made the head  
lois ~~unavailable~~ <sup>available</sup> could equally find it  
installed ~~at the~~ <sup>at the</sup> ~~Costa~~ <sup>Costa</sup> ~~Hotel~~ <sup>Hotel</sup> or Abercrombie store  
in a shopping mall.

Wonderful ~~request~~ <sup>request</sup> house - The Knight ~~trick~~ <sup>trick</sup> +  
wash the beach down there. Breakfast of ackee picked  
from the ~~signature~~ <sup>signature</sup> was the veranda and a view over  
the sea!

It rained quite a bit - He said to me  
enjoyed watching ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~entire~~ <sup>entire</sup> sitting on the beach  
with ~~unrelated~~ <sup>unrelated</sup> ~~way~~ <sup>way</sup> that ~~what~~ <sup>what</sup> ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup>  
do.

While in ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~city~~ <sup>city</sup> ~~of~~ <sup>of</sup> ~~Managua~~ <sup>Managua</sup> by Anna Chave  
as the ~~symbolic~~ <sup>symbolic</sup> ~~association~~ <sup>association</sup> of municipalism -  
as an essential ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~highly~~ <sup>highly</sup> ~~violent~~ <sup>violent</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~movement~~ <sup>movement</sup>.  
Am ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> always read ~~through~~ <sup>through</sup> a  
massively ~~biographical~~ <sup>biographical</sup> ~~lens~~ <sup>lens</sup>. And ~~that~~ <sup>that</sup> ~~so~~ <sup>so</sup>. But  
his famous ~~notion~~ <sup>notion</sup> that 'a brick is a brick'  
and nothing more ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~under~~ <sup>under</sup> ~~by~~ <sup>by</sup> his constant  
referencing of the phallos ~~in~~ <sup>in</sup> the ~~desires~~ <sup>desires</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~sculpture~~ <sup>sculpture</sup> ~~as~~ <sup>as</sup> ~~in~~ <sup>in</sup> the ~~engaged~~ <sup>engaged</sup> ~~position~~ <sup>position</sup> - ie ~~actually~~ <sup>actually</sup>  
fucking. The assumption, of course, is that



phallic symbolism not phalloscentric, not universally true.

Back at studio today.

To do:

email Cuenca Brits

" Tate

" May Ruth Edelman

Begin compiling notes on Am.

Blocker's idea in order to prevent victimization of Am, should we welcome Andre?

Read Tina's draft Whitney application.

Finally concerned with limit of identity politics and its insistence on the wound.

Finalist Emily Rife - ask her film - also find edge limits of identity politics.

Conflict: ~~person~~ IP gives platform to the historically marginalized. It also holds on to the glorifies it. In white m/c circles in UK, it becomes a legitimizer. Also - term used by many people in heterosexual relationships

was, even told at Slack Party that  
being lesbian was binary. My reply, although  
more politely put, was fuck you.

For some identity is choice - usually in those  
instances where A can be left at the door -  
when going home to boyfriends, families, at work,  
on official documents. For others A is a reality.



Relates to AM because she served as  
ideal subject of identity politics. Evidence  
of aggression. What choices choosing her  
to fulfil this role? And why?

At REAM there was a sense of identity  
Top Things. Some people were considered more  
worthy of opinion (me, for instance, because I'm  
a lesbian). ~~And it required rather a lot of assumptions~~

~~And it required rather a lot of assumptions~~  
being made about people, too. It.

Obviously I am biased and generally believe  
those forced to live outside of heterosexuality  
& heteronormativity are inclined to be more  
intelligent because they must learn to see the





27/05/2017

Tb. po

Work on review - fact-check  
1,200 words. Gung to have to cut  
some activity.

So far:

linked  
to  
Fairbairn  
Amy  
Ston,  
Burr

x: Peter (Dea) Kirkards ) becomes too negative, too quickly, to  
begin with Kirkards!

Stash Sanlter ) Good link up  
Merla James)

Deborah A.

Jamie G-Thomas

x Nicholas Rose - odd one out - <sup>hard to treat as bigger picture,</sup>  
but (like it. -

x Anna Facey

Consider overall tone. Don't be overly negative  
- It's a ball at times - find a way to discuss heavy  
weight matter without being heavy about the process



1705170125

Prepare for talk at Edna Manning  
30x/45min talk 15/3am - down in

Intro to me + my show 0051

↓

Intro to importance of history

↓

Reviews

↓

Interviews

↓

Intro to pitch

↓

Interviews + reviews + pitch  
Intro to importance of history  
Reviews  
Interviews  
Intro to pitch

Leah

pp culture  
migration

Stuart Sauter

Tamboune Army

speaking out against violence

Camille Chedda

Identity/Racial history

Omari Ra

Jasmine G-T



30/07/2017

TO DO

work on review

compile notes for Oweika: does + dents for writing for print.

Difficult, as a fan of sorts, to find right tone for review - let critique belong to the artists, make the work speak as the work when it's central/object (not/for). do not let it bleed in what appears to be my reading of contemporary Jamaican culture, ~~which~~ I do not possess the insight, nor the position, to make such a call.



Begin stripping back AM notes for talk on 22<sup>nd</sup>.

I have 20,000 words - many of which are repetitive. feed in Schutz debate, feed in Tambourne Army, and feed in Muehl - what sort of character does the market want? A male genius so ahead of his time, the audience can't handle him? Otto Muehl?

An overlooked female artist?

08/04/2017

film screening Ana Mendieta: fuego de Tierra last night.  
No mention of Andre, no recounting of  
AM's death in detail. Work described as  
positive - about life + belonging.

it was the

I realize ~~for the~~ first time, ~~to see~~ that I have  
seen her moving, in a film other than her  
outwork. Photographs, so quickly becomes  
icons.

This, above all else, I found surprisingly moving.  
The subject I have been reading about, theorizing  
about, for so long, suddenly alive on screen.

It's an obvious thing to state how beautiful  
she was - obvious, but perhaps not irrelevant.  
The obsessiveness ~~quality~~ of that she resides among  
her followers is certainly due, in part, to her  
charisma.

After the screening, Deborah took me to Pub  
Club, up the winding hill, to a bar overlooking



30/07/2017

The city - funky below, Kingston buildings looked like stars reflected on the surface of a lake.

An interesting mixture of ~~people~~ + tourists.  
Middle-aged white people laughing over ~~me~~ <sup>and me</sup>,  
A reminder, as if anyone should need it, of how embarrassing white people can be.

04/04/2017

HILL WALKING MOUNTAIN SPRING

Up the hill through the jingly-path, to the view over the city again. This time many people walking sideways, zig-zagging to the top.

One woman listening to a recording: "How did you get so FAT, FAT, FAT, FAT, FAT, FAT?"  
I wonder if she paid for that motivation: fitness culture can be so cruel.

There is a man, long macaw up there, who sings from a place that cannot be seen from the road.

Earlier in the day walking home from Hi-Lo. I got sexually (verbally) accosted by some boys who must have been, at most, 8 years old. Wolf-whistled across the street. "O, white lady, blacker white mix nice." A strange experience, and a sad one too - misogyny learnt, will hope those boys are old enough to know what it means. ~~It~~  
Afterwards, they started singing from loose electrical cables. The penis & fragility of masculinity, indeed.



05/04/2017

Tomorrow: to Hollywell.

Today: tired, in studio. Swollen throat. The building banging in the wind. Attempting to trim 20,000 words into 6,000, in preparation for my talk: an exhausting proposition...

Being 'resident' is like being 'suspended'. Time does not move here as it does at home. I feel like I have entered into a productive sort of holding room. Sitting it out, until the work is done. Sitting it out until I can return home. To Melissa.

10/04

Back from Hollywell.

Cab up, at 7.30am, beyond Red Light, through the army barracks, to the National Park. Joined a coffee plantation tour with the Dig.Wire women married to employees of Digital who have their HQ in Kingston.

"What do you do all day?" was a popular question. Nothing, it turns out, alone. Bootcamp, Cannonball Cafe, hotel-brunches. Told them I went walking up at Mountain Spring. Only to be told, in return, not to go there solo, as it is a rape threat. Hard to know how to process such information. For my own sanity, I need to be able to walk somewhere here, and M. Spring has become a go-to in that regard. I have never had to consider myself at sexual risk as I do here.

The mountains were astonishing - so many flowers, and birds I have only ever seen in cages. And the smell of hot forest. I could inhale that for eternity. (Coffee tour made it table-



a group of wealthy white women - myself included - visit two black farm workers on their truck down home, before walking to the white plantation owner's home to buy bags of coffee at \$30 USD ~ pop. I asked the farm workers if they got to drink the coffee. A small bag, I was told, if they are lucky, they might be given at Christmas.

Forced myself to sleep early in <sup>the</sup> cabin so as not to be awake among the <sup>forest</sup> sands and the isolation.

Back down the next morning. My driver, 'Ranger Roger' was quite an experience. He offered to take me to a coffee shop on my way home - I acquiesced, suspecting a tourist trap but not particularly minding. I had got the wrong end of the stick - he wanted to leave my somewhere, while he laid an entirely new floor in his bathroom, ~~upstairs~~ by Hollywell.

Ended up sitting on a building site for an hour + half watching the rain with a rooster for company. & On the drive down

Ranger Roger explained to me the benefits of country men compared to city men. They have more stamina in bed. As uncomfortable it is to be whacked and the head with heterosexuality by straight men, Ranger Roger had so much to prove that he seemed woefully fragile. The impotence of bigness, as Hannah Arendt would say. I was glad to return to Kingston.

Sunday

Lunch with Analee + Deborah at the Pegasus Hotel.

Swimming pools in the rain. @ An old man playing a reggae-ish cover of Daniel Bedingfield:  
"I don't wanna run away  
But I can't take it  
I don't understand  
If I'm not made for you  
Then why does my heart tell me that I am"

• for the 2nd time here I lay a serviette over my knees at the table. Manners here are more established. Even at the cafe, everyone says 'good morning'.



11/04

Slays Kate & Schuch 11 am

Slays Choker Clifford pm?

~~Fact~~ fact Check friere article.

Work on final sentence. Tie it up - let  
don't make it hussy.

I want Laura facing down to operate as a perfect  
symbol for the entire Biennial. But maybe this  
is too neat, too much of an imposition!

Spend 2 hrs today on writing AIM. Work  
on final section - Stappert, Fosco, Rose.

12/04

Slept on bench for half an hour

Begin reading out loud - make the essay  
'spoken' not 'written'

↓  
a funny process - because writing makes one's  
voice more literary, and makes one's literature  
more conversational.

Ben and Cheese.



13/04.

Yoga teacher having a showdown on the  
cote with the owner of the Chinese  
restaurant, Sovereign North. Yoga is the  
leaseholder + had locked them out.

"You want in? Get a lawyer!"

Sounded like she was screaming them

Of all the misers I have known, hippies  
are the meanest.

Did 2 editorial read thoughts of Al's essay.  
Looked at Styer article for France - such  
piss + dignity in that voice.

Makes me think: I need to find my voice  
again. But with what? Or more poetically,  
with whom? Re-read Dixon? Have ordered  
Alton Als for my return. Maybe he can  
provide me with sustenance.

Sometimes I feel like I'm eating my organs  
when I don't have a voice to fall in love with.

I don't know how to think without telling  
I don't know how to look without showing

We tell ourselves stories in order to live.

*[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting]*

*[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting]*

*[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting]*

*[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting]*



Friday 14th - Good Friday

- Triple read through

- Everything closed - Church music playing next door. Every year, I forget, how religious people are. A ridiculous thing to forget, ~~just~~ which highlights the bubble in which I live.

Thinking about something that came to mind in hills. "I cannot think without telling. I cannot know without sharing." Compulsion to communicate, to be seen.

This very diary is an example of this - as is any diary. Always written to be read, even if we do not know <sup>it's cap 2</sup> ~~as with this diary~~ - if anyone will actually read it.

Diaries - ~~of its demands~~, and the audience a diary is written for, operates in a religious terrain - We hope to be seen, known, understood, remembered, at the final reckoning.

We hope to be justified. God is the Superego etc.  
God is the non-existent audience etc.  
we write to in our diaries.

But not the diary - because I know it will be published, so it is a performance of which I am too conscious. 4 3

~~I do not keep a diary~~ I do not keep a diary under any circumstances. Artists, perhaps, enact their diaries in the rather more earthly world of print.



Easter

Sunday

Up at 5am for a 6am Easter performance at Little Theatre. Beautiful Art Deco interior, middle class - drinking coffee in their best shoes.

Easter Monday

Up Mountain Spring - quieter today. Met a lady jogging - we did not speak all the way up, remaining, respectfully, 20 metres apart. She passed me on the way back down and said, 'Close slippers must be comfy'. Either people think I am wearing my slippers outside here or slippers are synonymous with sandals.

People in general are more talkative here - there is more a sense of community, not so much through who you know but what you represent. You say 'hi' to certain people. Evyrie n Cannonball says 'hi' - it's like a class marker. Society



Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup>

Back at the studio, trudging through AM talk.  
Almost there now.

Received fierce article edits - cut out Andrew  
Lauen. ~~Also~~, My claws, as ever, have been  
sanded down. Funny how newspaper critics  
have theatrically sharp claws, and arts journalists  
are not allowed them. Somewhere in between, surely,  
would be ideal.

Also, some hilarious moments of losing it, living solo.  
Found myself ~~was~~ photographing a picture book  
that looked like a face. (Crap! One hysterical tangent -  
way too involved in Orange Is the New Black - ~~my~~  
~~the~~ lesbian psychology. I'm like an addict who  
ODs everytime they return to the source of the addiction.  
So few lesbians are actually shown or to that I can't  
see when they are. You get <sup>very</sup> into chasing who  
from friends you are like <sup>etc</sup>, when none of them even  
vaguely represents you. And then one, cheesy lesbian  
has and its KO for me.



On the subject of Orange Is... I have been thinking again about 'turning' - an essential feature of lesbian & sexual narratives, which the show features. Why is turning someone so hot? Partly, it's to do with someone recognizing you, seeing you, as better than the status quo. It's affirmation. Of course the pleasure is short lived and wildly egoistical, and presumptuous - people tend to be looking, rather than turned. But still... it's like being picked for the football team, ahead of all the jokers.

P. Card

$$190 - 14 = 176$$

$$\div 2 = 88$$

$$\frac{88}{88}$$

Poster

~~43 cm~~

55 cm

USA

wall 259

$$259 - 55 = 204 \div 2 = 102$$

Hydant

wall 174 cm

A4 21.8 x 29

$$21.8 + 21.8 + 7(\text{gap}) = 50.6$$

123.4

125.4

61.7

72





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9 3/4 IN x 7 1/2 IN/24,7 cm x 19,0 cm/24,7 cm x 19,0 cm

