2017

Zines as Creative Resistance - Exhibit

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Feminism

Given the diversity of feminist voices, zines are a perfect match for expressive, sometimes hand-scrawled, manifestos, poems, and other outpourings on an incredibly wide range of topics. This case and the neighboring one include zines about reclaiming the body (*Adventures in Menstruating*), asserting one’s claim on stereotypically feminine tasks (*Radical Domesticity*), and giving voice to the often-silenced experience of abortion (*Shout Your Abortion*).

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**Womanimalistic 2: Coochie Party**  
Caroline Paquita  
(2012)

**Stigma, Issue #2 – Bodies**  
Midge Blitz

**Stigma, Issue #3 – Menstruation**  
Midge Blitz

**DIY Doula: Self-Care for Before, During, + After Your Abortion**  
The Doula Project  
(2016)

**Free to Choose: A Women’s Guide to Reproductive Freedom**  
Eberhardt Press  
(2006)

**Your Spaceships Can’t Contain Me: A Futuristic (post) Body Positive Coloring Book**  
Sasha N. Kruger  
(2016)

**Siren 2**  
Siren

**Radical Domesticity, Issue #6**  
Emma Karin Eriksson

**BITCH, SISTER, BITCH! a guide to feminist CONSCIOUSNESS-RAISING**  
Slut Walk NYC

**Sister Horsesider #1: Feministy Responses to Feministyish Texts**  
Maud Pryor  
(2015)
Feminism

Feminist Hacker spaces: 
_Hacking Culture_ 
_Not Devices_

UW, Emily Alden Foster and Amy Burek 
(2015)

_Shout Your Abortion New York City, Volume 2_
Isabel Martin, Laurel Leckert, 
and Aiyana Knauer, eds. 
(2017)

_List #15: On My Own_
Ramsey Beyer 
(2012)

_Bitch Craft, Volume 4_
Nicole Harring 
(2015)

_Coloring Outside the Kitchen_ 
Casey Landau 
(2015)

_Adventures in Menstruating, #6_ 
Chella Quint 
(2011)

_Adventures in Menstruating_ 
 Comic Special #1 
Chella Quint 
(2013)

_The Future Generation, Issue #15_ 
China Martens 
(2006)
Queer & Transgender Identity

From the psychedelic underworld of Edie Fake’s *Gaylord Phoenix* series (above), to the more straightforward memoir-style comics of *Gay Kid*, zines offer a refreshingly open space to explore gender beyond boundaries, and far from an editor’s prying eye.

**Brooklyn TransCore, Issue One**
Brooklyn TransCore
(2013)

**YoBo: You Only Butch Once**
*queer reactions to gender presentation*
Kiernan Dunn
(2014)

**Many Issues**
Jason Villegas
(2016)

**A Queer Cousin Story**
Farna Najah

**Reimagining Queer Community: A Perzine**
Rachel Levy
(2011)

**Gay Kid, Issue One**
Katie Omberg

**Proof I Exist, Issue #18**
“I Know Billy”
(2014)

**Gaylord Phoenix, Issue Five**
Edie Fake

**From The Heart, Issue Five**
Althea Keaton
(2015)

**QZAP: META - Issue Four**
Chris and Milo
(2010)

**Gay Kid - Issue Four**
Katie Omberg
(2012)
# Race & Zinesters of Color

Zines have long played a role in the formation of social justice movements: the 1926 literary magazine *Fire!!* is often cited as an early proto-zine, given its shared lineage as an independently produced publication with a small print run, and an ephemeral quality (the first issue was also its last). Works like *Letters from the war years* share a similar purpose, bringing together “queer/trans POC” perspectives that collectively present a radical challenge to contemporary US nationalism and racism within the anti-war movement, offering ideas for resistance.

Many of the zines in this case are on loan from Barnard College, where librarian Jenna Freedman has amassed a collection of over 4,000 individual titles. The collection spans multiple decades, and is composed of “zines written by women (cis- and transgender) with an emphasis on zines by women of color,” and also about “feminism and femme identity by people of all genders.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Muchacha, Issue 3</strong></th>
<th><strong>Your White Friends Will Disappoint You</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(2012)</td>
<td>Dianne Laguerta</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Finger on the Trigger #3</strong></th>
<th><strong>Suburban Blight, Issue #11</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Adee Licious</td>
<td>Stephanie Basile</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>letters from the war years</strong></th>
<th><strong>Frontiers of Paleontology</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bianca Ortíz</td>
<td>Eleni Padden</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>A Few Recommendations For Zines Dealing with Race &amp; Racism</strong></th>
<th><strong>Skinned Heart, Numero Tres</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jenna Freedman &amp; Tim Nichols</td>
<td>Nyky Gomez</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Hey Mexican!</strong></th>
<th><strong>Chasing Perfect: A Primer on Asian American Women and Psychology</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bianca Ortíz</td>
<td>Jordan Alam</td>
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</table>
The Body

Encapsulated in the growing field of medical narrative, zines have been around for decades as an unmitigated space for expressing that which is beyond expression. Physical pain, states of psychological turbulence, roads towards sobriety: these are just some of the topics covered in various zines. *Tributaries* explores the specificity of living with the effects of childhood arthritis, in a series of personal reflections; while Jacoby Ballard offers a health-based perspective to gender transition with the support of herbal poultices and tinctures.

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*Assume Nothing*, #1
Ess Elle
(2014)

*Mine: an anthology of reproductive rights*, #2
Meredith Stern
(2015)

*Tributaries. #3 on tricycling, history, and endings*
j.c.

*Tributaries 1*
j.c.
(2008)

*Nourish*
Sabrina Scott
(2013)

*Everything Is. Fine Volume 1, Issue 4*
Nyxia Grey
(2016)

*Holistic Care Through Gender Transition*
Jacoby Ballard
(2008)

*Against the Flood #2*
Hannah

*Heal & Repeat*

*You’ve got a friend in Pennsylvania # 9: Two Years of Sobriety*
Sari

*Life Without Booze: Reflections on Six Years Sober*
Taryn Hipp

*By Their Proper Names*
Jordan Alam
(2015)
Illustrated Zines

One of the longstanding visual hallmarks of zines is a freewheeling combination of collage and handwritten text, and their reproduction as black-and-white photocopies. Possibly smeared at the inky edges, the zine aesthetic is off-kilter, imperfect, and sometimes even unfinished. Yet zinesters have also shown a fluid ability to conceptualize ideas in the visual realm, using comics, inventive fonts, symbols, and other elements to get their messages across.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School Girls</td>
<td>Jennifer Camper</td>
<td>(2013)</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Life &amp; Times of Butch Dykes: Filmmakers - Issue 1, Vol 8</td>
<td>Eloisa Aquino</td>
<td>(2016)</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Gay Work Out Coloring Book</td>
<td>K. Arbor</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Loud &amp; Queer Comics, Volume 2</td>
<td>K. Funk</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Around Me #6: Perfect Love Perfect Trust</td>
<td>Caroline Palmer</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>A queer history of glitter</td>
<td>Emily Davidson</td>
<td>(2013)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It’s Just a Little Crush</td>
<td>Stephanie Rodriguez</td>
<td>(2016)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heartland 1</td>
<td>Roxy &amp; Jan</td>
<td>(2014)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gay Kid</td>
<td>Katie Omberg</td>
<td>(2012)</td>
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Bibliophilia

The top half of this case includes zines about books, libraries, and biblio-related issues. Items in the lower half were created by librarians (including a few Graduate Center librarians!) about topics like Black fashion history, queer sailors, and lesbian culture in the 1970s.

New York City is home to many exciting zine collections housed at Brooklyn College (CUNY’s only zine collection, founded by librarian Alycia Sellie in 2011), Barnard College Library, ABC No Rio, New York University, The New York Public Library, and more. Be sure to check the access guidelines or visitor information before you head over: some locations are welcoming to the public, while others require an appointment.

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Forbes Library Zine Club #1

Forbes Library

Elvis B.

Brooklyn College Library

Elvis B.

Barnard College Library Zine

Melissa L. Jones

Cite This Zine

Katie Giari

Zine Librarian Zine #3

Jenna Freedman

New

Kelsey Smith

Suggestions 3

Kelsey Smith

A Lil’ History of...Sexologists

Elvis B.

Black & Vintage, Vol. 1

Wanett Clyde

Queer Sailors #2: Twice as Gay

Kel Karpinski

Brooklyn Flowers

Jeng Si Feng

Queer Sailors #1

Kel Karpinski

Homos in Herstory: 1970s Edition

Elvis B.
Zines, Big and Small

Zines come in all shapes and sizes: from a compact 2-inch square, to an accordion-style zine that unfolds across your lap. Their small stature and variable production quality helps to cultivate a sensibility that is at once unassuming and inviting — zines ooze personality, and enjoy a cross-generational appeal. These offbeat publications fall into the category of ephemera, yet are typically not included in most library collections, bookstores, or other locations where printed matter is sold.

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### Thrifty Times, Issue #17
Sarah MacDonald

**Seriously? Yes. Issue #7, Crappy Jobs**
Sarah MacDonald and Sarah Spence

*Pippi*
Kelsey Smith
(2014)

*underwhere?*
Kiernan Dunn
(2016)

*Big Fat Femme*
Lauren Melissa

*Puzzling Scenes from the Future*
noh decaf

*Delia Jean’s Cartooning & Comics Supply List!*
Delia Jean

*Taking the Long Way Around*

*Thanks Mom*
Katherine Arnoldi
(2016)

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### Sin verguenza, # 3 – Clarity – Vol. I
Jamie Varriale Vélez

### Deafula, No. 5
Interview with my Mother
Kerri Radley
(2013)

*Lil’ Chrissy*
Kelsey Smith
(2014)

*Sin verguenza, # 3 – Clarity – Vol. II*
Jamie Varriale Vélez

### Telephone
Miranda

*Stay Together for the Cat*
Meg Zaremba
(2013)

*the black telephone: an essay*
kari larsen
(2012)

*Star Cinema*
Dre Grigoropol

*Ready-Made Queer*

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### 2015 FZF Feminist Zinefest NYC
NYC Feminist Zinefest Team

*Fetish List*
Gerry Gomez Pearlberg
(2001)

*Ms. Sequential’s Sketchbook*
Marissa Falco
(2012)

*Fluffah*
Kelsey Smith
(2003)

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*What’s a Zine?*
Brooklyn College Zine Library