

***TransAction* Open Call:**
What I Say When I Say What I Shouldn't

Description:

Whether explicitly or implicitly, trans people often feel pressure to uphold certain narratives or political stances, to make more streamlined and digestible our goals, views, and intentions. With this call, *TransAction* invites submissions of art and writing by trans identified people (see a longer definition of this below) that complicates the dominant narratives and perceived truths of experience. “What I Say When I Say What I Shouldn’t” aims to be a space for trans people to opt out of the political/social pressure to be intelligible and knowable to people outside of the trans community as a way of creating room to dig into the complicated questions we often stay silent about.

Who:

Any and all trans people. Trans in this case may refer to (but is not limited to) categories such as transgender, transexual, transwoman, transman, gender nonconforming, gender non-binary, genderqueer, agender, and other gender identities and expressions which lay outside of western/colonial constructs of gender. Further, *TransAction* encourages submissions from people across all ages, levels of education, nationalities, races, and classes.

What:

Works of art or writing which respond to the call theme: “What I Say When I Say What I Shouldn’t”.

For works of art, all formats will be considered however, submissions that lend themselves to 1 or 2 color printing and submissions that lend themselves to being printed at sizes 8” x 10” or smaller will be easier to accommodate. Formats could include but are not limited to: drawings/paintings, graphic designs, comics, photographs, and video stills.

For writing, all formats will be considered however works below 2000 words are preferred. Further, *TransAction* encourages submissions of any format but is particularly interested in any of the following: poetry, experimental fiction and nonfiction, text art, fragments/excerpts of longer pieces, sections of previously published works you wish to see recontextualized and other non-traditional writing formats.

(Artists and authors chosen will give permission for *TransAction* to publish their work but will retain ownership and publishing rights to all accepted work.)

When:

The open call will end on December 31st (12/31/19) at 11:59PM. The project will be published in Spring/Summer 2019.

Where:

Works can be submitted through the following online form: [LINK](#) this form can also be found on the *TransAction* project page: <https://www.chelseathompto.com>

More Information about *TransAction*:

TransAction an artist book series dedicated to exploring the trans experience through art and writing.

The goal of this project is to design and publish a short-run artist book series containing the work of contemporary trans artists, scholars, and activists. This project is a response to finding it difficult to connect with other trans artists and scholars when we are so spread out around the country and the world. It is also a response to the many art venues and academic journals having a “trans” issue or “trans” show wherein trans people are featured but not always centered in the decision making process.

The mission of *TransAction* is to provide a platform and space for challenging and critical dialogue by trans people about the trans experience and to produce a publication that allows the work to be shared. Much of the current conversation around trans people is centered around reacting to mainstream political ideas and debates regarding our existence and rights. What *TransAction* aims to do is provide a space for deeper and more complicated conversations to flourish.

TransAction is a project by Chelsea Thompto who is an artist living and working in Grand Rapids, MI and a Visiting Professor at Grand Valley State University in the Department of Visual and Media Art where she teaches new media and foundations courses. She received an MFA in Art and an MA in Gender and Women's Studies from the University of Wisconsin Madison in May of 2019.

TransAction is funded in part by GameTime Grants Grand Rapids more information about the program can be found here: <http://gametimegrants.org/>