In Their Own Words: Sex Worker Narratives

Wednesday, October 29, 2014, 4:15pm—5:30pm
L61 Conference Room, New Building

This panel gathers sex workers and puts their stories first. Students and faculty will meet members of the Red Umbrella Project, a New York-based nonprofit—that amplifies the voices of people who have engaged in transactional sex—“through media, storytelling, and advocacy programs.” For more information: http://redumbrellaproject.org and @redupnyc on Twitter, Tumblr, Facebook, and Instagram.

Speakers:

Audacia Ray
Audacia Ray is the founder and executive director of the Red Umbrella Project (RedUP), where she has led anti-violence, public health, and media campaigns to fight stigma and discrimination against sex workers, and has taught workshops on writing and media skills for dozens of sex workers in NYC and beyond.

Essence Revealed
Essence Revealed is a former lap dance engineer of the upscale gentlemen’s club scene, from NY to Vegas & sweet, sticky places in between. She performs and teaches burlesque and other dance workshops both solo and as a co-producer of Shades of Burlesque (NY’s only all Black Female Burlesque Review).

Rita Rachael
Rita Rachael is a transgender woman who has taken the road less traveled in NYC. In November 2013, Rita performed in the RedUP production "In My Skin," a play about the experiences of transgender women. She has been published in three issues of Prose & Lore and is currently working on a play.

Balder Rosado
Balder Rosado is an energetic organizer who has roots built into queer organizing. A native New Yorker and a former FIERCE and Streetwise and Safe member, Balder grew up realizing the importance of community, community support, and people power. At RedUP, Balder works on the Access to Condoms campaign, as well as with the Human Trafficking Intervention Courts.

Ariel Wolf
Ariel Wolf is a community organizer with RedUP and he is actively involved with RedUP's creative work and campaigns around the New York Human Trafficking Intervention Courts.

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