

Trans* Day of Remembrance 2011

20th November 2011, 7pm
University of Warwick, Students Union, Piazza

Programme

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Introduction

<http://straw.be/rry/tdorabout>

The Trans* Day of Remembrance was set aside to memorialize those who were killed due to anti-trans* hatred or prejudice. The event is held in November to honor Rita Hester, whose murder on November 28th, 1998 kicked off the “Remembering Our Dead” web project and a San Francisco candlelight vigil in 1999. Rita Hester’s murder — like most anti-trans murder cases — has yet to be solved.

Although not every person represented during the Day of Remembrance self-identified as trans* — that is, as transsexual, transgender, crossdresser, or otherwise gender-variant — each was a victim of violence based on bias against trans* people.

We live in times more sensitive than ever to hatred based violence. Yet even now, the deaths of those based on anti-trans* hatred or prejudice are largely ignored. Over the last decade, more than one person per month has died due to transgender-based hate or prejudice, regardless of any other factors in their lives. This trend shows no sign of abating. Since this introductory paragraph was written in 2007, this number has gone up significantly.

The Trans* Day of Remembrance serves several

purposes. It raises public awareness of hate crimes against trans* people, an action that current media doesn't perform. Day of Remembrance publicly mourns and honors the lives of our brothers, sisters and gender non-binary siblings who might otherwise be forgotten. Through the vigil, we express love and respect for our people in the face of national indifference and hatred. Day of Remembrance reminds non-trans people that we are their sons, daughters, parents, friends and lovers. Day of Remembrance gives our allies a chance to step forward with us and stand in vigil, memorializing those of us who've died by anti-trans* violence.

Readings

Names

(<http://straw.be/rry/transmurders2011>)

There are too many names on the list to read out all the details for everyone, so what follows is a summary with first names (to the best of our knowledge), giving time to everyone on the list of known murders. They will be split up in blocks of 3 months, followed by a moment of silence.

November 20th to 30th 2010

Total: 9: Brazil: 5, Ecuador: 2, Colombia: 1, Honduras: 1.

Greth, Fernando, Jurema, Adriana, Idania, Marchinha, Sandra, Valentina, Alison

December 2010

Total: 22: Brazil:12, Honduras: 4, Colombia: 3, India: 1, Jamaica: 1, The Philippines: 1.

Kirat, Name Unknown, Charm, Reinaldo, Mica, Jocivaldo, Pamela, Nataly, Name Unknown, Farlen, Name Unknown, Diana, Lorenza, Lady Oscar, Eduarda, Mirela, Carlos, Erica, Luisa, Cheo, Name Unknown, Jelwin

January 2011

Total: 26: Brazil: 9, Mexico: 4, Colombia: 3, Venezuela: 3, Honduras: 2, Argentina: 1, Bolivia: 1, The Philippines: 1, Russia: 1, USA: 1.

Name Unknown, Genesis, Name Unknown, Name Unknown, Name Unknown, Adriana, Krissy, Name Unknown, Laisa, Fergie, Angela, Marcia, Mini, Name Unknown, Name Unknown, Name Unknown, Natasha, Mariana, Ivo, Name Unknown, Alejandra, Angie, Carla, Name Unknown, Name Unknown, Name Unknown

Untitled by ~Morkael

<http://straw.be/rry/4m>

Lost among the shadows
In a world that doesn't know
 Who we are
 Who we were
 Who they were
We reach out with hope
Remembering their names
 Believing
That one day it will stop
 That one day
 We will be accepted
 We remember them
 The unspoken
 The silent
The guiding light of our kin

Names

February 2011

Total: 24: Brazil: 8, Mexico 3, The Philippines: 3, Argentina: 2, Colombia: 1, Ecuador: 1; Guatemala: 1, Malaysia: 1, Panama: 1, Poland: 1, USA: 1, Venezuela: 1.

Geruza, Name Unknown, Laura, Lorraine, Name Unknown, Esteban, Name Unknown, Fernanda, Name Unknown, Nicol, Luis, Moni, Capenga, Poh, Mireya, Name Unknown, Tyra, Aline, Cruz, Name Unknown, Jessica, Name Unknown, Name Unknown, Name Unknown

March 2011

Total: 26: Brazil: 11, Colombia: 6, Mexico: 5, India: 1, Indonesia: 1, Turkey: 1, USA: 1.

Priscila, Val, Andrea, Casandra, Camero, Shakira, Tininha, Name Unknown, La Jenny, R. Suresh, Name Unknown, Andrea, Name Unknown, Javier, Name Unknown, Osimar, Marcos, S.P. Name Unknown, Name Unknown, Jessica, Leidy, Brenda, Name Unknown, Name Unknown, Name Unknown

April 2011

Total: 18: Brazil: 7, Mexico: 2, Pakistan: 2, Venezuela: 2, Argentina: 1, Colombia: 1, Dominican Republic: 1,

Honduras: 1, Turkey: 1.

Name Unknown, Grace, Zharick, Paulinha, Rafaela, Beyonce, Inete, Armando, Kali, Waseem, Cristal, Name Unknown, Narin, Ale, Bibi, Name Unknown, Kimberly, La Dominicana

Cry by ~Karasubara

<http://straw.be/rry/4k>

Cry for the identities
Unable to be born
Cry for the spirits
Bruised and torn

Cry for the people
Lost and gone
Cry for the outcasts
That want to belong

Cry for the night
Who sees these violent acts
Cry for the dawn
When it discovers the attacks

Cry for the lies
That can never become true
Cry for the truth
No one ever knew

Cry for others
That you should love most
Cry for yourself
And all the hurt you host.

Names

May 2011

Total: 16: Brazil: 11, Dominican Republic: 1, El

Salvador: 1, Guatemala: 1, Mexico: 1, Venezuela: 1

Jean, Preta, Barbara, Naomi, Name Unknown, Felipe, Luisa, Name Unknown, Paloma, Monica, Milda, Alison, Alicinha, Roberto, Alexandre, Levinha,

June 2011

Total: 13: Brazil: 5, Mexico: 4, Colombia: 1, Puerto Rico: 1, USA: 1, Venezuela: 1.

Name Unknown, Matilde, Name Unknown, Karlota, Mailda, Carla, Nathan, Kenia, Name Unknown, Karla, Casandra, Name Unknown, Name Unknown

July 2011

Total: 10: Brazil: 3, Chile: 1, Guatemala: 1, Honduras: 1, Mexico: 1, Turkey: 1, USA: 1, Venezuela: 1.

Name Unknown, Thalia, Name Unknown, Cinthia, Shayara, Val, Name Unknown, Lashai, Samantha, Didem

Untitled 2 by ~Morkael

<http://straw.be/rry/4n>

I am one
Of the lucky ones.
I am still here
And in one piece,
Even if I am
Starting to crack.
I may be afraid,
But I keep going
And hide from those
Who hurt
People like me.

Others like me
Have been hurt
And even killed
For being who they are.
So many women
And even other men
Had their lives cut short
Just because
They don't fit
Someone else's
Gender views.

Don't forget
Those who died
Just for being honest
To themselves
And those around them.

They are a reminder
For people like me
Who cannot help
But live in fear.

If I just lived
One state south
With other relatives
I would be
So terrified
If I wasn't already
A broken man.
I would be
In much worse shape
Just one state
Away.

This is why
I remember
Those that had
Their lives cut short.
I could still
Join that number
In the future.
For now I live
As who I am
For those we've lost

Who did just that.
Today I live.
Today I remember.

Names

August 2011

Total: 11: Brazil: 3, Mexico: 2, Guatemala: 1, Honduras: 1, India: 1, Pakistan: 1, USA: 1, Venezuela: 1.

Camila, Name Unknown, Name Unknown, Name Unknown, Wajahat, Baby, Roberta, Name Unknown, La Frutera, Ulloa, Name Unknown

September 2011

Total: 17: Brazil:10, USA: 2, Colombia: 1, Mexico: 1, Turkey: 1, Venezuela: 1.

Adriana, Camila, Name Unknown, Luana, Name Unknown, Suzi, Simone, Gaurav, Ferreira, Brigitte, Ortiz, La Denisse, Name Unknown, Lucie, Name Unknown, Name Unknown, Name Unknown

October 2011

Total: 25: Brazil: 12, Argentina: 4, Pakistan: 2, Venezuela: 2, Colombia: 1, Dominican Republic: 1, Peru: 1, Turkey: 1, USA: 1.

Paloma, Name Unknown, Tierrita, Paloma, Ramazan, Ceci, Name Unknown, Joana, Diogo, Elisa, Cardoso, José, Name Unknown, Lulu, Talha, Dudu, Name Unknown, Name Unknown, Torres, Shelley, Malu, Luis, Fogao, Gabi, La Moma,

November 1st to 14th 2011

Total: 4: Argentina: 1, Brazil: 1, Italy: 1, Pakistan: 1

Jessica, Luana, Muneer, Name Unknown

Harlequin by Zoë

Illusion bound; we fail to fade
Left waltzing round a masquerade
Sealed in masks our mothers made
And tied by terms the doctors bade
That 'til our judgement comes, we wear
'lest we muddle their affairs
A crippling weight which casts despair
The burden each alone must bare
But wait...

... A problem lies therein
Since in their eyes we live in sin
And in that, we're all but kin
Left waiting on the harlequin
Who'll leap, flip, roll and stand
And take you by its blackened hand
Far beyond the promised land
To wear its masters burning brand
So brothers, sisters, hear my plea
Don't hide alone; come stand with me
For strength stems straight from unity
And all as one; we'll be set free

Closing Remarks

Thank you all for coming. etc.