

About Christian Cruz:

I was born in Dallas, Texas, and was raised by a single immigrant mother. I began my performing arts training in middle school, which led me to attend an arts magnet high school majoring in Theater Arts. I attended SUNY Purchase College for Arts Management for 1 year then transferred to Columbia College for a BA. I interned for Dfbrl8r Performance Art Gallery, then promoted to Gallery Manager and finally an Associate Curator during my 4 years there. I was the artist's assistant and gallery manager to ROOMS, a performance art duo for two years. Both these experiences taught me how to build a performance, performance art history, and was privy to many exhibitions of my contemporaries, as well as meeting many elders within performance art. I moved to Mexico City, Mexico to pursue a job with Centro de Cultura Digital, which consisted of curating, and hosting a weekly, Spanish, online show about digital artists around the world named Foraño. While I lived in Mexico City, I was mentored by a contemporary dancer and became a part of an environmental dance play that traveled throughout Mexico. I moved back to my home town of Dallas, Texas in 2016 to start a family. I am currently working for the local Dallas paper for their arts and culture section and maintain my artist practice full time.

My work is almost always site-specific. I enjoy working at the intersection between endurance art and installation but I follow other parameters to make ends meet. I make art about what I know and currently that has been about motherhood. I have a consistent art practice. I show up to the studio whether I am inspired or not, being commissioned or not, or have met my physical needs or not. I live to make work, in order to express myself, and cope with the suffering of the world. I make art in order to communicate and connect with other people, especially those who have similar identities as me. In *Anger as Currency*, I am auctioning off artworks in exchange for personal stories. We will begin by freewriting about your frustrations and angry anecdotes. Your anger is your currency, and you can use it during this performance to purchase my artworks. I am intending to create a space for collective healing. This performance is for those who have something to say, and something that needs to be heard. It is an imaginary world, I have created where energy, time, and vulnerability are valuable and money is worthless.

www.christiancruzperformance.com

www.instagram.com/tejanastories

Questions:

1. What feelings did this performance bring up for you?
2. Would you have preferred to watch this performance only instead of being a participant?
3. Did you learn anything new?
4. Do you feel this was the best medium to convey this concept?

Christian Cruz Biography and Auctioned Artworks

Artwork for auction



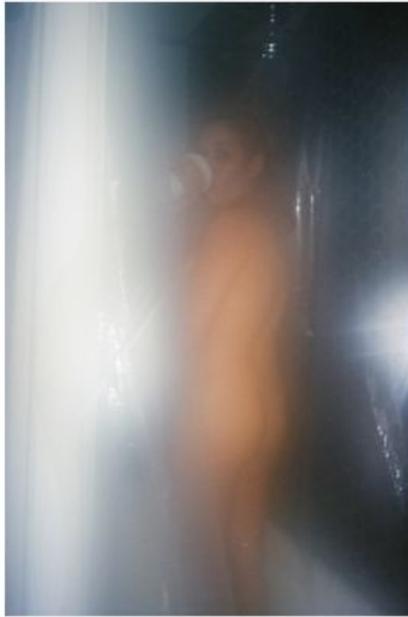
Impressions of my breasts, 2020
acrylic on paper
11" x 14"



"Smooth Skin"
(documentation of performance for video), 2020
6-panel Collage
100"x 16" x 1/8 "
Edition of 5



Christian Cruz Biography and Auctioned Artworks



“Paradise, Performing, and Postpartum”

Zine, 5.25” x 8.25”

14 pages, full color, w/ detachable print.