
SWIRLING RECOLLECTIONS – AN INVITATION



a watery body is the sum of its listening, a polyphony of sound-waves and vibrations

—— “perhaps, with time, if I waited here long enough, I could dissolve into foam and be withdrawn into something vaster than my immediate body”¹⁾ they said, standing with their feet in the Black Sea, filling a plastic bottle with water to bring back to the magician they were falling in love with. this is an invitation to dissolve into foam, to listen to the waters and connect with the ones transcended. a reverberation with, for and thanks to the ones taken, torn from their kin, forced to forget all they were and all they knew. a way to listen to the ones who were never born, unwilling to leave their warm and liquid darkness. and to those, who were born and lost and burnt.

—— “I believe that we are all qualified to bless our own water. water herself is blessed. your blessing simply personalizes the power of the water”²⁾ they said, while putting a small bowl of water on their balcony a night of the full moon. this is an invitation to bless a bowl of water that suits you and your circumstances. you can harness the sun for their energy or let the water be pulled by the full moon. you can use rosemary for protection or rose quartz for grounding. you can say a blessing, an incantation or an intention. water is living consciousness. any form of blessing you choose will shape it.

—— “mostly I put herbs in it and a bowl of water that I’ve blessed beforehand. then, I dive, try to be as silent as possible and listen.” they said, while the water kept pouring into the bathtub. this is an invitation to dissolve into water and dive into it with intention and devotion (a bath, a shower, the lake, the rain, the ocean) and to connect with something other than your immediate body. dive into a deep liquid, let it pour or drop over you, let somebody wash you with blessed water. ask questions and await a fluid response. lower your own frequencies and listen to the recollections that swirl in the liquid. honor them by trying to create an intimate and liquid touch with the voices and temporalities that live in and talk through the water.

—— A watery body is the sum of its listening, a polyphony of soundwaves and vibrations. it can dissolve into foam, call forth voices and thereby remember. it’s magic.

1)

Akwaeke Emezi 2021: 10.

2)

Luisah Teish 1985: 218.



// References

Emezi, Akwaeke (2021): *Dear Senthurán: A Black Spirit Memoir*. New York, Riverhead.
Teish, Luisah (1985): *Jambalaya: The Natural Womans Guidebook of Personal Charms and Practical Ritual*. New York, Harper & Row.

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Fig. 1–7: Screenshots from the video installation *Mama Y and their liquid touch* by Tina Omayemi Reden.

Screenshot from the movie *Dried Out, we had forgotten our speech* by Jumana Issa und Tina Omayemi Reden.

// About the Author

Tina Omayemi Reden ist eine in Zürich lebende Künstlerin, Dozentin, Kultur- und Community-arbeiterin. Meist in Kollaborationen arbeitend erforscht sie die Möglichkeiten in Momenten des Hinhörens und den daraus resultierenden Verstrickungen, Wünschen und Beziehungen. Sie arbeitet mit Klanginstallationen, Heilpraktiken, Storytellings oder Performances als mögliche Orte für queere, Schwarzfeministische und achtsame Praxen. Sie ist aktives Mitglied des Netzwerks Bla*Sh (Schwarzfeministisches Netzwerk) und des Kollektivs FUBU (For Us By Us) in Zürich wo sie Veranstaltungen mitorganisiert und Räume miteröffnet.

// FKW is supported by the Mariann Steegmann Institute and Cultural Critique / Cultural Analysis in the Arts ZHdK

Sigrid Adorf / Kerstin Brandes / Edith Futscher / Kathrin Heinz / Marietta Kesting / Julia Noah Munier / Mona Schieren / Rosanna Umbach / Kea Wienand / Anja Zimmermann

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