

Chaoying Rao

Betty // *Femme Castratrice* (b.1991, China). Lives & works in Glasgow, Scotland

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EDUCATION

Glasgow School of Art	(2017 - 2020), BA(Hons) Fine Art: Painting & Printmaking
Leith School of Art	(2016-2017) Foundation Diploma Art & Design
University of Edinburgh	(2011-2015), MA(Hons) Philosophy and English Literature

SELECTED PERFORMANCES, EXHIBITIONS & SCREENINGS

- 2026
- *After Eric Kroll, House of Tolerance, SKIN FLICKS, and Hello, hello, baby, you called? I can't hear a thing :-)* (photographic prints) at 'Sex Work: A Cultural History' curated by Johanna Adam, Ginger Angelica Rose, Ernestine Pastorello, Maximilian Reifenröther, and Objects of Desire. Bundeskunsthalle, Bonn, Germany
 - *XTalk* (performance, prints, & choreography) by HommAgés (Craig Mulholland, Carmel O'Brien, Chaoying Rao & MV Brown) commissioned by Exit. Exit, Glasgow
 - *Triple Threat* (photographic print) at 'An Emotional Economy' curated by Hannah Logic. Everybody Lives Gallery, London
- 2025
- *ReQOL-10* (performance) at 'The Participatory Clinic' curated by Shona MacNaughton. The Women's Library, Glasgow
 - *Narratives & Counter Narratives* (moving image) at 'Floating in Ecosystems' curated by Indigo Korres. Queer East Festival. Rio Cinema, London
 - *Gobbling Market* (performance) at 'Double Thrills' curated by Buzzcut. Centre for Contemporary Arts, Glasgow
- 2024
- *Narratives & Counternarratives* (moving image) was screened at:
 - 'Queer Asia' curated by Nat Hall & Huss. Scottish Queer International Film Festival. CCA, Glasgow.
 - '(S)exhibition' curated by XRage & the Museum of Sex Objects. The Museum of Sex Objects, London
 - Alongside *The MILFsters* (photographic print) at 'WORKING GIRLS!' curated by Mathilde Friis. Gallery 46 Whitechapel, London
 - *The MILFsters* (photographic print) at The Other Art Fair curated by East London Strippers Collective. Truman Brewery, London
- 2023
- *Whorely Yours* (performance) at 'Truth & Lies' curated by Arika, SWU & NUM. Conway Hall, London.
 - *Noughties Teenage Lullaby* (performance) curated by 16 Collective. French Street Studios, Glasgow
 - *Plenty More Fish in the Sea* (performance screening) at 'Festival of the Accused' curated by Light Source. The British Library, London
- 2022
- *All Hail Aileen* (performance) curated by Sexquisite Events. BGWMC, London
 - *Let's Play a Game* (performance) at 'Double Thrills x Rhubarb Festival' curated by Buzzcut. CCA, Glasgow
 - *Narratives & Counternarratives* (installation, moving image and performance) at 'SKIN FLICKS' w/ MV Brown. Curated by Cabbage Arts & Cabbage Resilience Programme. French Street Studios, Glasgow
 - *Paper Dress of Forgotten History* (performance) at 'Impurity!' curated by Sexquisite Events x Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Bishopsgate Institute, London
- 2021
- *The MILFsters* (photographic print) at 'Entheos' curated by Sam Ainsley, Sharon Thomas & Thyme James. RGI Kelly, Glasgow
 - *The True Holy Trinity* (triptych photographic print installation) at 'Graduate Drive Thru' curated by Robert McCormack & Chaoying Rao. NCP Glasshouse, Glasgow
 - *My Tits in the Age of Social Media* (photograph) at 'Contemporary Figures' curated by the Society of Scottish Artists. Online / Edinburgh

SELECTED TALKS & WORKSHOPS

- 2024
- Visiting lecturer (artist talk & workshop) Edinburgh College of Art, Edinburgh
 - *We Loving Devise Your Public Flop* (workshop) w/ Rachel McBrinn. Firefly Arts, Bathgate
 - *To Weaponise, To Fetishise* (artist talk) Museum of Sex Objects, London
- 2023
- *Truth & Lies* (artist talk) w/ Arika and NUM. GSASA, Glasgow
 - *Dead Girl, Found in Transmission* (reading) Waterwings Press. Market Gallery, Glasgow
- 2022
- *Tramp Stamping* (workshop) West End Pole Academy, Glasgow
 - *Entheos* (artist talk) w/ Sam Ainsley, Sharon Thomas & Thyme James. RGI Kelly, Glasgow
- 2021
- *To Weaponise, To Fetishise* (artist talk) Light Source, curator: Amy Kingsmill. The Horse Hospital, London

- *Imagining Meaningful Representation* (workshop) [Researcher Activist Network](#). Napier Uni, Edinburgh

SELECTED EXPERIENCE

- Current
 - **Producer** [Decriminalised Futures](#) Glasgow / London / Ireland / Remote (2024 onwards)
 - **Freelance photographer** Glasgow / UK (2021 onwards)
- 2024
 - **Branch organiser** [Sex Workers Union](#) at Bakers and Food Allied Workers Union (2022-24)
- 2023
 - **Producer & curator** [Truth & Lies](#) w/ Arika & NUM. Conway Hall, London
 - **Producer & curator** [Trollops](#) Berkeley Suite, Glasgow
- 2022
 - **Director** [Transmission Gallery](#) Glasgow (2021-22)
 - **Steering Group** [Arika Mutual Aid](#) online / Glasgow
- 2021
 - **Producer & curator** [Graduate Drive Thru](#) NCP Glasshouse, Glasgow
 - **Advisory Committee** [Glasgow Open House Art Festival](#) Glasgow

SELECTED CONTRIBUTIONS & PUBLICATIONS

- 2025
 - 'Hotter than a Vindaloo' in *Playing Femme*, publication by [16 Collective](#), Glasgow
- 2024
 - 'We Lovingly Devise Your Public Flop' in *Leap Magazine* w/ Rachel McBrinn, ed: Xiaoyi Nie. Shanghai
- 2023
 - 'Dead Girl, Found in Transmission'. [Waterwings Press](#) reading. Market Gallery, Glasgow
- 2022
 - 'My Tits in the age of Social Media' *The Debutante Issue 3* eds: Rachel Ashenden & Molly Gilroy. Edinburgh, Scotland.
 - *You Have Been Banned From Tinder* (zine), commissioned by Cabbage Arts. Glasgow, Scotland.
 - 'Two Thousand and Eight' in *Truth & Lies: An Anthology of Art & Writing by Sex Workers* eds: Arika & NUMbrella Lane. Glasgow
 - 'Queer Whore Collective: Straight for Pay' (images) *Polyester Zine*. Online

SELECTED AWARDS, RESIDENCIES & FUNDING

- 2025
 - Creative Scotland Open Fund for Individuals
- 2024
 - CCA Creative Lab residency w/ Rachel McBrinn
 - Studio Somewhere residency, at Take Me Somewhere
- 2023
 - Buzzcut Emerging Artist Award
 - The List Hot 100
- 2022
 - Cabbage Resilience Programme, by Cabbage Arts
- 2021
 - Hospitalfield Graduate Residency
 - Hope Scott Trust
 - William Syson Foundation
 - Glasgow School of Art

SELECTED REVIEWS & PRESS

[FringeReview](#) // [The Effervescent](#) // [The List](#) // [BBC Loop](#) // [Daily Star \(lol\)](#) // [The Herald](#) // [STV](#)

ARTIST STATEMENT

I am a Glasgow-based visual artist, and my creative practice explores the weaponisation of desire under patriarchy and the symbiotic interaction between objectification and narcissism. My research materialises in photography, live art, moving image, sculpture, and installation. I found myself working in strip clubs from the age of seventeen. It became the place where my movement and performance practice were born and, in the many years that followed, honed. It was the prompt for my interest in how power is negotiated through the body, and in the histories and legacies of racial fetishisation. I want to know what it means to exist in persistently unequal terrains, and how our predecessors used these inequalities to their advantage. Using humour as a tool to disarm and charm the viewer, my work utilises the visual tropes of misogyny, abject femininity, and the grotesque to play with that fine line between attraction and repulsion.