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**New Museum Presents “Museum as Hub: Carlos Motta:
We Who Feel Differently” a Multipart Project Including Works On View,
Readings, and a Two-Day Symposium**

New York, NY... “**Museum as Hub: Carlos Motta: We Who Feel Differently**” is a multipart project that explores the idea of sexual and gender “difference” after four decades of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Intersex, Queer, and Questioning politics. The exhibition draws from Motta’s database documentary [wewhoefeeldifferently.info](http://www.whoefeeldifferently.info) that consists of a website, publication, online journal, and discursive events. Conceived as a platform to engage critical issues of contemporary queer culture, collective memory, and activism in the Museum as Hub space, “We Who Feel Differently” will present a video installation drawing from fifty interviews with LGBTIQQ academicians, activists, artists, politicians, researchers, and radicals from Colombia, Norway, South Korea, and the United States, exploring notions of equality versus difference, citizenship, and democracy. The interviews address the history and development of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Intersex, Queer, and Questioning movements and experiences, proposing the notion of difference as a profound strategy for alliance building, solidarity, and self-determination.



Carlos Motta, *Our Hand from “We Who Feel Differently,”* 2011. Project sketch.
Courtesy the artist

“Museum as Hub: Carlos Motta: We Who Feel Differently” will be on view in the fifth-floor Museum as Hub space from **May 16–September 9, 2012**. The exhibition is curated by Eungie Joo, Keith Haring Director and Curator of Education and Public Programs.

During the run of the exhibition, Motta will activate the Museum as Hub by organizing collective readings, conversations, and events, including a “Sketchy Walk” with **Juan Betancurth** and **Todd Shalom**, a workshop on HIV/AIDS activism by **QUEEROCRACY**, a lecture about queer and feminist theologies by **Jared Gilbert**, a conversation about “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” by **Against Equality**, and a debate about transgender issues in contemporary art moderated by art historian **Jeannine Tang** and activist **Reina Gossett**.

Carlos Motta, *Queer We* from "We Who Feel Differently," 2011. Twenty inkjet prints, 16 x 20 in (40.6 x 50.8 cm). Installation view: Other Gallery, Shanghai. Courtesy the artist and Galeria Filomena Soares, Lisbon



On May 4 and 5, 2012, in advance of the exhibition opening, the New Museum will present "We Who Feel Differently: A Symposium" organized by **Carlos Motta** and performance studies scholar **Reagan Truax**.

Engaging the intersections of contemporary art, activism, and scholarship, the two-day symposium considers the framework of sexual and gender difference as developed through Motta's project. Symposium participants include **Julian Carter**, Associate Professor of Critical Studies at California College of the Arts; **Mathias Danbolt**, Editor of *trikster.net*; **Dr. Tiger Howard Devore**, Intersex Activist; **Reina Gossett**, Trans activist; **E. Patrick Johnson**, Professor of Performance Studies and African American Studies at Northwestern University; **Heather Love**, author of *Feeling Backward*; **José Esteban Muñoz**, Professor of Performance Studies at New York University; **Ann Pellegrini**, Director of the Center for the Study of Gender

and Sexuality at New York University; **Esben Esther Pirelli Benestad**, Norwegian Trans activist; and **Emily Roysdon**, artist. Performances by queer artists, including **Malik Gaines**, will be part of the symposium.

Carlos Motta, together with editor **Cristina Motta**, identified **five thematic threads** that document and frame an international and intergenerational conversation about non-normative sexual and gender difference:

The Equality Framework: Stop Begging for Tolerance, gathers opinions about the conceptual perspective that guides the claim for rights and validates their recognition by the State. Grounded in ideals of equality, this framework incites doubt and frustration that has led to productive discussions about the limits of legal formalism and liberal tolerance and the need for a more substantive moral debate.

Defying Assimilation: Beyond the LGBT Agenda assembles perspectives on "difference." It vindicates a critical and affective difference that expresses skepticism about legal responses, reluctance to assimilation, and resistance to normative conditioning and discipline. The interviewees articulate ways to deal with these circumstances and the actions they have undertaken to empower themselves and others.

Gender Talents brings together the voices of trans and intersex activists and thinkers who reject the binary system that organizes gender and sexuality. Their ideas aim at broadening the possibilities of an individual beyond convention. They also struggle to avoid classifications and to abolish all forms of control over non-normative lives and bodies.

Silence, Stigma, Militancy and Systemic Transformation: From ACT UP to AIDS Today offers a brief description of the *AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power* (ACT UP) in the United States and of some of the strategies used by this social movement to confront the government's response to the AIDS epidemic from the perspective of some of its members. They also reflect on the status of AIDS today.

Queering Art Discourses provides an analysis of the reign of silence surrounding discourse on sexuality in art and discusses the works of cultural producers that attempt to break this silence.

"We Who Feel Differently" attempts to reclaim a queer "We" that values difference over sameness, a "We" that resists assimilation, and a "We" that embraces difference as a critical opportunity to construct a socially just world.

About Museum as Hub

The Museum as Hub is a laboratory for art and ideas that supports activities and experimentation; explores artistic, curatorial, and institutional practice; and serves as an important resource for the public to learn about contemporary art from around the world. Both a network of relationships and an actual physical site located in the fifth-floor New Museum Education Center, Museum as Hub is conceived as a flexible, social space designed to engage audiences through multimedia workstations, exhibition areas, screenings, symposia, and events.

Exhibition Support

The presentation of this exhibition is made possible through a partnership with the Embassy of Colombia, Washington DC, the Royal Norwegian Consulate General in New York, and the Office of Contemporary Art Norway.

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About the New Museum

The New Museum is the only museum in New York City exclusively devoted to contemporary art. Founded in 1977, the New Museum is a center for exhibitions, information, and documentation about living artists from around the world. From its beginnings as a one-room office on Hudson Street to the inauguration of its first freestanding building on the Bowery designed by SANAA in 2007, the New Museum continues to be a place of ongoing experimentation and a hub of new art and new ideas.

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