



# **SARAH GOLD**

**SELECTED WORKS 2010-2019**

**LIFE IS**

about living

about passion

about sex

about sharing emotions and ideas

**In this book, you have organized your artworks chronologically according to the day on which the photos were taken. Why did you choose to do so?**

My works are like a diary, documenting intimate moments of my life. Since the photographic documentation of these encounters are the origin of my artworks, I decided to use that date to document the chronology of my life. In addition, the titles contain the names of the people with whom I shared that specific moment.

**Your work depicts sensual, erotic or even images which some people would classify as pornographic — why do you choose this type of images for your work?**

I want to express something which is meaningful to me. To show that we do not have to be ashamed of ourselves. To fight hypocrisy in a world that becomes more and more prudish, at least on the surface. By saying this, I do not wish to point any fingers. But I look at myself and —although I am the opinion that one should be free of shame— I find it difficult to be comfortable with myself. Making and seeing my own artworks constantly challenges me to reflect upon my life.

**You always place text on your photos. Where does this text come from, is there a message in your texts and what is the relationship between the photos and the text in your work?**

The text can come from anywhere. It starts by reading, listening to music, conversations, comments I hear, or a thought that pops into my mind. Everything I find interesting, sourced from inner or outer input, I write down in a notebook. Taking these notes as a reference, I develop a text that fits the situation depicted or reflecting the connection I have with that person. The intensity does vary because all subjects are different. But sometimes the text is just a general opinion or thought I have. It feels liberating to express.

Basically, I am talking to myself. If one wishes to see it as a message, you're free to do so. However, it is not my intention to preach nor to convey the

exact meaning of the thought I have. But I do admit it would be fantastic if my work could have a positive influence on how people live their lives, if I could move people. MORE SEX – LESS STRESS. That's it.

**All your works are photos of yourself with one or more of your lovers. Why did you choose to present yourself in so many different sexual situations?**

I think humans are fascinating creatures. We are all the same species, yet we can differ so much. These differences can also be found in sexual preferences. There is an array of ways to find sensual and sexual enjoyment, yet many people are still not open about their wishes and fantasies. Because I decided to dedicate my work to this human interaction I decided —as long as I don't get permanent physical damage — to show the many facets of intimacy I encounter. Just documenting, experiencing the moment without judgement and to share these experiences.

**Your photos and text vary strongly in colour and you also use several different type fonts, what is the reason behind these choices?**

Images and words convey meaning, whereas colour and typeface can create emotion and ambience. As every encounter documented in my work had a specific atmosphere and feeling, I use a variation of colours and fonts to depict this.

**I noticed that your work mainly has standardized sizes and is exhibited mounted on aluminium floating slightly of the wall. Why?**

My first works were smaller and had various sizes. They were framed in a simple whitewash wooden frame behind glass. But while developing my work further, I started to prefer to have no glass so the work as a total is better visible. At a certain point, standard sizes were the way to go, for many reasons. One of them being that they harmonize together. For the last several years, my works were always 105x105 cm (41x41 inches), 105x70 cm or 70x105 cm (27x41 inches).

**Looking at several artists who are active now and who were mainly active in the past, is your work related to anybody, or, where does your work come from?**

My work originates from myself. I do not know another artist making what I make. Nonetheless, I am a product of many different influences, ideas and thoughts that I adopted, mainly coming from artists whom I got to know in person. All those influences helped to create me in a way, so that I can now say that my works come from within me, they are me. Trying to analyze the various influences is a challenge.

First of all, the Dutch artist Rene Rietmeyer with his concept of Time, Space and Existence. I think the decision to use myself as the subject in my work has been influenced by this raised self-awareness. Here I am; departing from and expressing my own personal life is the most open and honest I can be.

The first participation in Hermann Nitsch's "Orgien Mysterien Theater" in 2010. The experience helped me to be more comfortable with myself. Contrary to Nitsch his concept, however, my works are taken from real life. I have no script and do not rehearse. But in essence, we both want to live life to the fullest with all senses heightened.

The obviousness and at the same time the complexity of the Viennese work of the American Lawrence Weiner "Smashed to pieces (in the still of the night)" and the works and poems of herman de vries; "to be all ways to be". These artists that I like are all not fake, 'what you see is what you get', but especially Yoko Ono gave that extra dimension of humanness. I will never forget bumping into her by coincidence. She threw her arms open and hugged me. She is about Interaction.

Marina Abramovic for being so intense. Whatever it takes. Nothing more nothing less. Even Ben Vautier from France has been an important 'just go for it' experience. The Polish artist Roman Opalka for raising intense awareness about time. And that you can be very serious about everything and at the same time enjoy life.

Drinking beer and eating crisps in the freezing cold studio of Toshikatsu Endo in Tokyo. So archaic and pure.

Teresa Margolles for such a strong representation of an unavoidable Mexican topic; Death. Tom Wesselmann for truly loving girls and Wayne Thiebaud for depicting beauty, sweetness and indulgence. Tracey Emin for her guts to show her private sphere and John Baldessari and Ed Ruscha for their style and humour. Whatever you do, just do it and stand behind your creation.

The last artist I would like to mention is Jeff Koons. I saw his exhibition when I was 14. Most of the works were glorified kitsch but the gigantic close-up photographs of sexual acts, like Koons' penis penetrating Ilona Staller did leave an impression. However, unlike Koons my photos aren't staged. They are taken from real life and are not meant to glorify myself but to express freedom.

**Besides the messages in your text, is there anything that you wish to achieve by creating, exhibiting and publishing your work?**

I hope to create a smile, give enjoyment, maybe even sometimes to be able to support people to free themselves from their own restrictions or show them things they did not see before. Like travelling — to broaden horizons and thereby enrich your life.

**I could imagine that many people might disapprove of your work for several different reasons. Is that something you are looking forward to?**

Looking forward? Not at all. However, I can imagine that some might disapprove. Everybody is entitled to their own opinion. But in mine, there is nothing wrong with sharing consensual tenderness.

**Many artists try to achieve publicity by creating artworks that provoke or shock people, claiming they only want to create a larger awareness about certain topics. Are you one of those artists?**

People might be shocked by my work, although

it has never been my intention. I am no intellectual and I definitely do not want to preach anything. I solely want to be and express myself and hopefully bring some additional value in other people's lives.

**There is very seldom a man on your photos, almost only women, why is that?**

To me, women are more sensual and pleasant to have sex with. Don't get me wrong, I do like men and I do love cock. But for capturing my moments of intimacy, I find women are just so much more of everything.

**There are more artists who depict nudes or sexual actions, most often the situations are staged. How is the making of your photos done in reality?**

I just meet with my lovers, we have no plans or poses, we just are in our moment, our here and now. We try not to think about the fact that photos are being made, we forget the photographer. However, sometimes I remember you, the viewer, then I look at you, to share this moment with you.

**Your work already presents a 10-year period of photos with you having sex. You are 41 years old now, do you think that you can continue to do this much longer?**

At this moment I cannot tell you. My work is not about beauty or perfection. Therefore, age should not be a factor. However, it is possible that at a certain age I lose my sex drive. What I would do then? I don't know. I can picture myself, old, ugly and naked. Human. Powerful. My works are like self-portraits, stories of my life. That only ends when I am dead.









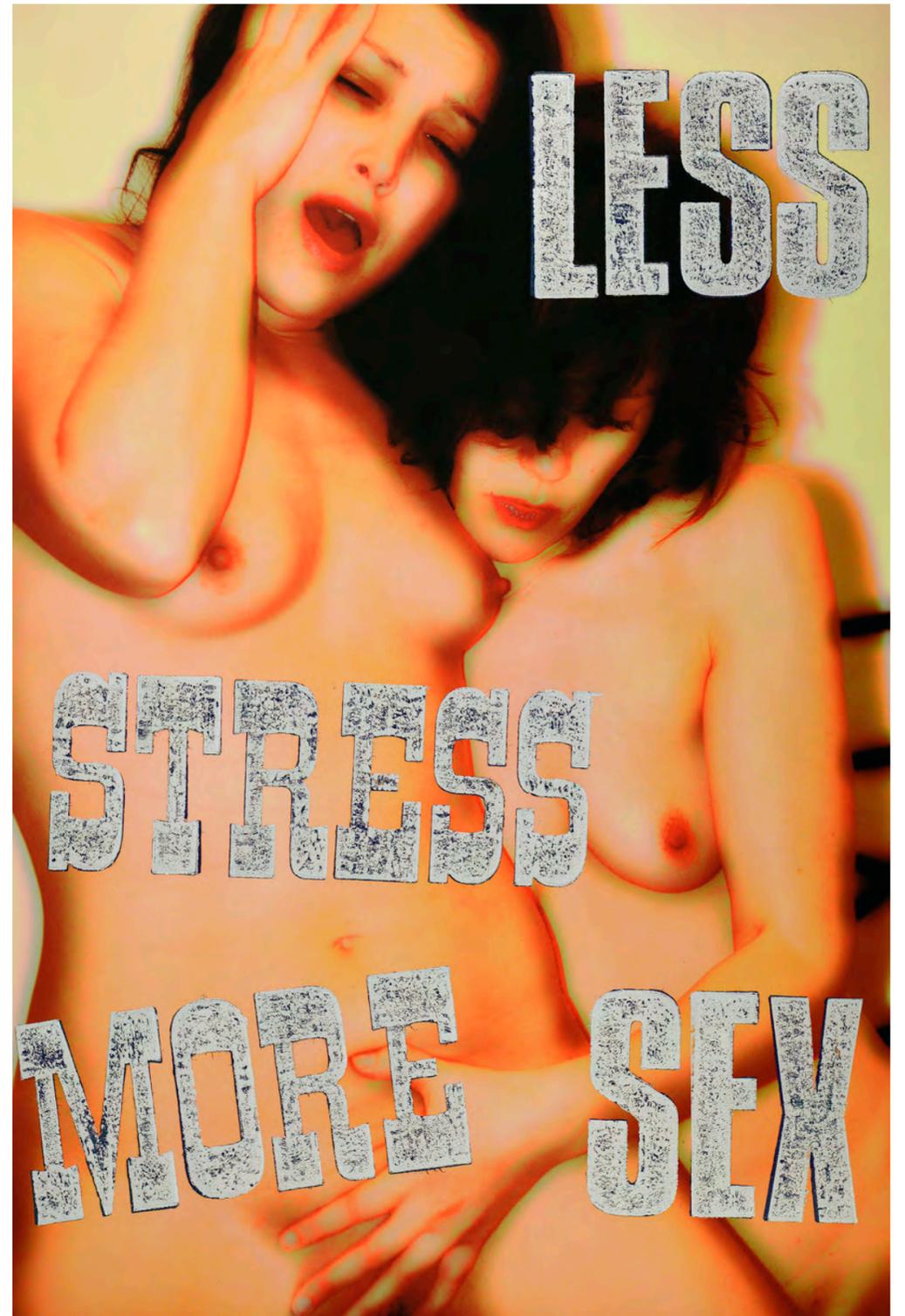
Sarah and Wendy in Murano, Italy, 10 February 2011-2019 #5

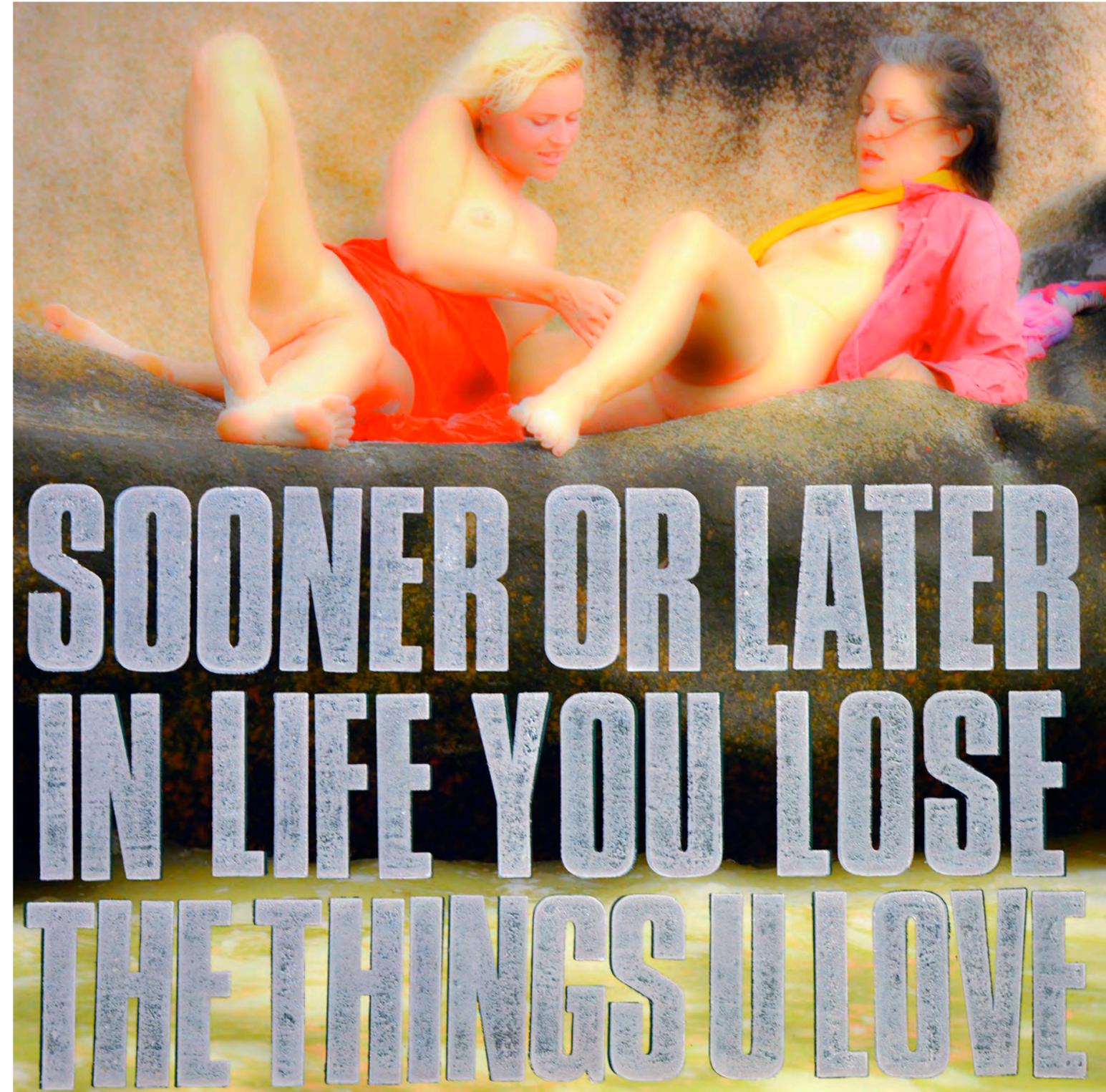






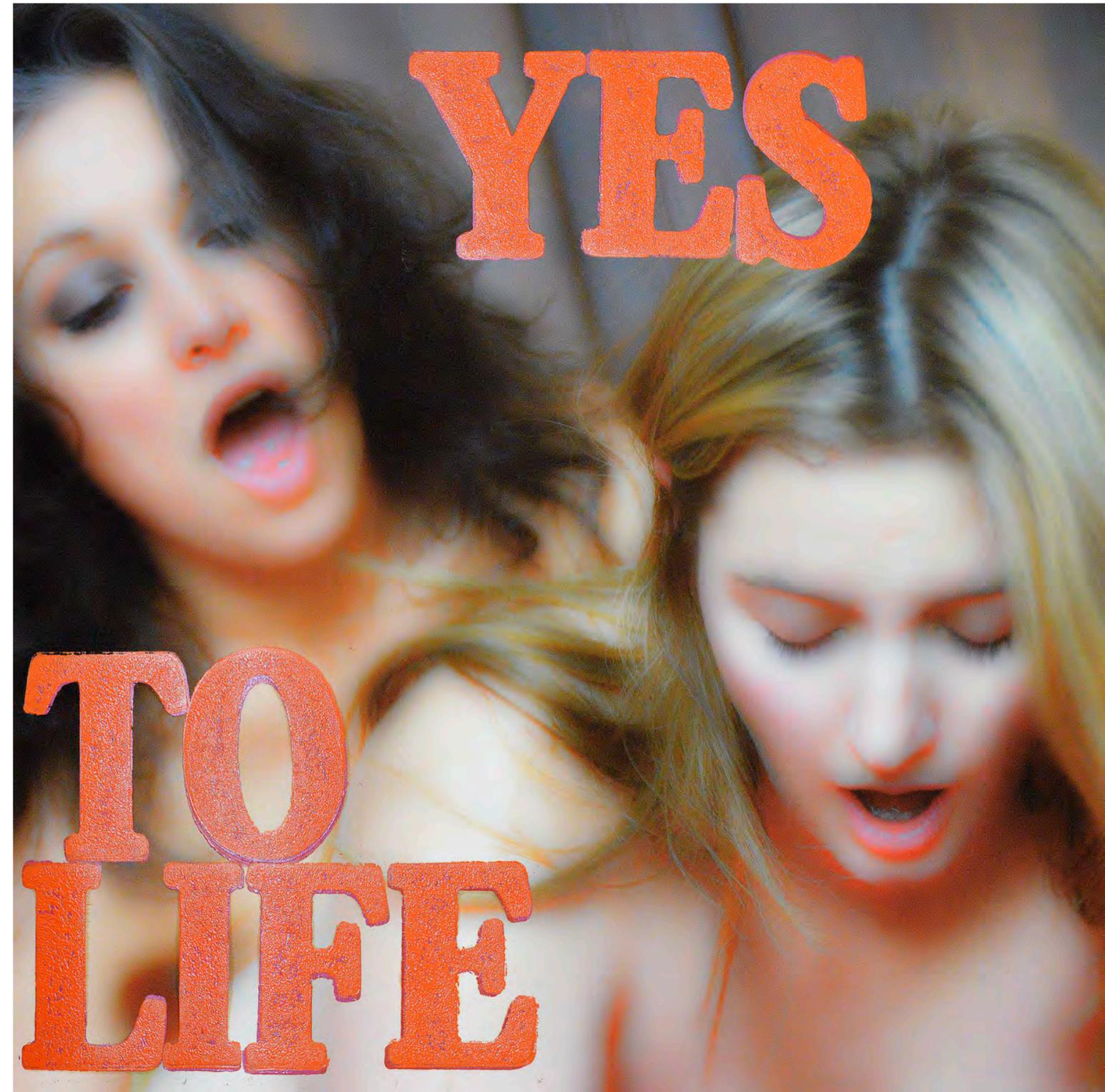












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worry be happy and smile don't worry be happy and smile

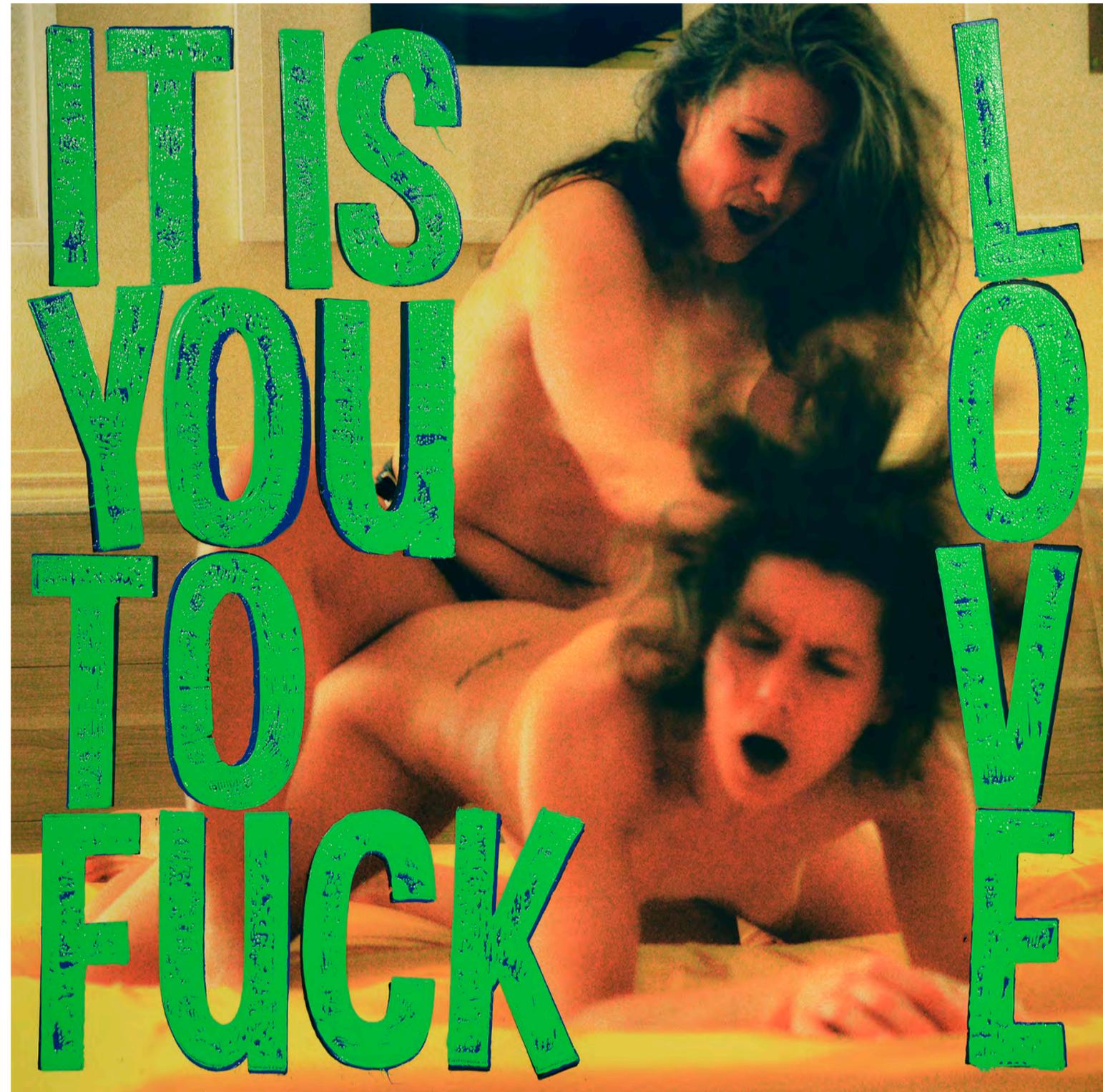


Sarah and Ilaria in Heiligenblut, Austria, 27 February 2016-2020 #7

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Sarah and Claudia in Venice, Italy, 12 November 2016-2019 #1



Sarah and Claudia in Venice, Italy, 12 November 2016-2019 #1



Now we are standing on a cruise boat filled with 250 Men and 250 Woman. Just  
back on the beach ground it is morning and the first rays are lighting the  
cold formations. a stunning view horniness arises. What a wonderful moment an  
experience in once life. a memory until death will wipe it all out trying to  
keep the memory. memories and fantasies apparently are located on the same  
part in our brain. You cannot trust your thoughts or seeing knowledge it is  
all fiction. once convictions are set. let me be patient let me be kind just  
wait. Mr. Sun. it will be all right. tell him i'll be there. tell him i love him  
cannot be late now that i am older it will be all right it is going to be all right  
let him be in the cold. the rugged landscape on the background here we are  
in the Cyclades. you have to see Apotiri there is not much but if you imagine  
how it must have looked. astonishing with so much skill and care love for  
details that is a thing in life for me loving little things. simple normal things  
Others going to a super market in other unknown countries for instance i really love  
to go there or go running in the morning exploring my surroundings seeing  
the locals going to work. newspapers being sold active or passive happy or  
lumpy people. can't don't say if i am lucky. What more do you need in life being  
in Greece sitting outside seeing the locals flora and fauna the sea eating a  
Greek salad or seeing wild horses roam the cliffs along the sea in Wales in the 20  
Ming hills. the fast landscape of South Africa. the icy harsh landscape of  
Greenland. Ulukissat ice fjord. Mesmerizing hearing seeing the fjord five and  
more icebergs the size of Cruise ships and much bigger of high rises incom-  
prehensible. Stunning breath-taking here i stand in an opposite situation clim-  
bing a awareness. now is the moment for anything or everything which ever you  
have most. What ever is will be the future is now the moment has gone. this  
it for the moment. how will we carry on. What will be in 1 year in 5 or 50 years  
i will be alive or dead and all there is left is this text. i am writing now on  
this rainy Saturday in the month of October 2019 in Amsterdam the Netherlands.  
today it turned out that i probably will go to Miami Beach this December and  
i am super happy. Miami has been the first time as an adult i called home i  
freedom that anything is possible. Nobody gives a shit. Where you came from where  
you have done this is the limit just do it in the Sunshine State go to an  
all adult hotel of which i thought it is for swingers but it meant no kids  
ids. how funny your brain can trick you since you rely upon your knowledge and  
experience unbelievable the human mind how it can get stuck and trick





Sarah and Lawan in Takamaka, Seychelles, 2 January 2018 #1



Sarah and Claudia in Heiligenblut, Austria, 1 March 2018 #10

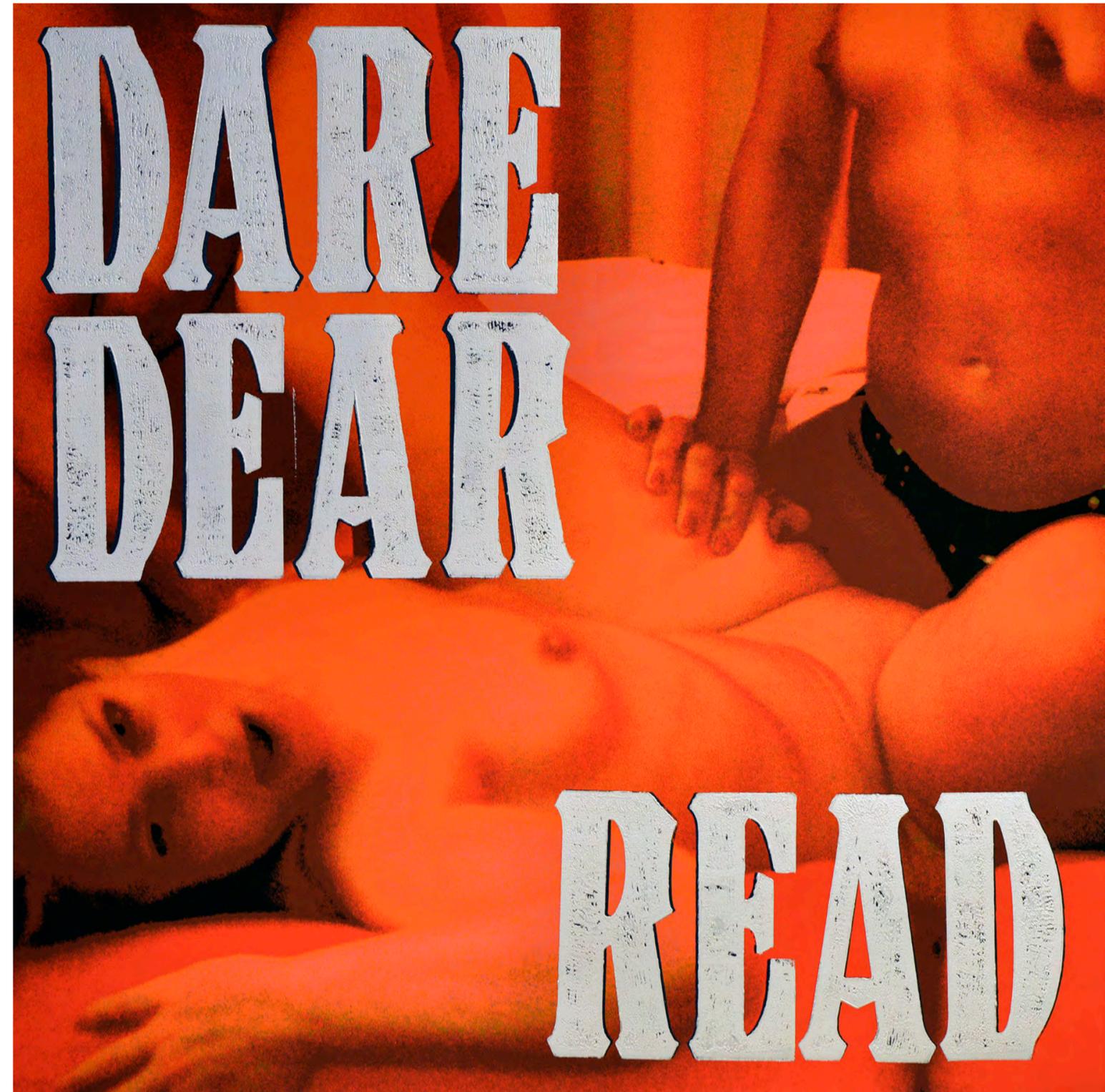


Sarah, Roos and Sanne in Amsterdam, NL, 9 June 2018 #1



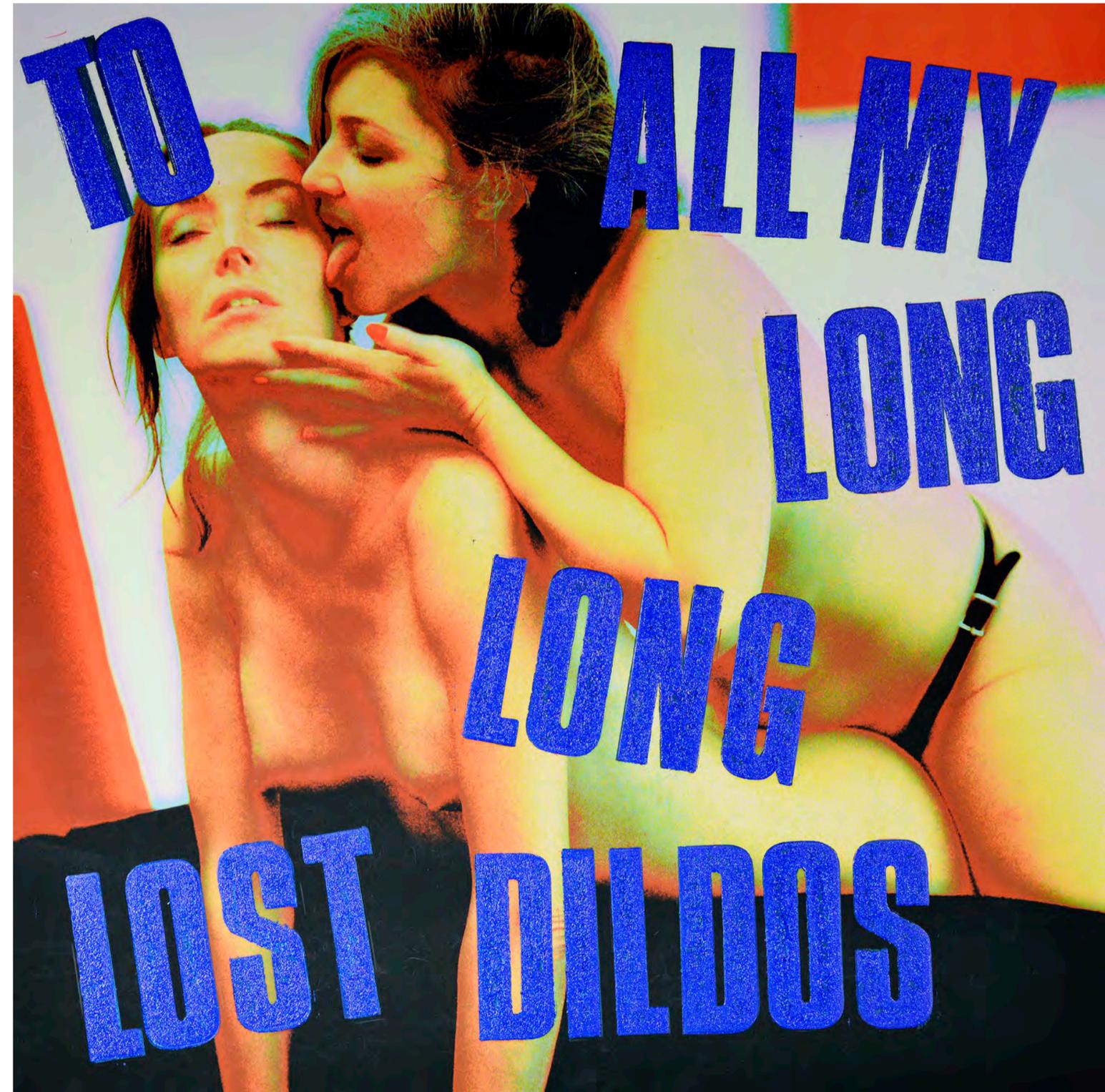
Sarah, Roos and Sanne in Amsterdam, NL, 9 June 2018-2019 #7







Sarah and Femke in Amsterdam, NL, 6 July 2018 #1



Sarah and Femke in Amsterdam, NL, 6 July 2018 #4



Sarah and Femke in Amsterdam, NL, 6 July 2018-2019 #6



Sarah and Femke in Amsterdam, NL, 6 July 2018-2020 #8



Sarah and Anastasia in Amsterdam, NL, 27 August 2018-2019 #6





Sarah and Linda in Amsterdam, NL, 11 August 2018 #2



Sarah and Linda in Amsterdam, NL, 11 August 2018 #11



Sarah and Linda in Amsterdam, NL, 11 August 2018 #5









Sarah and Tessa in Amsterdam, NL, 13 September 2018 #1



Sarah and Tessa in Amsterdam, NL, 13 September 2018 #8



Sarah and Tessa in Amsterdam, NL, 13 September 2018-2019 #10



Sarah and Kim in Amsterdam, NL, 25 November 2018-2019 #2



this is it Snoopy said what else could we do? fuck and fuck what a combination wonder  
ful as long as all are happy why should we not be there is no reason to regret seize the  
moment we want to enjoy as much as possible so what is it going to be boy yes or no  
just like jani's song i think just do it why not there is no right or wrong just the joy of the  
moment we could be dead tomorrow that is the reason why i want to push and pursue as much  
as i can cope and carry because sooner or later in life you loose the things you love and in  
the end also your own life why do i write also when it is also no clue it seems to be a  
thing to switch letters i think i am just stupid but however everybody has their assets or advantages  
their vice or better said drives so what is it going to be boy yes or no do you know now well  
i have not got all day well i have but not to be waiting on you i will fuck you all day but not  
wait on you there have to be limits are you done now Snoopy said with your endless be  
at 3 lat your sorrow gets me down let's do something about it let's go out and soak up  
life and enjoy that we exist don't be a fool and lay around all day energize your  
self by activity don't stuff your face and be lazy you will not feel better from  
that start to play with Brancusi Snoopy suggested or if you are curious to try Mr. But  
plug is available as well still a virgin after all these years in the closet  
however you must admit my shape or look's pretty appealing too just face it it makes  
you at least curious so what do you think would you like to say yes and try  
to live life for a moment Snoopy looked very seductive so which one will it be my  
my dear? i think i opt for the classic i said i don't want to come across as boring  
but Brancusi is not so my thing and i am talking out of experience it is not some un-  
founded no it is a well considered one, one answer based upon empirical research so well  
founded opinion and however Zutter is scaring me a little to be honest with you i know  
without praxis you go nowhere but still that one makes me stumble and shit my pants  
but good old classic is doing just fine right now i must admit i am gagging for  
it i am so horny i can hardly walk every step i take it feels like an explosion of lust  
+creeping upon me once i was on my bike and i came so strong i nearly made an accident  
i must have looked so strange with my cum face on my face cycling in Leiden on  
my way to somewhere university or work i can't remember but the moment is now  
now and i could see that Snoopy was losing his momentum i turned and got undressed  
my bold pussy facing Snoopy who awoke at the very moment he saw me undressed now what  
is that? Snoopy pointed at my hairless pussy you look like that bread of cats and dogs  
you can find in the andes mountains unusual but interesting at the same time i  
think also pretty practical since you will not give hairs when you get eaten better  
as the Dutch say he leaned forwards me and started to lick me i like very much

**SNOOPY**



**FOREVER**







Sarah, Roos and Sanne in Takamaka, Seychelles, 30 December 2019 #22



Sarah, Kim and a man in Amsterdam, NL, 17 February 2019 #17





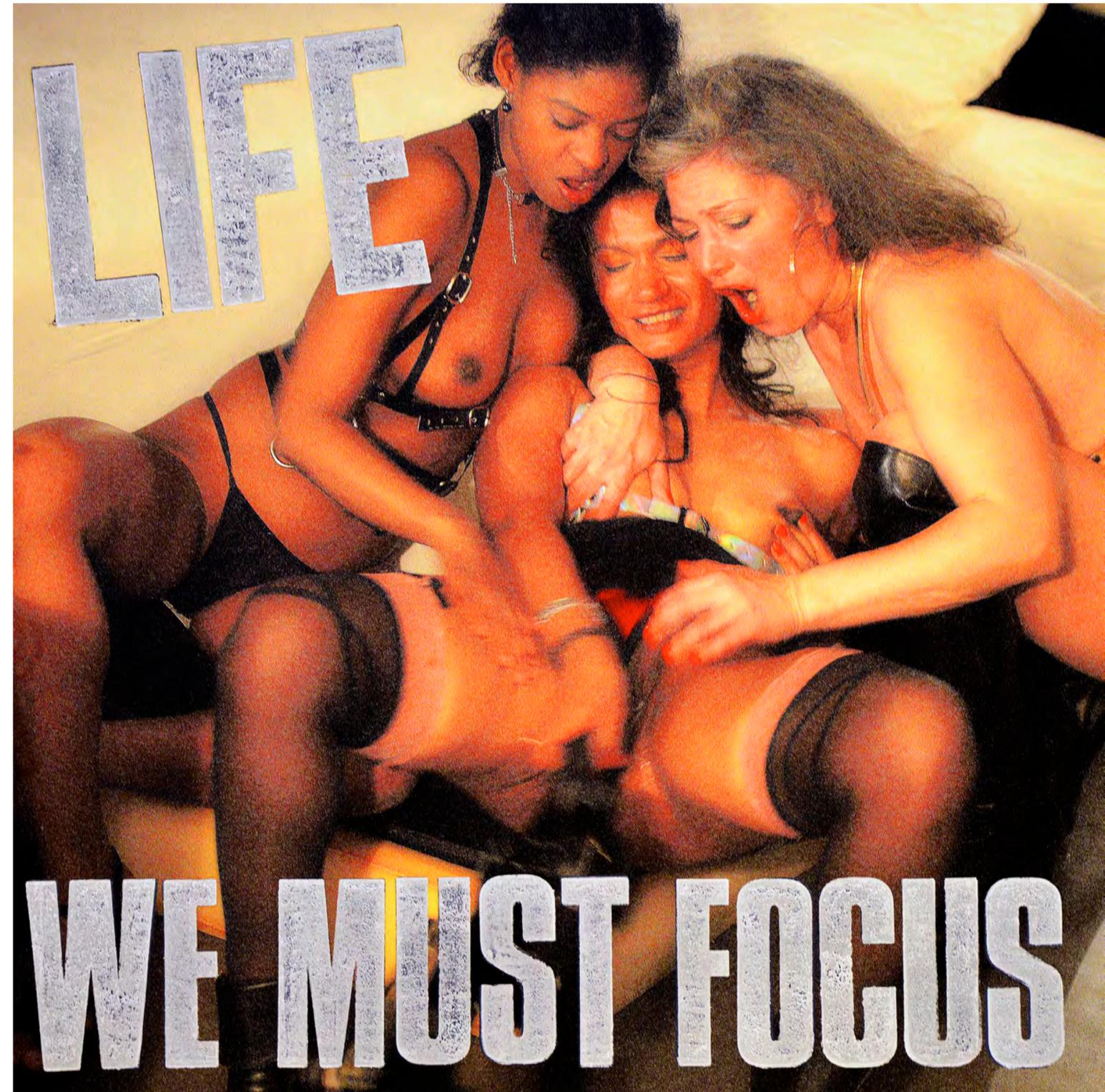
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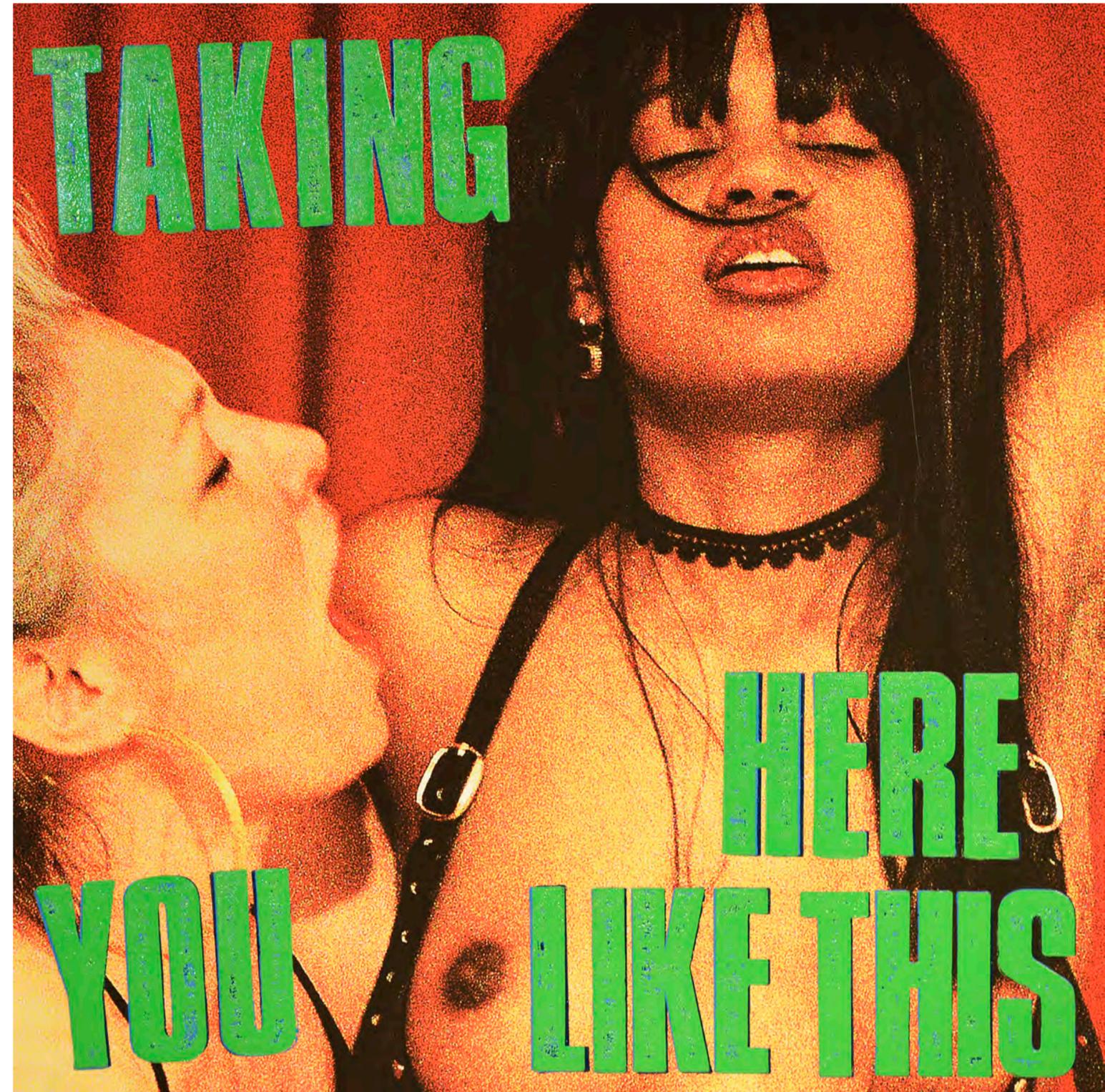


Sarah, Kim and a man in Amsterdam, NL, 2019-2020 #30



Sarah, Naomi and Surya in Hoorn, NL, 7 April 2019 #19







Sarah and Naomi in Amsterdam, NL, 24 April 2019 #3



Sarah and Iva in Amsterdam, NL, 4 May 2019 #3





Sarah, Linda and F in Amsterdam, NL, 24 May 2019 #1



Sarah, Linda and F in Amsterdam, NL, 24 May 2019 #9



Sarah, Linda and F in Amsterdam, NL, 24 May 2019 #7



Sarah, Linda and F in Amsterdam, NL, 24 May 2019 #8



Sarah, Linda and F in Amsterdam, NL, 24 May 2019 #5



Sarah, Linda and F in Amsterdam, NL, 24 May 2019 #6



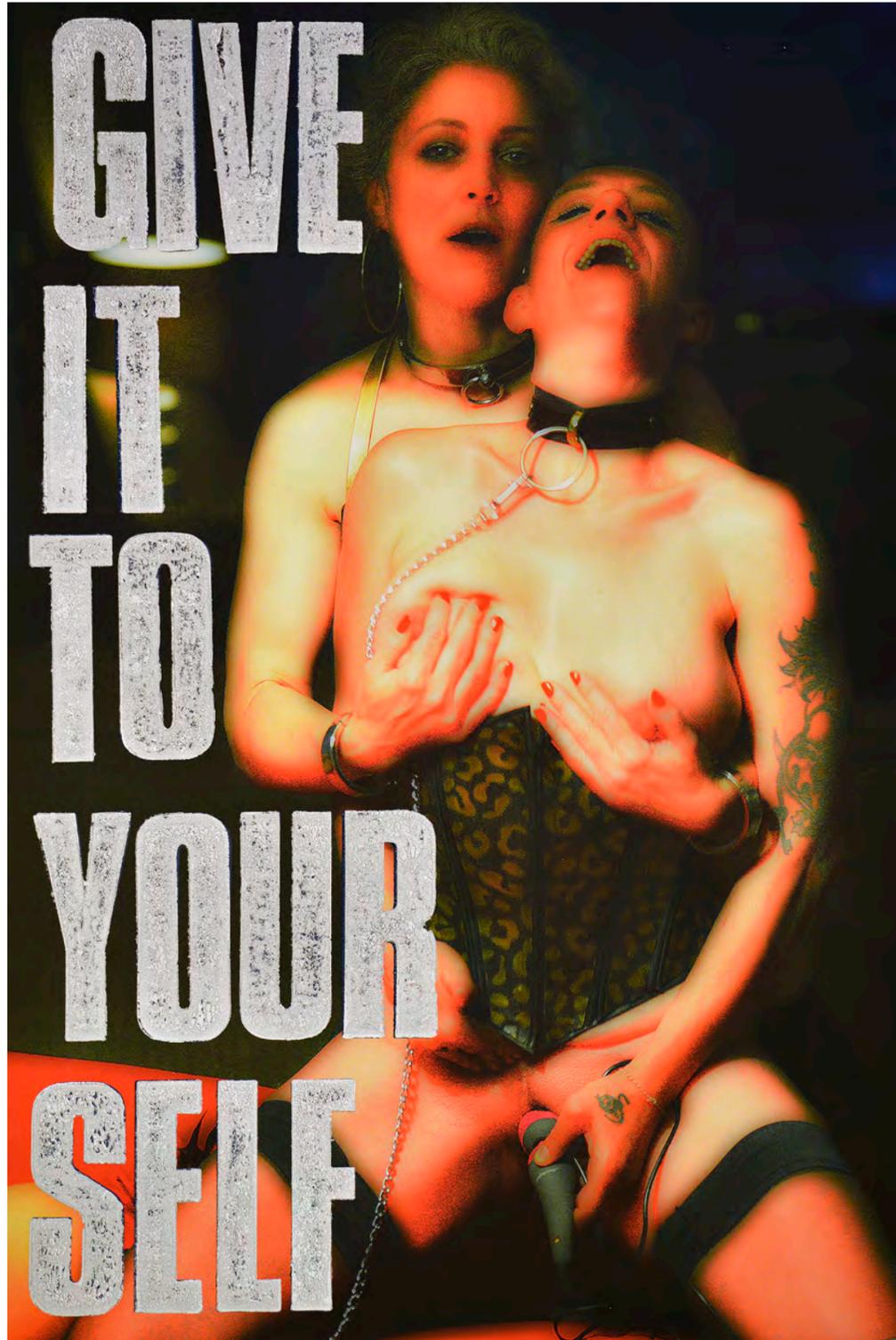
Sarah and Marloes in Putten, NL, 6 June 2019 #2







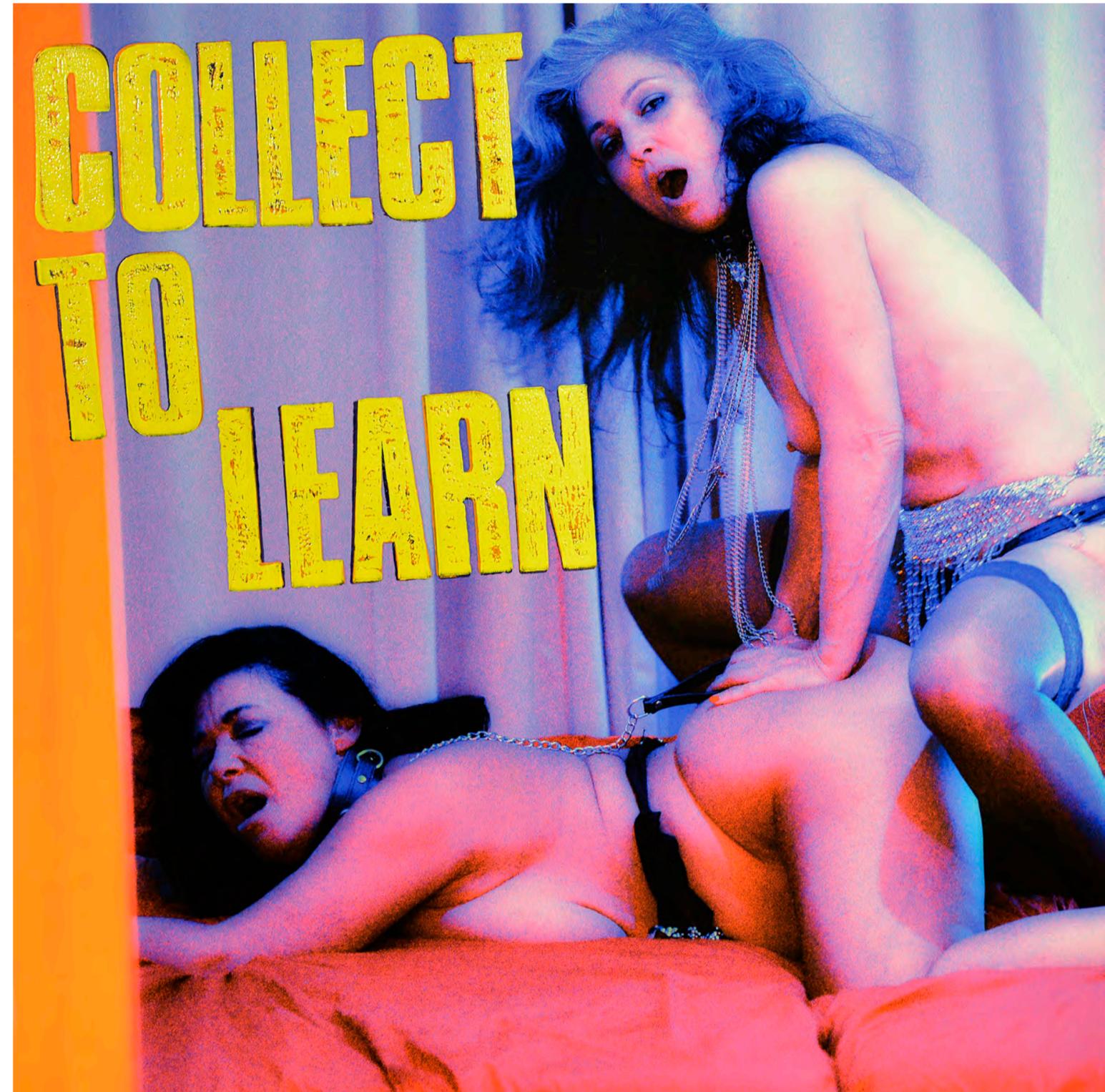
Sarah, Iva and Surya in Hoorn, NL, 14 June 2019-2020 #15



Sarah, Iva and Surya in Hoorn, NL, 14 June 2019 #10







Sarah and Brenda in Amsterdam, NL, 15 August 2019 #2



Sarah and Natasha in Amsterdam, NL, 16 August 2019 #5

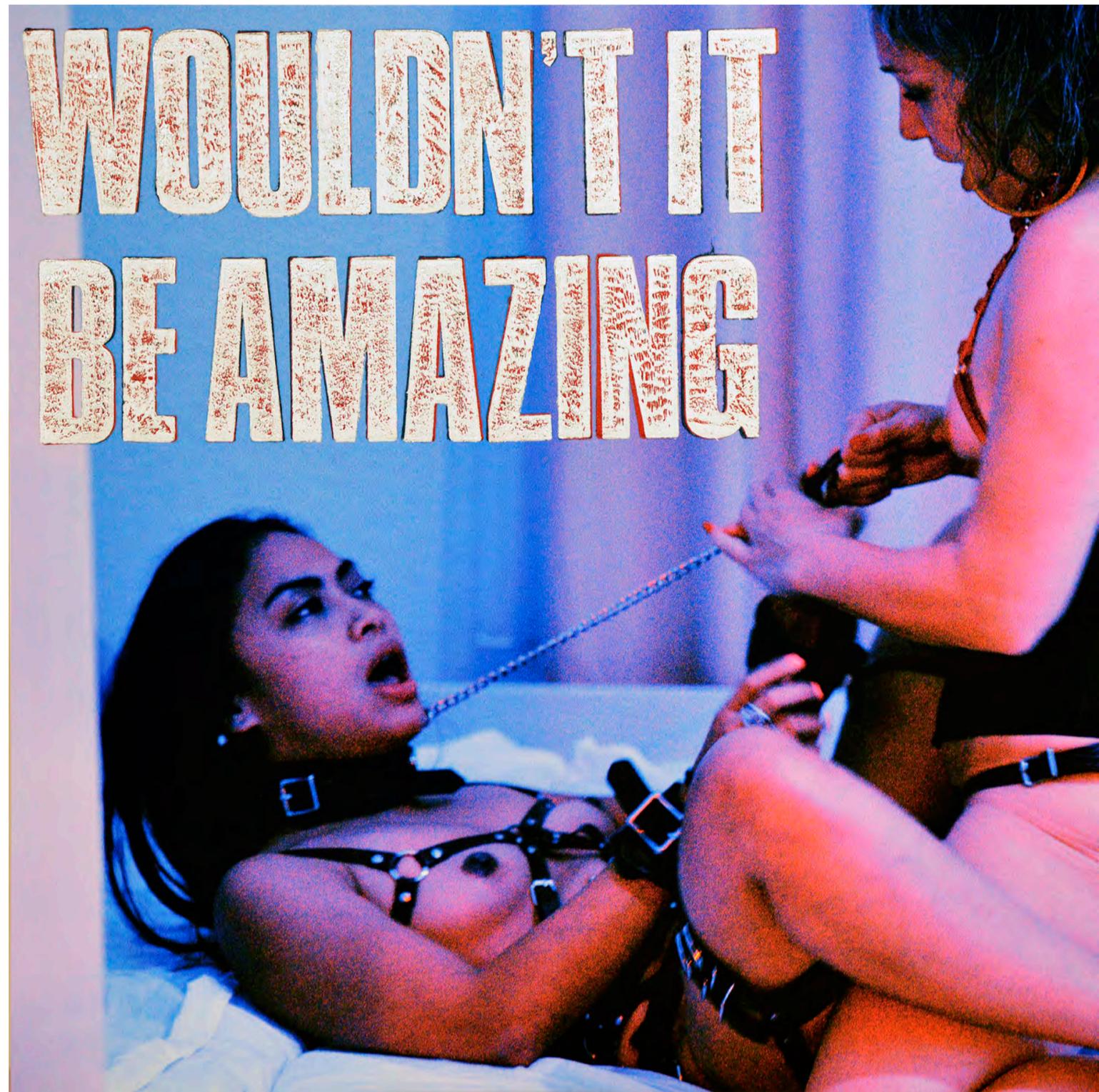




Sarah and Yun in Amsterdam, NL, 5 September 2019 #7



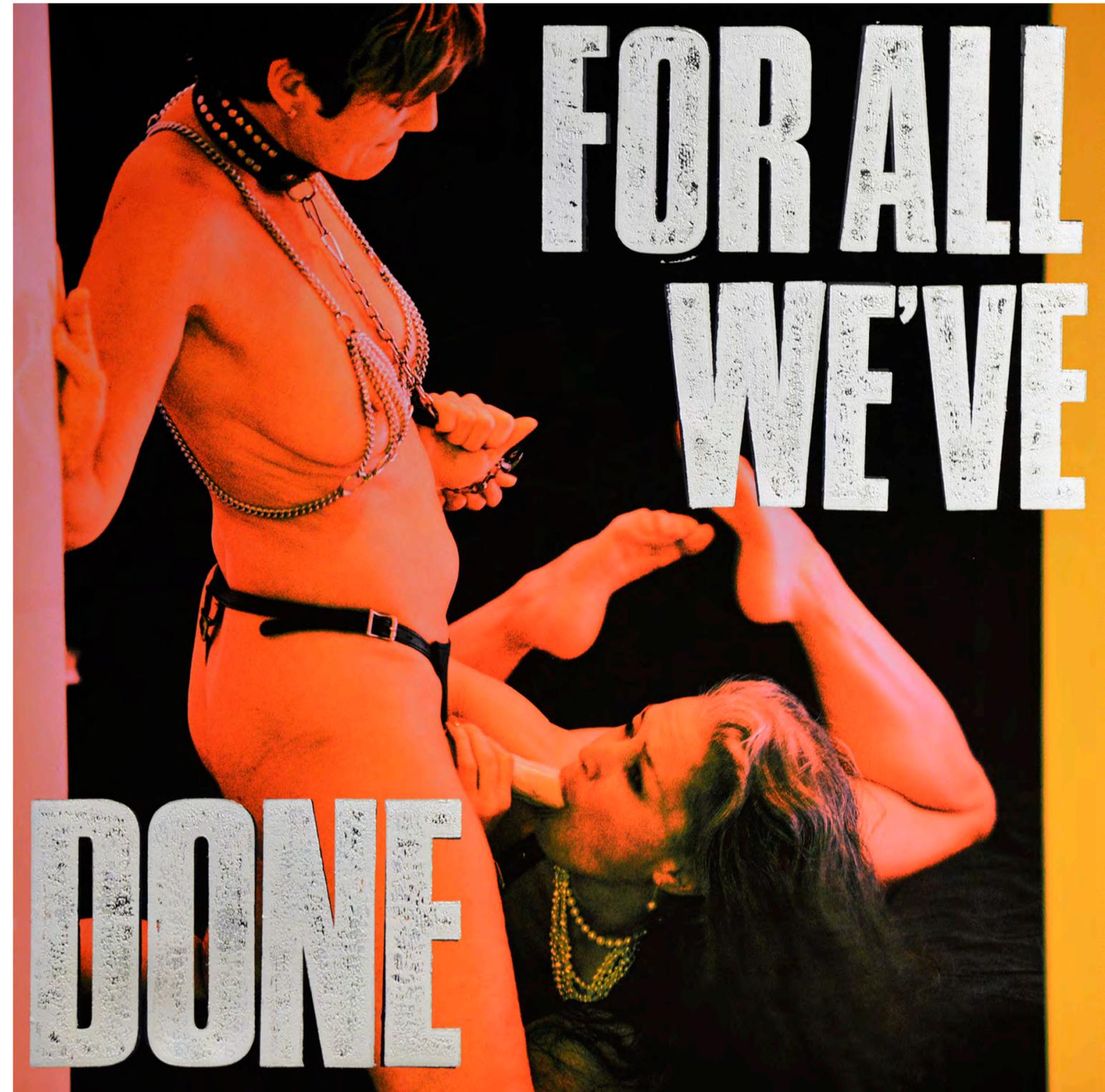
Sarah and Yun in Amsterdam, NL, 5 September 2019 #8



Sarah and Natcha in Amsterdam, NL, 15 September 2019 #1



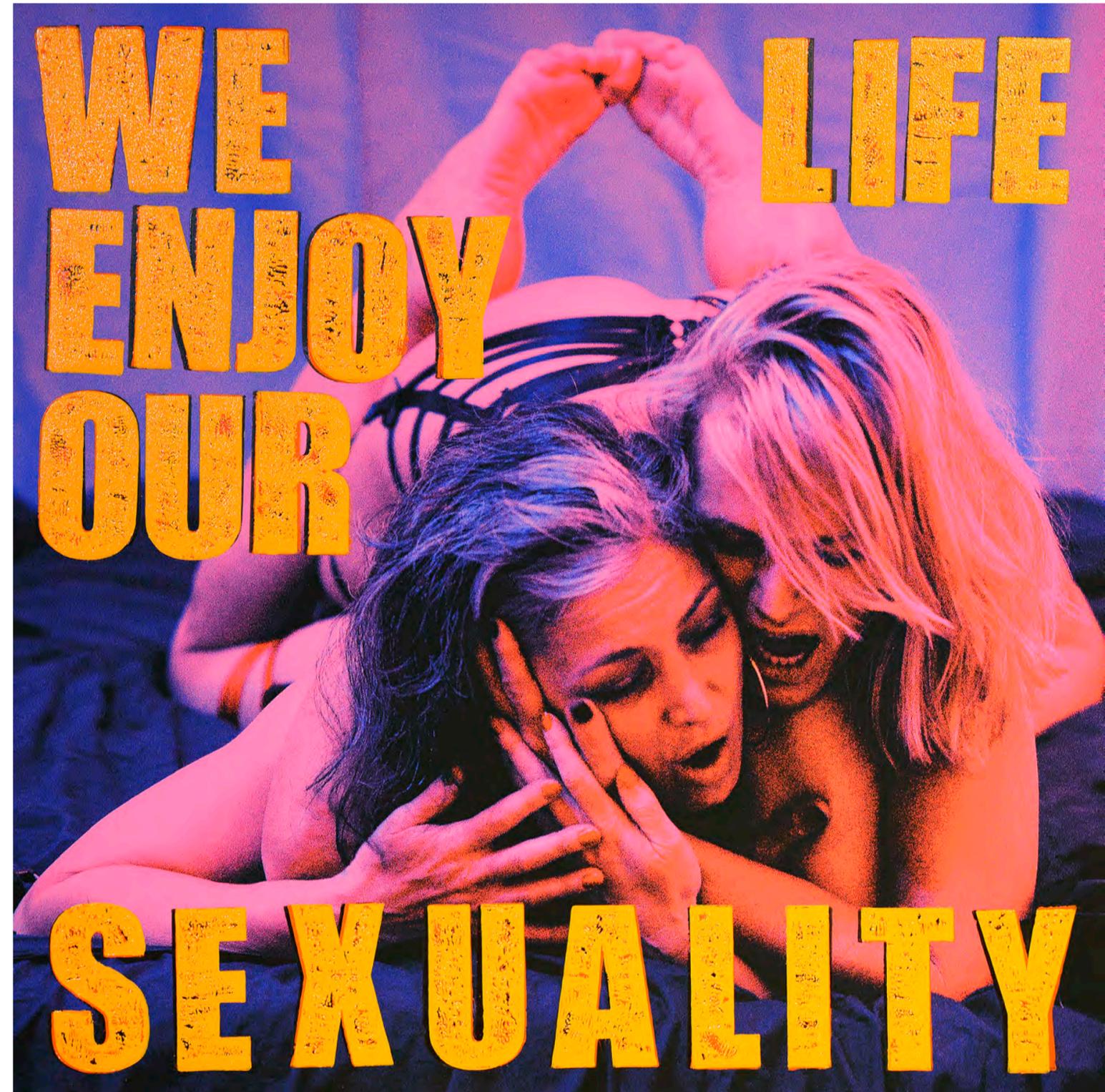
Sarah and Monique in Amsterdam, NL, 17 September 2019 #1



Sarah and Monique in Amsterdam, NL, 17 September 2019-2020 #4



Sarah and Monique in Amsterdam, NL, 17 September 2019 #3



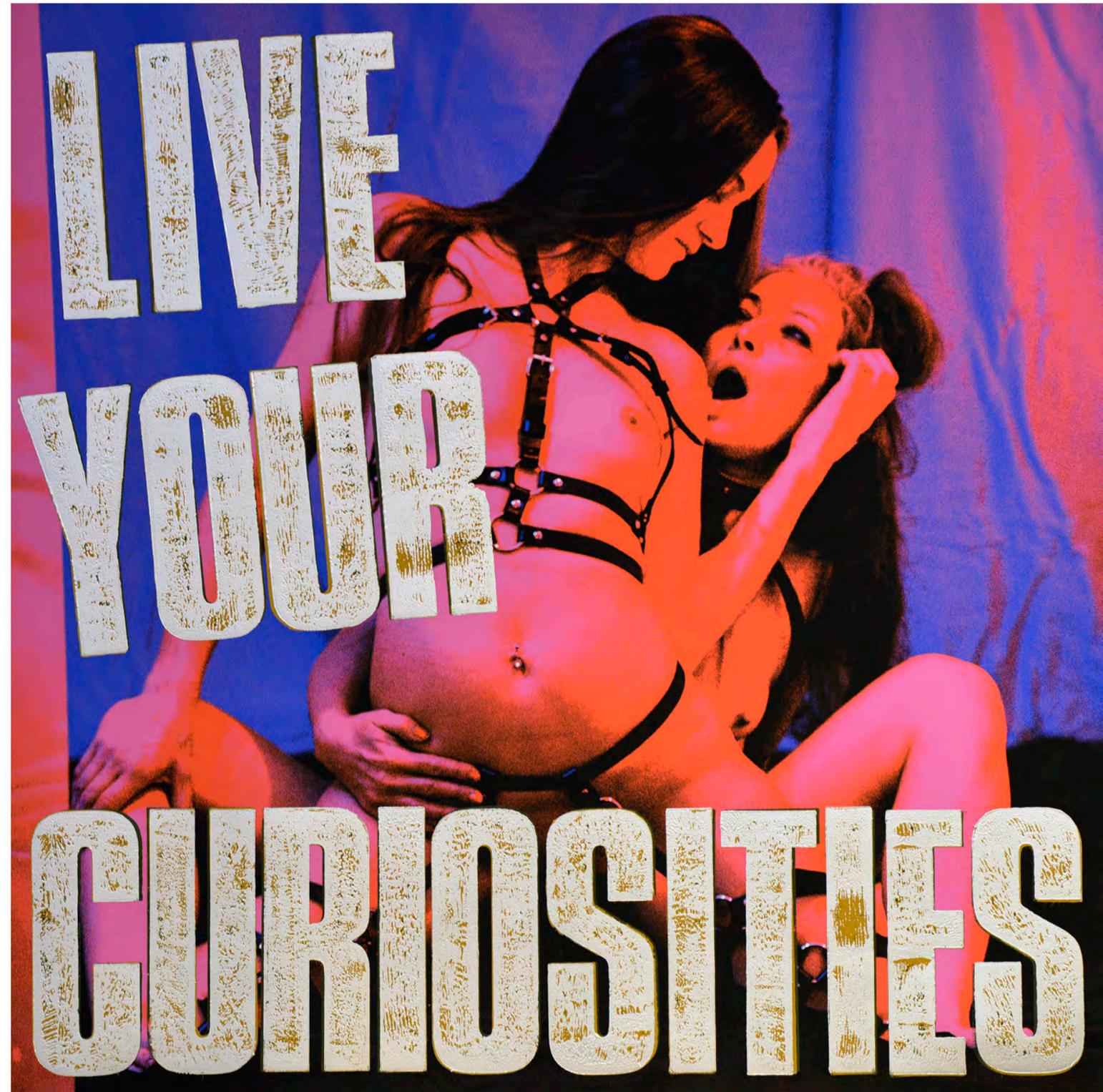
Sarah and Sandra in Amsterdam, NL, 16 November 2019-2020 #2



my tears dried on their own my tears dry on their own my tears  
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Sarah and Ella in Amsterdam, NL, 16 November 2019-2020 #1

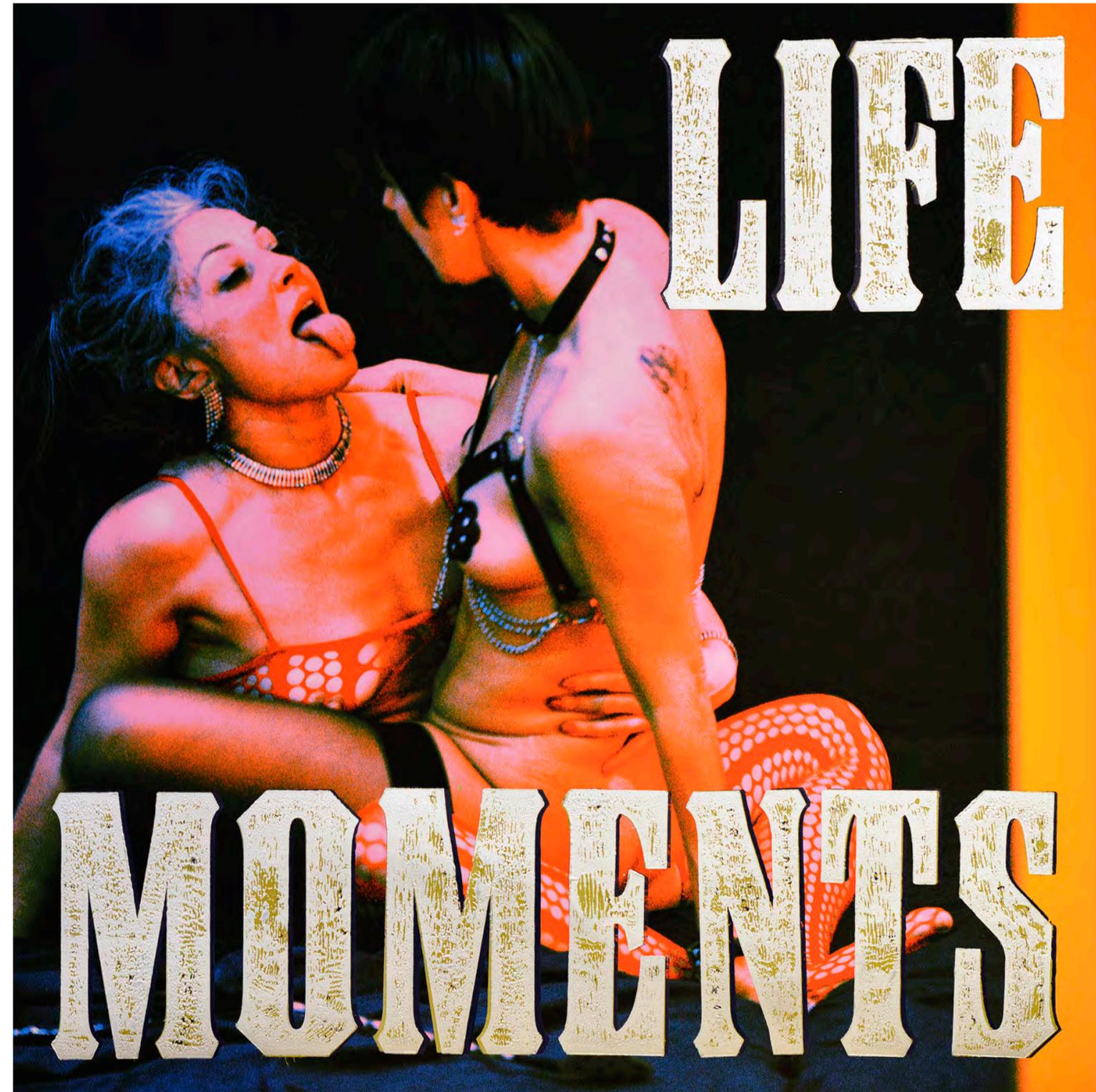


Sarah and Ella in Amsterdam, NL, 16 November 2019-2020 #2



Sarah and Johanna in Amsterdam, NL, 19 November 2019-2020 #2





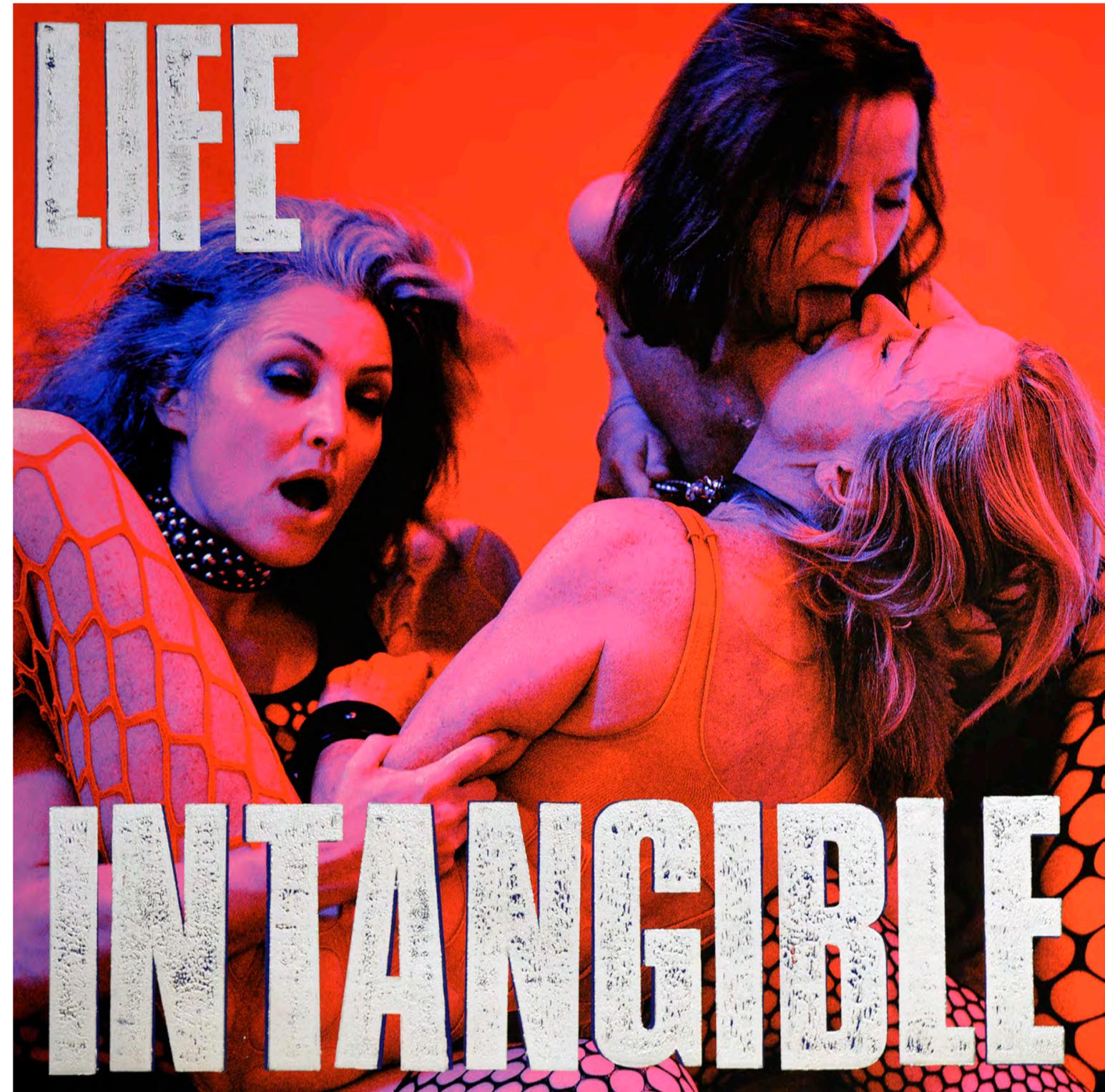
Sarah and Amanda in Amsterdam, NL, 29 November 2019-2020 #2



Sarah and Amanda in Amsterdam, NL, 29 November 2019-2020 #3



Sarah and Johanna in Amsterdam, NL, 19 December 2019-2020 #1



Sarah, Johanna and Miranda in Amsterdam, NL, 27 December 2019-2020 #3





Sarah, Johanna and Miranda in Amsterdam, NL, 27 December 2019-2020 #2



SARAH GOLD, AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS, 10 APRIL 2020, 12.06 PM

## BIOGRAPHY

1978	Born in the Netherlands.
1996-1997	Art History, Heidelberg University, Germany.
1998-2004	Dutch Studies / Art History (MA), Leiden University, Netherlands.
2004-2005	Assistant Curator, Caldic Collection, Rotterdam, Netherlands.
2005-2015	Independent curator and author, organized symposia and exhibitions in a.o. Amsterdam, New York and Tokyo as well as part of the Venice Biennale. Published books and created Art Projects in cooperation with a.o. Yoko Ono, Lawrence Weiner, Hermann Nitsch, Ben Vautier and Arnulf Rainer.
2015-today	Concentrating solely on creating art.

## COLOPHON

First edition.  
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