

LUV 'til it hurts

Parameters of Stigma: Art, Architecture and Reclaiming Community Space

Thursday, May 24, 2018 (12-6pm)

Lunch / afternoon programme:

Hosted by:

12pm	Arrival	Amber Art & Design
1pm	Lunch	Maken North, Studio #406
2-4pm	Discussion	3525 I St, Philadelphia, PA 19134
4-6pm	Tour of Hatfield House	Telephone: (267) 231-8473

Dear Colleague,

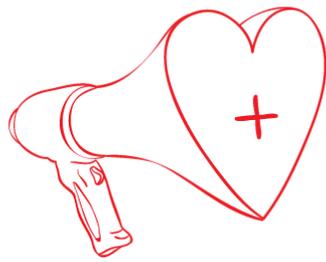
Amber Art & Design invites you to join us for *Parameters of Stigma: Art, Architecture and Reclaiming Community Space*: a lunch, discussion and tour on May 24th in Philadelphia. After meeting at collective member, Keir Johnston's studio for the first part of programme, we will visit the Hatfield House, a historic mansion in Fairmount Park located at the southeast entrance to the Strawberry Mansion neighborhood. The House is currently in use as a project space for on-going community engagement—through public events, documentation and cultural asset mapping—led by Amber Art & Design.

This conversation will focus on specific points of intersection that have emerged from our collective artistic practice and research in São Paulo, Philadelphia, New York City and San Juan. Philly-based Amber Art & Design—with members in NYC—has been collaborating with Lanchonete.org over the past year on space-based ethnography work in São Paulo; recently visited with partners in San Juan; and is looking to the future (and all of you) for where our learnings can inform the acknowledgement and re-creation of public space.

Topics for discussion:

- The role that architecture and urban planning play in defining low-income neighborhoods and the parameters of social and cultural stigma related to poverty, ethnicity, gender and sexuality, addiction and disease.
- The role artists play in cultivating community relations and cross-sector dialogue around these issues.
- Developing existing and potential partnerships between artists, architects, documentarians, and activists (amongst others) working with communities to redefine and reclaim public spaces for the benefit of residents.
- Artist residency models and platforms for cross-sector collaborations that explore issues related to socio-cultural stigmas and point to creative solutions.

An artist-led project on HIV & Stigma



LUV 'til it hurts

Please note that this is an informal programme designed to inspire comfort and sharing of ideas. We have some ideas of what comes next, but fully hope to 'shuffle them up' and gain focus over lunch, a talk and walk with our guests.

The tour of Hatfield House will be followed by a screening of *Queer City*, a film by Danila Bustamente, which looks at sexuality, identity, socio-cultural stigma and "the right to the city" in São Paulo and/or continued conversation. We'll make sure that out-of-towners make their buses back home in time.

We look forward to seeing you for this conversation and can't wait to engage in dialogue with you! Please RSVP with any food restrictions.

Luv,
Amber

P.S.

* To get to Keir's studio, take the Market\Frankford Line east towards Frankford, get off at Tioga. Maken North Studios is at the corner of I Street and Tioga, 2 blocks from the metro stop.

**The May 24th meeting will serve as a soft launch for *Luv 'til it Hurts*, an artist-led project on HIV and stigma. *Luv 'til it Hurts* is the third project in a series of durational, multi-stakeholder, human rights-focused artworks made, in part, by Todd Lanier Lester.

***Amber Art and Design works with individuals, organizations, and leaders dedicated to making positive, lasting, and sustainable changes within their community. The collective is made up of six international artists: Ernel Martinez, Keir Johnston, Charles Barbin, Willis "Nomo" Humphrey, Linda Fernandez, and Siddhartha Joag. Amber believes in the greater power and potential of a collaborative approach to art making and has been using social practice as a method to engage and contribute. Our mission is to leverage art from a point of renewal and service – a platform that invites individuals and communities to grow, express and advocate for positive change.

www.amberartanddesign.com

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