

# Image Description: *Kitchen Talk*

Eva Wö *Kitchen Talk* [with *Reclaiming Our Image* (Caritia, Lina Bembe, Evie Snax, Max Disgrace, Bishop Black, Carmina, Jasco Viefhues, Mia Secreto, Kali Sudhra, Rebecca, Nina Scum & Rude Jude)] 2018, video, 5:17.

Sound Transcription by Eva Wo, with additions by Riet Timmerman  
Image Description by Riet Timmerman

*The video starts with a zoomed in shot of a person with bright pink hair, hoop earrings and black fingernail polish, wiping away their tears. They are sitting in a kitchen with a group of Black, Indigenous and People of Color, all chatting and laughing together. A person, sitting on the other side of the circle, agrees that often people are just doing their thing while they are standing in the corner crying or are crying in front of the mirror. They have a short black fringe, wear bright blue lipstick and are laughing through their tears. They are sitting on the lap of a muscular person, who has a leaf tattoo on their forearm and wears blue fingernail polish. They tease the person on their lap by mimicking their response, moving their fingers in front of their face as if they are brushing their eyebrows or putting on lipstick, stating that everything will be fine darling, have the time, I am here for you. The whole group is laughing together.*

*The text on screen reads: 'Berlin 2017. A group of twelve BIPOC in porn gather to create self-directed content. During the shoot we ended up gathered in the kitchen crying, laughing and holding each other. Here is an excerpt of that conversation. Why is such a space important?'*

*The conversation starts with Caritia, who is standing in the middle of the group, with braided hair and a small gap in between their two front teeth, wearing a camo T-shirt and glasses. They have their arm wrapped around the person next to them.*

Caritia:

But it's just giving ourselves permission to take space

It's giving ourselves permission to take space

And we don't take enough of it because we think somehow it's not so important

Part of the reason I'm here is because I realized how important this would be for me to be more visible. I don't do everything and I can't do everything but if I make myself visible

Other people will find that permission to do, to be

And I think it's also really important that we document the emotional side of this for us, because more often than not we don't. You know you see the happy, the glamorous, the sexy, you know - the fucking HOT,  
but...

But you don't get to see the emotional thing that comes along with all of this for all of us

*The whole group nods in agreement. Rebecca is standing behind Caritia, leaning their chin on their shoulder.*

Rebecca: the way we want

Caritia: exactly

*The person with the bright blue lips, Kali, wipes away their tears and laughs.*

Kali: super wet right now

Caritia:

And this is the thing: emotion is hot!

Can I just say? Emotion is hot no matter what the emotion is it's really hot

And I think if we don't express that as part of who we are

I know I personally express that through my work

You know I express that in all of the things that I do

When I do session and when I do other stuff because

It's missing for me. That's what is missing for me in porn.

That is what's missing for me sometimes in sex and in sex work.

Is the emotion.

And then I want a connection, I wanna feel it

I don't wanna just see something that looks really great. That's great.

But I wanna feel it too.

I wanna sense it. I want it to be all of the things and not just part of the things.

*A sense of agreement fills the circle, as yeah's and mmm's of consensus accompany the noddings of heads.*

*The camera moves to the other side of the group. A person, Lina, who has short brown hair and wears a one shoulder top, is standing closely behind another person who is sitting down.*

Lina: yea because when it comes to sex work there is always a lot of people who say 'yea like emotions are a different thing.' And for me that's never the case. For me my work and who I am there's always that - a line that's very blurry.

*Holding back their tears, Lina puts their arms around the person in front of them, resting their chin on top of their curly, pink hair, hugging them tight.*

Lina: And I am super frustrated at this moment because I see the work that I do and I'm not entirely happy with it. And now it's coming to a point at which I'm really at the risk of not liking myself.

With the work that I do

And I don't want that

*The person sitting in front of them tears up and squeezes Lina's shoulder.*

Lina: and at the same time I know I have the power

And I know from whatever point of vulnerability or fragility I know that I can have my voice heard

*With tears falling down their cheeks, the person sitting in front of them nods their head, moving Lina's chin with the same rhythm.*

Lina: And there is something that I can do to just  
Take that control to put myself together and to say okay  
This is my work but this is who I am  
but still I can put emotion and  
Own my thing  
And this is also one of the reasons what I really wanted to do this  
Because I think that  
With these exercises we can really heal.  
That we can really get ourselves in touch with that  
With a little bit of work and a little bit of exercise  
A little bit of connection

Cause, I dunno... we are at similar points all of us. Of whatever it is we do.

*A deep voice responds. The camera follows the circle to Jasco, who has his arms around three other people. They have short cut hair, wear glasses, piercings and have large tattoos on their shoulders and side of their chest.*

Jasco: I just want to integrate this part back  
You know, it's like a ritual that we're doing and I just wanna raise it and integrate it  
Like, take it back into my life and into my body.

*Another person in the circle, wearing a leopard printed top and hoop earrings, takes a sharp breath as Jasco's point resonates with them.*

Jasco: Because it was, I dunno, stolen or lost a long time ago  
Or taken by others  
Or used, abused, whatever you wanna call it  
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*Jasco looks down and glances at Caritia, who is standing next to him. Caritia still has Rebecca's head resting on their back. Together with Jasco, they are captured in a close embrace.*

Caritia: yup... reclaim  
And the thing is, everything we've done up til now is learning.  
It's not wrong, it's not broken, it's learning.  
It's learning it's a challenge it's growth it's allowing  
It's... yeah, it's really embracing.  
I truly truly feel it's embracing  
To break down and say NOW what do I want?  
In this present moment at this time  
What's switched what's changed why am I doing what I'm doing

And what do I wanna do right now?

*Embracing and holding on to each other, the group's gazes seem aimed at the floor, away from another. Letting all that's been said sink in.*

*The shot changes to everyone moving closer together for a group hug. The camera glides over backs and arms, hands that are squeezing into each other.*

*Jasco gestures to the person who is filming and brings them into the group hug.*

Jasco:

Sorry but you have to!

I know you have to film this but you know be part of –

*The camera falls to the side. A black screen appears that reads 'Reclaiming Our Image'.*

*Followed by a list of credited participants: Caritia, Lina Bembe, Max Disgrace, Jasco Viefhues, Mia Secreto, Kali Sudhra, Bishop Black, Rebecca, Evie Snax, Rooster, Nina Scum, Rude Jude.*

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