

Campbell Carolan

amuse bouche!

Hey guys,

Here's your dinner. We know you brought your expectations. But don't worry, we aren't going to make any assumptions. Or come to any conclusions. That's why this is a dry event- we already know you're fluid.

We began with the desire to do a dinner for the mens community. Then we realized, there wasn't one. What we found was a community of non-cis, non-binary, non-gender identifying bodies that would prefer not to when it comes to the question of masculinity. Men don't exist! Only myn! A community of bodies that refuses the question of either/or, instead preferring both and neither one. Picky mouths.

When we speak to something, we bring it into existence. And so we were asked by our colleagues and co-creators, lovingly, critically: don't speak to men. Speak to singularities. Speak to everyone. But don't speak to men.

Which brings us to politics- that other topic we're not supposed to bring to the table. We lost the erection: the liberal tower has collapsed, the little man of the old regime stands: he's nuke ready and viagra pumped, a representative of the people. Well, your pronouns are your choice, but that doesn't change your politicians. Man represents man, and that man represents a people of men.

Too bad evacuating masculinity of its meaning doesn't strip it of its power. Her loss will be theirs. And by she we mean they, and by they we mean, Zhe's and Xe's, by which we mean yours and ours. There are those of us this social contract have always exempted, and there are those of us for whom that contract has always stood.

The difference we have in common is this: we've never been adequately represented, and your representation is inadequate. Forgive us for invoking such a gendered binary.

Well, here's your meal you guys! We're still not really sure who we're representing here, but hey, unstable times call for unstable politics. So whoever you are, identities, bodies, friends, lovers, singularities-- this is for you!

From your kitchen to our table,

The guys



Who	Why	Offering?
Corley Miller	Comp III	Waffle cones + oreos
Carly Miller @gmail	Carlin	Papya
Pete Ellis	Autism intervention	peanut and ~ memory card
espadac.rodern@gmail		
Matt	RV M	Fried chicken
Andy	VC	chips, cookies
acpollack2@gmail		
Michael	VC	blue corn chips
mswetterhander@gmail		hummus
Dan Delaney 24@gmail	VS	olives
christopher.miller	Volunteer's packet	gala apples

In 2016, in the midst of planning an unrelated show for an exhibition series at Future Development, Donald Trump swung the presidential election. We were faced with the problem of exhibiting artwork in a context that had radically shifted overnight. Alt-D was our response to both the election and our political responsibility as artists. We elected to host a dinner at the gallery in a gesture that we identified as “reactionary relational aesthetics.” The dinner was promoted as a potluck dinner exhibition and “dry event.” What we didn’t tell invitees was that only men had been invited, and that we’d secured the space with nanny cams and participatory frameworks to de-incentivize the exit. It was, needless to say, an incredibly awkward event—witnessed from cameras mounted in the women’s bathroom—where the sisterhood proceeded to drink, smoke, and be fuck off.

The desire to take on male subjectivity by providing a space of autonomy for men was met with controversy by our colleagues and co-creators. We were asked whether or not men actually needed “more space.” Shouldn’t community be inclusive? We were accused of reinforcing the ideology of both incel movements and the patriarchy, so called.

Our methods and mediums are interdisciplinary so that we are better able to work dialectically. When a project appears to lack the “virtue signaling” usually ascribed to a social practice, people are understandably confused.

We wanted to ask, “Is the Women’s Movement’s demand for ‘a world without men’ a desire for liberation from normative identity? Or does it function as a way to avoid the social actualities of difference?” When we were able to re-frame the issue of misogyny as a relationship first and foremost between men, (not men and women), then the team at Future Development gave us the greenlight...



JENGA is a tabletop game in which players take turns removing wooden bricks from a tower formation. A player loses when the tower falls. In order to confront the possibility of boredom that might occur when twelve male strangers are asked to endure the sobriety of one another's company, we custom printed a series of broad, and potentially intimate, questions regarding male subjectivity and concealed them within the towers. When participants began a game, they were also motivated to explore and discuss various topics related to male experience.

The table and seating charts were designed in relation to both the space and imagined experience of the participants. Autumn Ahn concealed, in plain sight, tape recorders to document the discussion and installed a nanny cam in the rotunda's entrance that was linked to a cell phone monitor in the women's bathroom. We were able to view the proceedings while smoking in the girl's room and collectively exited at the end of the dinner for a co-ed discussion on participant experience.

With respect for the discursive limitations set down by ongoing, public debates surrounding identity politics, we were asked by the director and curator to use gender neutral language and to guarantee inclusivity regardless of identity. Given that our aims were to do a dinner for men, the press release, texts, and horizon of language around the project were both in the service of those constraints and an attempt to reorient ourselves to what a signifying identity can do and mean.



From: V C campbellvi.e@gmail.com
Subject: Final draft w image
Date: November 17, 2016 at 23:22
To: valerie skakun valerieskakun@gmail.com, Micaela Carolan micaela.carolan@gmail.com



Inventory of Shimmers

[Nocturn Two: CNTRL-ALT-D]

Saturday, November 19th, 2016

Unveiling: 7pm

260 Richardson, Brooklyn NY 11222

Future Development *

Autumn Ahn
Victoria Campbell
Micaela Carolan
Laura Hunt

Curated by Alli Miller
Produced by Valerie Skokan

How is history like a banquet? It takes its course.

We invite you to disrupt a discourse—

Proper food service begins from the left and is removed from the right. One should always hold the plate in the left hand. When tasked with carrying two plates, one places on the table first the plate in the left hand, then the other plate should be transferred to the left hand, and placed before the next person being served.

We provide abundance to those experiencing scarcity. Misogyny is not a relationship of men and women. Rather, it's an effect of complicity: a rendering of the digestion, embodiment and regurgitation of patriarchy and its many enforcing institutions. This scarcity expresses itself in hunger: *jus d'économique*.

To lift the lid on political circumstance—

The alt-right turns the American melting pot into a craft distillery by doing away with impurities. What satiates the farm-to-table movement's impetuous taste for making America Great Again? "Purity"—"home cooking"—"a return to the soil"? Is this not the menu of the nation-state?

On the pot of a community forever on the boil

The present menu of political discourse varies only slightly between establishments, fulfilling only those with an appetite for crisis. Ours is a fusion cuisine for those limited by a binary diet. This sensibility, which is merely a taste for scarcity and its classic head rush, hungers for another kind of relationship.

A menu for a new men's movement!

What is the point of a communal table with no community on which to rely?

Served from the Left—

We don't believe a "good" diet is about cutting things out.

And removed from the Right—

Hunger is ambition, but one need not come to a meal because of a lack. Indeed, the wealthy are the hungriest among us!



Production design: Victoria Campbell, Micaela Carolan,
Creative direction: Victoria Campbell, Micaela Carolan, Alli Miller, Valerie Skakun
Curatorial body: Alli Miller, Valerie Skakun
Program director: Valerie Skakun
Featuring: Autumn Ahn, Laura Hunt

Interventions and ephemera by: Alli Miller, Papas y Kakkas (Jacinto Astiazarán, Veli-Matti Hoikka, Alli Miller), Michael Swellander, Christine Wang

“Inventory of Shimmers [Nocturn Two: CNTRL-ALT-D]” is the second in a multi-part, cumulative *memento mori*: a conversation about alliance, cohabitation and the possibility for non-binary relationships and transformational politics under the present regime of testopolitics.

Designed by Victoria Campbell and Micaela Carolan, CNTRL-ALT-D is an alliance movement aligned with both feminist consciousness practices and the mythopoetic mens movement. Future Development is pleased to present the first in a series of collaborative frameworks.

The artists ask: what of a community of men beyond the frat club and police force? How may this commune uncover misogyny as a relationship between men and heterosexuality as a relationship of transformation? How can a post-binary gender politic render itself in the body of the collective? And, how can we mobilize relationships towards the project of emancipation and joy?

We are on the brink of total somatic terrorism: both cis and non-cis male bodies are under siege. With that, we invite our male-identified peers and neighbors—the 🏳️ we know as well as those we’d like to know, 🏳️ we fuck, 🏳️ who fuck 🏳️, 🏳️ who don’t give a fuck, 🏳️ men, and 🏳️🏳️ who politely abstain from bringing identity to the table.

We kindly ask for your unwanted plastic bag reserves as the cost of admission, as well as a contribution to the meal.

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**Victoria Campbell** designs discourses and public services for the conscious organs of the new class. Her interdisciplinary practice is deeply invested in the poetics and politics of language. Campbell is 1/2 of the experimental think-tank SX-ED, and 1/2 of the artists duo Campbell Carolan.

**Micaela Carolan** is a performance engineer and CEO of TheChandelierBid.com. She is 1/2 of the syndicate Campbell Carolan.

Curated by **Alli Miller** (a Los Angeles and New York City-based, non-binary femme artist), “Inventory of Shimmers” is a multi-part exhibition, the *first-episode-of-the-last-season* prior to 260 Richardson’s ultimate demolition. Over the course of the month, successive nocturns will dwell on themes of cohabitation, anxiety, intimacy, grief and invisibility to assess the ecological conditions of the hermetically gentrified metropolis. Each installment is populated by a network of participants who compose a community-at-large—roommates, studiomates, lovers and friends—artists and non-artists alike. The exhibition-as-vigil, reanimating death, a means to glamouring institutionalized spaces, reclaiming its potential to exist in service of the Living.

**Future Development** is a space curated by **Valerie Skakun**. The space is her former studio in Greenpoint, which is in the basement of an industrial building that was recently sold to developers. Future Development will continue to subsist as an experimental space for emerging artists to exhibit their work until we are kicked out of the building.



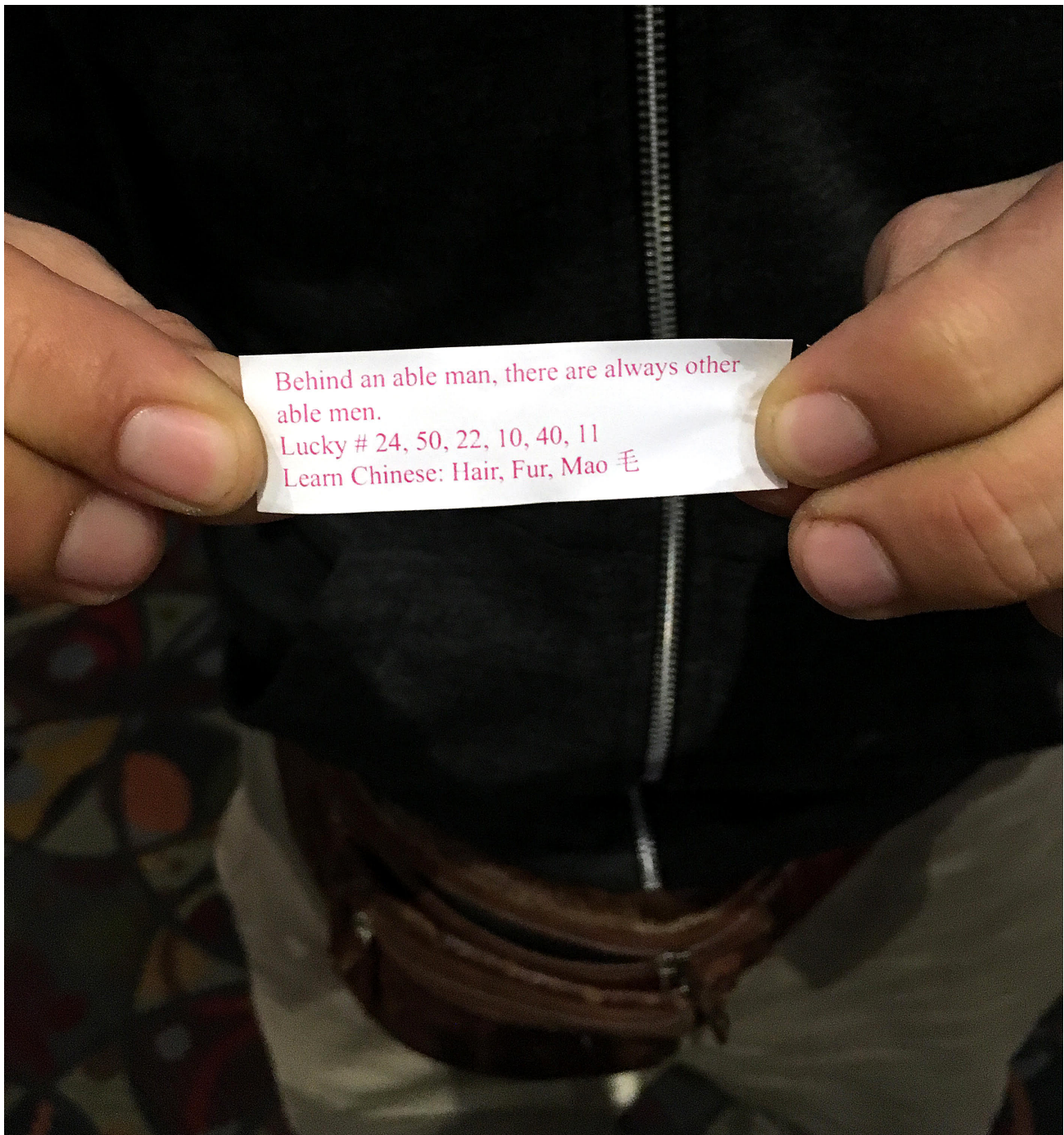
This is our body, ourselves. Enjoy.

Set the table for a future. Break bread in the boardroom, family-style.

DINNER IS DISCOURSE

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A POTLUCK THAT YOU PROVIDE.

BRING SOMETHING TO EAT. THIS WILL BE A DRY EVENT.









From: **valerie skakun** [valerieskakun@gmail.com](mailto:valerieskakun@gmail.com)  
Subject: IMAGES  
Date: November 17, 2016 at 17:16  
To: Victoria Campbell [campbellvi.e@gmail.com](mailto:campbellvi.e@gmail.com)

VS

The images are attached in this email. Disregard the text in this email, not sure if I is the same as my prior email, which had the correct text. This email is just for the image attachments.

Thanks again for meeting, all of this dialogue is so important and informative and j am happy that we could all compromise and reshape the piece to be more conceptual and open to audience interpretation/shaping.

Talk soon,  
Valerie

Begin forwarded message:

From: Alli Miller [<am.am.am.08@gmail.com>](mailto:am.am.am.08@gmail.com)  
Date: November 17, 2016 at 3:11:50 PM EST  
To: valerie skakun [<valerieskakun@gmail.com>](mailto:valerieskakun@gmail.com)  
Subject: Re: Inventory of Shimmers [ Nocturn Two: CNTRL-ALT-D ]

*Alli Miller*

[West Adam](#)  
2609-B Brighton Ave. LA 90018  
@ [am.am.am.08@gmail.com](mailto:am.am.am.08@gmail.com)  
@ [west.adam.la@gmail.com](mailto:west.adam.la@gmail.com)  
✂ [allimiller.com](http://allimiller.com)  
✂ [client.allimiller.com](http://client.allimiller.com)  
✂ [daddybydaddy.com](http://daddybydaddy.com)  
✂ [mutantsalon.com](http://mutantsalon.com)

On Thu, Nov 17, 2016 at 2:58 PM, Alli Miller [<am.am.am.08@gmail.com>](mailto:am.am.am.08@gmail.com) wrote:

## **Inventory of Shimmers**

**[ Nocturn Two: CNTRL-ALT-D ]**

Saturday, November 19th, 2016,  
Unveiling: 7pm  
Soup: 7:30pm  
260 Richardson, Brooklyn NY 11222  
Future Development \*

Served by: Autumn Ahn, Victoria Campbell, Micaela Carolan, Ala Dehghan, Laura Hunt, Emma McMillan

Interventions and ephemera by: Alli Miller, Papas y Kakkas (Jacinto Astiazarán, Veli-Matti Hoikka, Alli Miller), Christine Wang

~ ~ ~

*How is [her]story like a banquet? It takes its course.*

**We invite you to disrupt a discourse—**





your obligations?

How do you express femininity?

How do you introduce yourself?

What pronoun do you use?

How do you apologize?

Utilisez le gabarit 5366<sup>MC</sup>

TrueBlock<sup>TM</sup> Brevet de Technologie en attente

VERY<sup>®</sup> 5366<sup>MC</sup>

How

approval?

ask for directions?

you fake it?

www.avery.com  
1-800-GO-AVERY

What pronoun do you use?

How do you apologize?

Utilisez le gabarit 5366<sup>MC</sup>

TrueBlock<sup>TM</sup> Brevet de Technologie en attente

VERY<sup>®</sup> 5366<sup>MC</sup>

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## MICHAEL SWELLANDER INTEGRATION SYSTEMS

### INVOICE

210-232-2335  
mswellander@gmail.com

419 Hart Street  
Brooklyn, NY  
11221

Attention:Victoria Campbell  
CampbellCarolan  
Brooklyn NY  
Date: 11/21/16

Project Title: Ctrl Alt-D  
Invoice Number:1

| Description             | Quantity | Unit Price | Cost        |
|-------------------------|----------|------------|-------------|
| Jenga game              | 10       | \$ 10      | \$ 100      |
| Voice recorder          | 1        | \$ 40      | \$ 40       |
| Voice recorder          | 1        | \$ 60      | \$ 60       |
| Delivery fee            | 1        | \$100      | \$100       |
| Uber delivery           | 1        | \$45       | \$45        |
| Service charge (hourly) | 4        | 15         | \$60        |
|                         |          | Subtotal   | \$ 405      |
|                         |          | Tax        | 8.25% \$ 33 |
|                         |          | Total      | \$ 438      |

Thank you for your business. It has been a pleasure to work with you on your project.

Sincerely yours,

Michael Swellander







**From:** Victoria Campbell [campbellvi.e@gmail.com](mailto:campbellvi.e@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Come help in the kitchen, a dinner Party hosted by Future Development!  
**Date:** November 15, 2016 at 23:14  
**To:** [jennifer7chan@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer7chan@gmail.com)



Hi Jennifer,

So in light of the present political circumstances, we've decided to start a men's movement.

CNTRL-ALT-D will be a series of events and collaborative frameworks that give men more space. Do men need more space? Obviously - otherwise our bodies wouldn't be such contested territory. What could this space look like? What are its discursive possibilities - and boundaries?

In collaboration with Alli Miller, Micaela Carolan and a few other great women (and men, even!) our first event will be hosted this weekend at Future Development as an all-male soup kitchen. We're interested in having women contribute discussion topics, critiques, performances, readings, et al. as a way of redesigning the discourse around men's relationship to feminism.

I've been interested in working with you again since we did Body Anxiety and I think it would be really important to include your voice.

We're invested in what communities of men can be beyond frat clubs and police forces; in how gender binaries can be made playful rather than done away with entirely, and in an interrogation of misogyny as a relationship between men, against women.

What would you bring to a table of men? What kinds of conversations would you like to overhear in a room full of male-identified positions? Does feminism need more men? Or do men need a 'meninism'? We're inviting our male communities - the men that we know as well as those we'd like to know, men that we fuck, men that fuck men, men that don't give a fuck, women that identify as men, and men who don't know what to identify as anymore under the present regime of testopolitics.

We'd really like your voice to be involved in making this evening even more problematic, and even more awkward for the men involved. Let us know if you'd like to contribute something - a thought, a blurb, a reading, a topic, a conversation game or guide- we'd love to include you as a participant.

*If you would like to contribute a discussion topic, a reading, ephemera, or memorabilia please send us an attachment and let us know how and if you would like to be credited.*

*If you'd like to join our BOH team of female artists working in the soup kitchen, as well as performing readings and facilitating discussion, we'd also love to have you. We will be meeting this Thursday to work-out logistics (training).*

*Below is a copy of the invite. The event will be held [Saturday November 19th](#). Soups on [7-10 pm](#)! This will be a discursive space and a community organizing initiative, with an attention to the radical political potential of hospitality. Please let us know if you would like to be involved and your level of involvement by [Wednesday, November 16th](#).*

Let me know if you have any questions! Looking forward to hearing your thoughts.

All best,  
Micaela Carolan

Invite:

[SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2016](#)

How is history like a banquet? It takes its course.

### **We invite you to redesign a discourse**

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[260 RICHARDSON ST, BROOKLYN, NY](#)

We provide abundance to those experiencing scarcity. Misogyny is not a relationship between women and men, but between men and



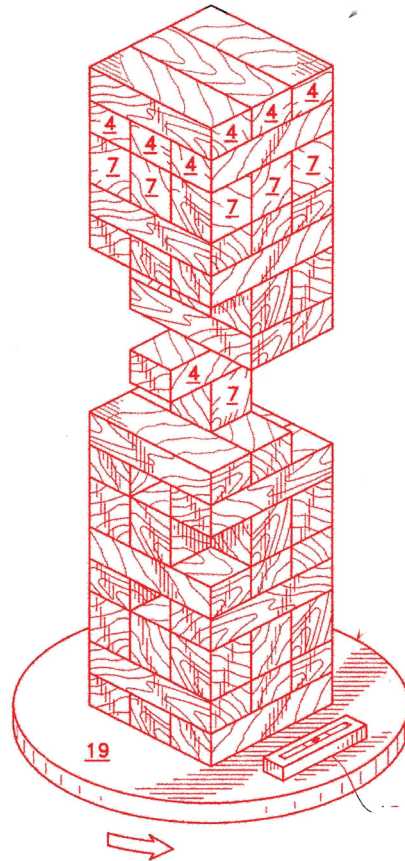
Are you in good company?







# How is History Like a Banquet?



**It takes its course.**

WE INVITE YOU TO REDESIGN A DISCOURSE, A DINNER,  
AND A FUTURE PAST TIME.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT 260 RICHARDSON ST, BROOKLYN, NY SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2016 7PM