

# Vfest

2011

MUTER



HIGHWAY REBELDI

Vfest2011 schedule of events Feb 9th - Feb 13th

Weds Feb 9th @ Common Grounds  
NOMORE, Dear Mr. Anderson, The Rochevanies, Kathy Sohar

Thurs Feb 10th @ 1982  
Crepe Paper Wings, Janna Pelle And The Half Steps, Allie Wetzel, Giselle, Jacqueline Le' Blue, White Elephant Gift Exchange, Dirty Fist, Dance Party with DJ Shoog.

Fri Feb 11th Vfest Talent Show / Open Mic @ 1982  
Performances by Erica Britt, Lindsey Mills, Old Souls, Insolent Youth, a feminist ska band, and a few surprises.

Sat Feb 12th @ Civic Media Center  
Evan Greer&Family, Gainesville Liberation Orchestra, The Ones To Blame, Lizzy Pitch

Sat Feb 12th @ Northeast Park Field #1 (1pm-4pm)  
(Vfest afternoon KICKBALL GAME / Benefit For Betzy)  
V-Ball - Merkin league 2011!!!!

Sun Feb 13th @ 1982 5pm!  
Plane Out Of Context, Shotgun Diplomacy, Camp Kidneys, Jump Radar, Sleeping Spiders, No Parts, The Savants

[vaginafest.blogspot.com](http://vaginafest.blogspot.com)

\*This zine was written, edited, and independently published by Gainesville feminists.

\*This zine is FREE and its creators and contributors did not receive any type of monetary compensation for its publication

\*This zine aims to raise awareness of ALL types of violence, discrimination, and oppression that occurs not only toward women, but also toward the LGBTQ community, minorities, and other groups of society who are commonly marginalized.

\*Cover art from San Cristobal, Chiapas  
"Women Dignified and Rebellious"



Kathleen Hanna, frontwoman of 1990s riot grrrl band Bikini Kill and Le Tigre.

## RIOT GRRRL PHILOSOPHY by Bikini Kill

BECAUSE us girls crave records and books and fanzines that speak to US that WE feel included in and can understand in our own ways. BECAUSE we wanna make it easier for girls to see/hear each other's work so that we can share strategies and criticize-applaud each other. BECAUSE we must take over the means of production in order to create our own moanings. BECAUSE viewing our work as being connected to our girlfriends-politics-real lives is essential if we are gonna figure out how [what] we are doing impacts, reflects, perpetuates, or DISRUPTS the status quo. BECAUSE we recognize fantasies of Instant Macho Gun Revolution as impractical lies meant to keep us simply dreaming instead of becoming our dreams AND THUS seek to create revolution in our own lives every single day by envisioning and creating alternatives to the bullshit christian capitalist way of doing things. BECAUSE we want and need to encourage and be encouraged in the face of all our own insecurities, in the face of beergutboyrock that tells us we can't play our instruments, in the face of "authorities" who say our bands/zines/etc are the worst in the US and who attribute any validation/success of our work to girl bandwagon hype. BECAUSE we don't wanna assimilate to someone else's (boy) standards of what is or isn't "good" music or punk rock or "good" writing AND THUS need to create forums where we can recreate, destroy and define our own visions. BECAUSE we are unwilling to falter under claims that we are reactionary "reverse sexists" and not the true punk rock soul crusaders that WE KNOW we really are. BECAUSE we know that life is much more than physical survival and are patently aware that the punk rock "you can do anything" idea is crucial to the coming angry grrrl rock revolution which seeks to save the psychic and cultural lives of girls and women everywhere, according to their own terms, not ours. BECAUSE we are interested in creating non-hierarchical ways of being AND making music, friends, and scenes based on communication + understanding, instead of competition + good/bad categorizations.

## VAGINA! by Kelsey Baucom

Violence Against Girls\* Is NOT Acceptable and must not be tolerated! Violence and oppression against anyone is not acceptable. Physical, verbal, mental, emotional, sexual, or any other type of violence and abuse must be put to a stop; otherwise a society in which all people are acknowledged and treated as equals will continue to be nonexistent. Before violence and abuse toward women can be stopped, it must first be acknowledged as problematic. Although violence is usually viewed as a problem, I will argue that in our society violence toward women is trivialized, overlooked and excused. Here are just a few common excuses used to justify violence, rape and discrimination toward women:

- "She asked for it"
- "She deserved it"
- "She needed to be taught a lesson"
- "She'll learn from it"
- "It was for her own good"
- "She needed to be put in her place"
- "She can't act like that and not expect consequences"
- "She was looking for trouble"
- "She's lucky she's a woman in America, and not in some third world country. She would get treated way worse over there"

These are only a few examples of the ways society has learned to excuse different types of violence and oppression toward women. This same violence and discrimination also exists for anyone in the LGBT community, minorities, and other groups outside of mainstream society. In cases specifically pertaining to rape and sexual violence toward women, it has become routine to blame the victim and excuse the offender. Rape and sexual violence will continue to be an ongoing crisis for women until these issues are taken seriously and acknowledged by ALL members of society as problematic. Sexual abuse and other types of violence is "maintained to a great extent by an elaborate system of sex-role socialization that in effect instructs men to be violent in the name of masculinity and women to be victims in the name of femininity" (Sheffield). Violence against women should not be taken lightly; it is one of the most significant contributing factors to our society's patriarchal power structure. "Without the power to intimidate and punish women sexually, the domination of women in all spheres of society...could not exist" (Sheffield).

Is asking for equal treatment and nonviolence asking too much? Most would answer "No," but not think twice the next time they encountered or even instigated a situation in which a woman was objectified. In the social hierarchy created by our society, women rank below men; so naturally it does not occur to men to want to change the rules because they have the advantage. If women ban together for a cause like this, a lot can be accomplished; but it is not until all people ban together in the name of a cause that true social progress will ensue.

\*This zine was written, edited, and independently published by women to raise awareness of all types of violence and discrimination toward not only women, but also all groups of society outside of the mainstream (women, LGBTQ community, minorities, etc.)

(Sheffield, Carole J. "Sexual Terrorism." From Women: A Feminist Perspective, 5th ed., 1995, Mayfield Publishing co.)

### **In Due Time** by Regina Kypriandes

She believed walking forward was what always suited her best. She had seen hell and laughed in its face while politely asking, "Was that all you had for me?" She felt the dark. It had been waiting for her arrival for many years. All the dark wanted was for her to manually turn on the light. When she did, everything was illuminated with splendor and glory. Alas, all things came to her at once. What she wanted, what she asked for, and what she desired. She still wondered and pinched herself often to see if it was real. Was that light truly on? A question, with time, would find its own sustainability in a world of questionable uncertainty.

She fought so long with what seemed to be a never-ending battle. She even laughed at a tarot reading she had once received. It told her, "You will go through many obstacles but be victorious in the end." With fist up in the air, she fought with the words she had read then shrugged her shoulders, let her fist relax and said, "Fuck it, guess that's what's up?"

She went on with her days just like she had done for years, giving what she could, taking what was allowed, and growing with each step she made. Things weren't different, just clearer. In her mind, the world was what she could and would make of it. If she chose to settle then that was her own choice. Fortunately for her, she chose to fight. She was strong like that. Some blamed her resilience and steadfast nature on her sign, her middle name, or the fact that her soul just kept going and never let her rest until all was well.

While others questioned, she knew this was who she was and the world looked after her. It paid attention when she wanted to speak or sit silently observing the actions of others. The world cared whether she was up or down.

She believed she had a hand in her own destiny. When the plot thickened, she wore boots to walk through the muck, cleared the field and saw alternate routes to get somewhere without asking for directions or reading a manual. It was what it was and it is what it is...she knew this and trudged on.

### **Womyn** by Jazmine Davis

The vagina is a gorgeous place to reside in.

Witness the sensual miracles gently attached to a selective corner of time that doesn't mind to pass by slowly. Semiotic caricatures of muscles-sea stretching the watercolor floors of fingers, tongues, and lazy skin. All searching for some recollection, of sound. Like small hands softly tumbling over congo drums; the acoustic sums of all the navels leading to the equation of a million amniotic electric entrances. An iridescent assortment of moments, reaching into the depths of a hollow we know we can fill.

The vagina praising our will to graciously unwrap the bottomless calligraphies of syllabic complexions. Such lazy, lazy skin we have; but very visceral. Like the tangible textures of teeth on breasts-the tangled tests our skeletal chests put us through to ensure that we succeed.

The vagina wants us to succeed. To feed-ever so carefully-on everything beautiful. We are no longer starving for something that was so easy to achieve in the first place. To taste each other for everything we are worth and for everything we have ever lost; it is life. The spastic exhaustion of amaretto touch and thick-scented sheets. Sweat, deodorant, and lily.

It is the birthright of love. The location of a language everyone should speak.

It is syntax. A dialect of a thousand different mouths spilling guitar color. As veins rush rivers into the skin, flushes the cheeks, I begin to think blood isn't always red.

It's not always like lipstick stains or pomegranate remains. I think sometimes, it is blue nectarine green plum purple peach orange and smooth pink. Like some of the babies we breed, the sound we've freed from thighs, the tips of toes, collarbones and elbows.

I wonder, how many layers we are made of. How many colors does the body become when we make love?



"My Body is Mine, I Decide"  
from Cristobal, Chiapas  
squartzine.info

by Dance Hall Crashers

The back alley cat fight  
Made me get my water pistol from Chinatown out  
A pink dragon with light blue horns  
That shoots a stream of water from its mouth, like fire

It worked on them, a toy like that  
I'm back in bed, just like that  
Now, it's 6 AM, my head is  
spinning, the neighbor's yelling  
He wants to know which cat was winning

Cat fight / Everyone loves a cat fight  
For the sick minds / Don't give 'em what they want

Well, it's just another night  
And another round of screaming cat fights  
What's the thing they're fighting over now  
And is it worth the ticket price?

Animals of territory losing every ounce of glory  
While the claws and pulling hair get top attention  
Need I mention, no one's trying an intervention

Cat fight / Everyone loves a cat fight  
For the sick minds / Don't give 'em what they want

Well, she started eyes at me  
Who does she think she is?  
Don't you know who I am?  
Well, that was a show for you  
It's all you're gonna see  
'Cause we don't believe

Now there's a conspiracy  
And I think we should test a theory  
Let's stage the biggest cat fight  
Ever seen in history and then

When they get excited  
Turn around and be united  
So they'll know forever,  
when we're together  
That they'll never be able to set  
us against each other

We are white girls, no need to mention  
It's the default race, but the Other gender  
The mainstream won't dare to utter  
The ultimate blasphemy, like no other  
To question authority and true privilege  
Is to doubt the domination that defines the world  
we live in  
Because the alphas run the show  
There are a few things they don't want you to  
know

A system created by those in power  
Patriarchy is the central rule  
They've installed cameras everywhere  
The panopticon watches our every move  
And you and you and you  
Prioritized by society  
They are the Subjects and superiors  
And we are blindsided once again  
We are blindsided once again

If any should dare to defy the rules  
They will be policed back into line  
And if they step out again  
They will be questioned and penalized  
There will be consequences  
There's always fucking consequences

White male domination is the only way we know  
And they will always be in power  
If we don't identify together

by Kelsey Baucom

# "I'M NOT A FUCKING FEMINIST"

Photo of a group of black women during the early 1960s outside of a protest for women's liberation. This photo poses a sort of irony because during this time many black women felt marginalized by the feminist movement, which was largely made up of white middle class women.



## **I'm Not A Fucking Feminist** by Kelsey Baucom

Oh, how irritating it is to hear women and men declare self-defensively that they are, in fact, not feminists. What an insult to be associated with those hairy-legged bra burners, right? After all, what constitutes a feminist? What is feminism, really?

What is a feminist? It sounds complicated and like it would have fangs. Well, let's start with feminism. Feminism is the belief that women are equal to men in all spheres of life (social, political, economic, etc.). Well at least that's what it says if you google "feminism." It's really more complex than that. Feminism also refers to the feminist/women's movements that have occurred over the last century. Women have fought for their rights, and are still fighting.

Okay, so feminism — there are many different types of feminism; I will discuss these branches: Liberal, Radical, Anarcha and Global.

Liberal Feminism largely refers to equality within the law. Liberal feminists typically do not want revolution; they want reform. Liberal feminism is about women legally gaining access to all resources that men have had available to them since, well, seems like forever. Liberal feminists work towards helping women into positions that men usually obtain, such as government officials, judges, city councils, etc. Liberal feminists have been fighting for equal pay for over 50 years and women still don't get paid as much as men do for doing the same work. Although women still may not get paid the same as men, we have made a lot of progress!

Radical Feminism Radical feminism considers the male-controlled capitalist hierarchy as the defining feature of women's oppression and the total uprooting and reconstruction of society as necessary.

Anarcha-feminists believe that class struggle and anarchy against the state require struggling against patriarchy, which comes from involuntary hierarchy.

Global Feminism (AKA Transnational Feminism) focuses on equality around the world and helping women in other countries. Global feminists commonly fight against women's exploitative labor in third world (and other) countries, genital mutilation, and global patriarchy. This is the most complicated branch of feminism (to me), because the big question is; how can we help women in other countries?; weather it's fighting for equal pay, working conditions, bodily integrity, or otherwise.



Lavender Menace was a group of radical feminist lesbians who were outraged at the fact that NOW (at the time of their second conference) were still not acknowledging or including lesbian women in their organization. The lavender menaces ambushed the 2nd official NOW conference in NYC, shutting off the lights and electricity. After storming in and planting lavender menace members in the NOW audience (all wearing lavender menace t-shirts) they took over the conference and turned it into a workshop that enforced equality for all women, including lesbians.

# REMEMBER LAVENDER MENACE

Peaceful Paths:  
Domestic Abuse Network:  
Outreach Office  
(352) 377-5690  
2100 NW 53rd Ave  
Gainesville, FL 32653

Peaceful Paths  
Crisis Line  
(352) 377-8255 or  
1-800-393-SAFE (7233)

Planned Parenthood  
(352) 377-0881  
914 NW 13th St.  
Gainesville, FL 32601

Bread & Roses  
Women's Health Clinic  
(352) 622-8643  
1223 NW 10th Ave  
Gainesville, FL 32601

Pride Community Center  
(352) 377-8915  
3131 NW 13th St.  
Gainesville, FL 32609

Center for Women's  
Studies and Gender Research  
at the University of Florida  
(352) 392-3365  
P.O. Box 117352  
Gainesville, FL 32611

Women's Resource Center  
(352) 377-4947  
912 NW 13th St.  
Gainesville, FL 32601

Gainesville Area NOW  
(National Organization for Women)  
(352) 450-1912  
P.O. Box 2235  
Gainesville, FL 32602  
Info@GainesvilleNOW.org

## GAINESVILLE WOMEN'S RESOURCES

Help promote women in music!  
Here are only some  
of the local acts with  
women members:



The Boswellians  
Camp Kidneys  
Cassette  
Chicken Luv  
Chupaskabra  
Crawfish  
The Damn Wrights  
Diet Coke Heads  
Dirty Fist  
G.L.O.



Half-Cocked  
Jump Radar  
The Ones to Blame  
Towers of Hanoi  
Sweet Babies  
Nervous Systems  
NOMORE



Plane Out Of Context  
Quadrophones  
The Rochevanies  
The Soulphonics  
& Ruby Velle  
Sweet City Action  
Sugardish  
Tin Heart



White Elephant  
Gift Exchange  
The Wooden  
No Parts  
Insolent Youth



and more...

### **The pants are chump change compared to the pure naked freedom!**

Why do we fight for the right to be more patriarchal, to be ranked higher in this system of hierarchy which oppresses us all? I'm not fighting my brothers (and sisters) for equality...I'm fighting a system of oppression which hurts us all.

Gender is an institutionalized system of social practices for constituting people as two significantly different categories, men and women, and organizing social relations of inequality on the basis of that difference. Like other multi-level systems of difference and inequality (such as those based on race or class), gender involves cultural beliefs. Social relations of inequality is the end, not the means. Any totalitarian system (of culture) uses hierarchy and inequality to uphold the social system - the power over the masses and mass resources, held by the few. Each perceived level/step of the hierarchy inadvertently works to uphold and define the hierarchy itself. So that when we strive, we strive against another. When we define our position, we define against another. The system of oppression hurts us all, not just those who identify as women.

Like Derrick Jensen says, this culture of civilization is based on a clearly defined and widely accepted (but unarticulated) hierarchy. Violence is acceptable from the top down. Violence done by those higher in the hierarchy to those lower is nearly always transparent, invisible, or unnoticed. When it is noticed, it is fully rationalized. Social context reflects how the people around something use and interpret it. To objectify is to interpret and regard as an object. Once regarded as these other objects or resources, that are used for this or used for that, then you can sort of justify the violence that you do to them and benefit from every day. If when you look at women (and animals, and nature) you see objects, you are more likely to use them as opposed to enter into a relationship with them.

The climate of violence and oppression has been engrained. You remember getting beat up on the school yard because you were smaller, less aggressive - by someone who was more powerful, more aggressive. Subconsciously it still keeps you in line, striving to be on the right side of power.

It's faceless. It's like they come for you in the night, put a black bag over your head, and take you away. Maybe you join them, or maybe you just..wish you were stronger like them, so you wouldnt have to worry about being attacked. And that seems like your only option, just a response. How will you respond to the violent climate that's already around us, and the patriarchy that's already around us? It is faceless because it's a SYSTEM of oppression, and it hurts everyone.

*No matter what roles we're playing in it.*

Patriarchy and hierarchy are institutionalized. It's a backdrop, in some recess of your mind, of our collective culture's mind. And it comes into play most often during conflicts, as well as lending itself to conflicts. We're not so bad that we think "i don't want to work for a woman" or "women can't play in bands". But when challenges arise, we might perceive and handle them differently, based on the social context. The kinds of behavior we find acceptable may differ based on where on the hierarchy we perceive the person acting out the behavior to reside. We might also have a different set of reactions, to the behavior, or differing levels of tolerance for certain behaviors when expressed by people of different regard.

Strive for equality so that we all might be free from this system of oppression. Even if I have some liberties, I'm not free until everyone is free. We don't have to go along with it, with any of the roles. Those in the role of power/oppressor may feel they have the most to lose, so it may be harder to give up that role. Especially if you believe that it is the only thing protecting you from being more oppressed yourself. But those in the role of privilege and power could really help to make a difference. Reject privilege. Reject the hierarchy. Heroes are allies, not conquerors.

let me in, to drown in your broceans..  
hey kid you wanted more than this  
just gasping breathes between drownings  
a lifetime supply of swirlies  
you never wanted to be like them  
beating up kids on the  
back of the bus  
but you were so scared  
you couldn't protect yourself  
or look out for anyone else  
now you're the Kid Holden him down  
throwing punches, gettin loud.  
trying to be mad  
or some acceptable feeling  
young guns blazing  
failed gunslingers  
turned big coffin hunters.  
and they'll say  
its just the way the world works  
everyone gets burned  
everyone gets hurt  
it's kill or be killed  
shoving that shit down your throat  
every chance they get  
and when it's time for war  
you don't question it  
you never wanted to be like them  
did you want to grow up  
to be their favorite subjugate?  
None of us want this.

they say It's not that bad,  
you're just in the worst of it  
come home from the battlefield  
leave them to their legacies.  
stop splashing around like beach bunnies  
in the bloody murk of it.  
playing it sexy cool in the crimson puddles.  
now you're swimming with the big gups  
and it's a dirty cesspool,  
filled with the wasted remains  
of constant.. conquests..  
it's thick as thieves, cant see through it.  
steal everything, tell yourself you deserve it.  
privilege begets privilege.

just stick the flagpole in and say  
we'll have it all if we want it.  
we wont care for anyone.  
we'll get drunk on power,  
we won't remember any names.  
no one will call us out because  
no one wants to be on the wrong side of power.  
while fools stand clapping along to the slaughter,  
til they come for you.  
will you leave when your home feels like ancient rome?  
with all the caesars and appeasers  
this scene it's a wet dream  
for dudes who are dude pleasers.  
dudes like me.  
Heads up the asses of the patriarchs, still suffocating?  
None of us want this.

# YOU KNOW WHAT MAKES ME FEEL UNSAFE?

by Lauren Denitzio  
reprinted from I LIVE SWEAT  
<http://ilivesweat.tumblr.com/>

I'll start off by saying that I'm a white cis-female in her late 20's who identifies as queer, feminist, radical and punk. I'm speaking



(photo by  
Chris Grivet)

from my experiences being a part of a largely DIY poppunk scene for the majority of my life and in a touring band for over six years. A large part of the time, I feel welcomed, supported and accepted within the "punk" circles that I'm a part of. However, nothing makes me more angry than hearing someone, men specifically, say that the scene isn't sexist, "because we're all punks and obviously that's not cool." I am far from the only woman-identified person in the room who would like to call bullshit on that statement. While yes, most of my friends and the spaces I go to do not tolerate obviously sexist, homophobic, racist, able-ist, etc. speech, saying those concepts do not exist in our community is just flat out wrong. What offends me is not always just the action itself, but the excuse that if you wear the "punk" label that you're absolved of having done anything wrong because you "didn't mean it that way." I can't think of a rationale so unproductive.

I think part of the problem is that a lot of guys don't understand the things that women find threatening because it's not obviously dressed as a sexist act. What I think of when I imagine a scene without sexism is a scene where we consciously make an effort to create a safer space for everyone, no matter who they are. So while we might not be saying "you can't be in a band or go to this show because you're a girl", there are plenty of other things that go on that I consider to be sexist, because they're blatantly not considering what would make women in the scene feel safe. So, for those who might not know what I'm talking about: you know what makes me feel unsafe? When you're the only guy in the pit who doesn't get the message to not fly full force into someone half your size or strength.

When you take your shirt off at a show. When you ask me if I'm "IN the band or WITH the band" after a male bandmate says the four of us are all IN the band. When you tell me I play guitar well for a girl. When you say that all the guys want to fuck the girl in that band. When you make a rape joke. When you use the word bitch or call someone a slut. The list doesn't end there. Now do you think the scene isn't sexist?

One benefit of being in the punk scene for me, even where these things still happen, is having people around who also don't think these things are okay. We're responsible to call each other out if we're doing things that make each other feel unsafe, myself included. No one is perfect, and I don't expect that. What I do expect, however, is the ability to be held accountable for your actions, to apologize and hear everyone's experience as valid. If you're doing something that makes me feel unsafe at a show, I don't care how long you've known me, or your history interacting with women, or how much you love Sleater Kinney. If you can't be held accountable and apologize, then none of those other things really make a difference to me. This applies to anything from jokes in poor taste to sexual assault. Just because we've all known someone for years at shows doesn't change them calling me a cunt, or assaulting their partner. Once people stop making the excuse of "we're all on the same page" and start being honest with each other, we start creating real, physical, safer spaces for everyone, not just women.

Overall, I do feel good about my involvement in the scene and most of the people I associate with (of all genders). I think if we're talking about sexism, we should also really be talking about acknowledging male privilege, which I think is the root of a lot of what I've mentioned. I'm tired of being asked why an all female-fronted show might be helpful for women, why creating women-only spaces is productive, why some of us call ourselves feminists. They're "not being macho assholes." "Our scene is past that." They "feel alienated by it." Well, in the words of Kathleen Hana, "I'm so sorry if I'm alienating some of you. Your whole fucking culture alienates me." If people stopped nervously laughing that one off long enough to think about what it actually means, we could have a real conversation and then maybe one day I could stop feeling like sexism exists in my scene.

Lauren Denitzio is an artist, illustrator and designer working out of Brooklyn, NY. When she isn't doing that, she plays guitar and shares vocal duties in The Measure [SA], contributes to a bunch of zines, and occasionally writes short essays on sexism for low-rent operations like this one. Find out more about her day job here [www.blackandredeye.com](http://www.blackandredeye.com), and The Measure [sa] here, [www.themeasuresa.com](http://www.themeasuresa.com).