2023 Art on Market Street Poster Series

Who is San Francisco?
Triple Dream Comics
WHAT IS A NEIGHBORHOOD?

THE SF REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY'S A-1 PLAN WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1956 AND DISPLACED 4,000 WESTERN ADDITION RESIDENTS.

THE A-2 PLAN BEGAN IN 1966 AND DISPLACED 10,000-15,000 RESIDENTS.

IN 1950, THE BLACK POPULATION IN SAN FRANCISCO WAS 48,070 RESIDENTS, 23.4% OF THE CITY.

IN 2020, THE BLACK POPULATION HAD FALLEN TO 40,000 RESIDENTS, 9.7% OF THE CITY.

THE FILLMORE-AUDITORIUM WENT BLACK IN SOME YEARS. IT WAS THE BEST TIME OF SAN FRANCISCO TO BE BLACK.

WHAT CARRIED US ALONG WAS ALSO THIS CULTURE IN TERMS OF DANCING AND MUSIC.

AT THE AGE OF 70 YEARS OLD, I WITNESSED BUSES PULLING UP AND SEEING PEOPLE LIKE SAMMY DAVIS JR., REDD FOXX.

I REMEMBER SPENDING THE NIGHT HAVING SLEEPOVERS AT HAMILTON.

WE WATCHED MOVIES, COOKED. IT WAS AMAZING.

IT SEEMED LIKE EVERY OTHER YEAR WE WERE MOVING FROM DIFFERENT VICTORIANS TO ANOTHER VICTORIAN TO ANOTHER APARTMENT.

WE'D HAVE TO MEET NEW FRIENDS. I HAD TO RELENT TO DIFFERENT SCHOOLS.

THAT WAS SOMETHING THAT KEPT US OUT OF TROUBLE, BECAUSE THINGS COULD HAVE BEEN A LOT WORSE.

I USED TO DO WHAT WE CALL "RETRO" HERE ON THE WEST COAST. I DANCED ALL THROUGHOUT THE BAY AREA.

THAT WAS SOMETHING WE JUST DIDN'T TALK ABOUT EVEN GROWING UP HERE. WE NEVER REALLY TALKED ABOUT THE FACT THAT IT WAS RACIST.

ART IS ALWAYS AT THE CENTER OF THE COMMUNITY FINDING ITS WAY TO SURVIVE.

A SPACE THAT'S SAFE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO DEVELOP THEIR TALENTS.

WITH ALL THE BITTERSWEET, I WOULD PREFER TO STAY HERE.

SAN FRANCISCO HAS GOT A LOT OF OPPORTUNITIES.

IT WAS GREED. IT WAS SELFISHNESS.

IT'S NOT URBAN RENEWAL.

ITS NEGRO REMOVAL!

WHO IS SAN FRANCISCO?

© Neil Hilario, Katie Longua, and Lauren Davis

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WHAT IS A HOME?

In 1966, roughly 150 tenants, most of them elderly Filipino men, lived in the International Hotel at Kearny and Jackson St. These men and some women never expected to go this length in terms of defending their community. None of them.

In 1977, Four Seas Investment Corporation forcibly evicted the tenants. In 1978, it had the International Hotel demolished.

Jeanette Lazam moved into the International Hotel at age 28 to help with the anti-eviction effort.


We walked out together at five o'clock in the morning. It was so hard to leave. For you... you could see him walking all the way down Kearny Street.

Lazam moved into the Hotel in 2003. She was 72 and one of only 4 Filipino residents.

You can't put it together again. I wish I could have all the guys that were here back. I wish they could be here, but they're all dead.

It's hard for me. People thought, "Oh, she's coming back, she's coming back home."

It's not home anymore.

That's what I'm looking for. The future.

We need to start claiming our right to be here. Because if we don't, we allow these people to tell us where to go.

I'm telling you, I'm telling you. We were close. He was like my father.

Who is San Francisco?
Everyone, skates. Nothing is being sold...

It's just people urging to be around people.

David Miles, Jr., known as the Archdruid of Skating,

I had been here for only three days when I found Golden Gate Park. I was a total stranger.

I don't have any representation. No one spoke up for roller skaters. No one spoke up for the people who come out to the park.

I don't care if they banned skating or not. We were not going to stop skating because they banned it! Okay?

My thing is, I have a vision that lets everybody be a part of it...

One of the beauties of San Francisco is that you yourself as an individual can be that...

And invite people in...

...to be a part of it...

...and invite people in...

The park is a park. It is not really supposed to have any institutions in it. But these super rich folks were like, "No, we need to have our palace!!"

The park is a place where anybody can go and enjoy the outdoors.

People have to have a say.

1976: David works with park planner Deborah Leaman to make 4th Avenue and JFK drive a permanent place for skating.

1956: Midnight Rollers Friday Night Skate established.

1956: David's son, Stephen, becomes a roller through the church of 8 wheels.

2019: David continues his work to ensure the park is a place where anybody can go and enjoy the outdoors.

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WHAT IS WORK?

THE LUSTY LADY OPENED IN NORTH BEACH IN 1976.

IT WAS A PEEP SHOW. PATRONS PAID, THE SHUTTER WENT UP, STRIPPERS DANCED BEHIND GLASS...

...WORKING ALONGSIDE EACH OTHER—AND HANGING EACH OTHER’S BACK.

IT CHANGED MY LIFE IN THE BEST WAY POSSIBLE. BECAUSE I FOUND MY PEOPLE, RIGHT?

THEY WERE KIND OF LIKE MOTHERLY FIGURES... AND AS I BECAME THE OLDER STRIPPER, I WOULD BE THAT TO ALL THE YOUNGER ONES AS WELL.

**CINNAMON**

**CINNAMON**

**LASAGNA**

I THINK IT WAS A LOT OF FOLKS THAT WERE DOWN FOR IT, BECAUSE YOU NEED TO HAVE FAIR WORKING WAGES, YOU KNOW?

IT JUST SEEMED LIKE A REALLY SAFE ENVIRONMENT... ESPECIALLY BEING WOMAN-OWNED.

PEOPLE GOT ALONG REALLY WELL AT THE LUSTY LADY BECAUSE THERE WAS THAT CAMARADERIE.

IN THE 1990S, THE BUSINESS WAS PLAGUED BY RACIST AND EXPLOITATIVE FRATERNITIES. IN RESPONSE, THE DANCERS, SANTORO, AND CASHIERS DECIDED TO UNIONIZE.

THEN IN 2003, THE EMPLOYERS BOUGHT THE BUSINESS, TRANSFORMING THE LUSTY INTO A WORKER CO-OPERATIVE.

ROSSIE FORES, THE LUSTY’S LANDLORD, ALSO HAPPENED TO BE A PARTNER IN DBA VU, WHICH OWNED EVERY OTHER STRIP CLUB IN SAN FRANCISO.

2018: LUSTY LADY CLOSED ITS DOORS FOR THE LAST TIME. BUT THE EMPLOYERS TOOK THESE ORGANIZING EXPERIENCES WITH THEM TO FUTURE CLUBS—BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE SEX INDUSTRY.

WE GOT AN EVICTION NOTICE. THE LANDLORD WOULD NOT NEGOTIATE RENT, AND WE GOT KICKED THE F**K OUT.

IT’S VERY DIFFICULT AS A CO-OP AND A UNION TO FIGHT AGAINST CORPORATE AMERICA STRIP CLUBS.

CONFRONTING BACK THEN TO NOW, I FEEL LIKE DANCERS Got PAID MORE THAN THEY DO NOW.

AND SEX WORKERS ARE GIVING AWAY MORE, SPECIFICALLY DANCERS.

WIXY

**GINGER**

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The Stud has been open since 1969; it’s always been kind of a Westcoast queer bar.

It started out as a hippie gay bar.

We also had funk and soul bands and we hosted Black Panther meetings.

In 2016, the landlord died and his children took over and raised the rent three times the price and kind of wanted to drive us out. The owners then—cut.

Seventeen of us got together and pooled our money and bought the Stud... and we're looking for a new place now.

Right now, I think nightlife offers a way to survive in the city.

It's this great underground, almost queer mafia, aspect of a bar.

The community has it in its interest to have as many people from the community in the city.

And knowing that you're in a community that wants to help you stay in the rent-gunned landscape.

We've really been able to turn to community crowdfunding and Internet support.

You can support the Stud's revival at studsf.com.

People once said that the Internet would kill gay bars. Well now it's the opposite, whereas the Internet is saving gay bars.

Marky Bischoff, co-owner of the Stud.

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What Could SF Be?

San Francisco has turned into this "snow globe city," it's more like a museum than a city. People are obsessed with making the city look aesthetically like it’s new, which is cool, but in exchange housing just never keeps up with population growth.

Darrel Owens: Housing activist from East Bay for everyone.

Tear down I-80! Where it runs parallel to 101 and turn it into a park—a quality park. It needs to be a big park with trees, not a mere patch of grass.

San Francisco has one of the largest municipal budgets in the nation, so its housing authority should construct new mixed-income public housing like how Singapore and Vienna does.

The park, with 3- to 4-story housing, we don't need high rises to achieve higher housing density.

Greater housing density means better public transit. The old Bay Area was linked by street cars, but that's all gone now.

How do we fund low-income housing?

It would sustain the homes by subscribing low rent units and building upstairs with the rents from higher-income tenants.

Close the roads to cars and eliminate parking. Keep the streets for bikes, pedestrians, skaters, and outdoor dining.

This is what a lot of cities all over the world are doing.

Eliminating parking and making streets for bikes and pedestrians only. We can do it here!

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