



Artist Statement

Tricia Jares

Art is a method of communication, a way of starting conversations and drawing light to certain aspects of society. My goal is to do just that; my art is a vehicle to start discussions about social justice issues, especially those concerning gender. These can be difficult topics to approach and sometimes there just are not the right words to start the conversation. "What Was She Wearing" deals with the topics of street harassment and slut shaming. Women endure these intrusions on the body every single day and are blamed for any resulting violence inflicted on them.

These are real issues that need to be addressed and in an age of technology and social media, it only seems fitting to utilize those same platforms. I use photo and video editing software and appropriate pop culture imagery to create my messages. I draw from personal understanding and I use my body as well as other's testimonials and examples in the form of YouTube videos to demonstrate the narrative of the complexities of choosing how you will be judged each day. Either you are a slut or a prude. A tease or a skank. A virgin or a whore. Sometimes you are all of it, but it is still never enough. There is still always something to be threatened with. These dichotomies guide women's actions into question every day, and work to constrain the idea of choice. It can be a matter of life or death, making the choices irrelevant. Do I wear what I want or do I keep myself safe? Will I be safe in either case?

Exploring new techniques and mediums I hope to continue learning about my world in a positive light, even though the subject matter may not always be the most pleasant. As an artist, I aim for self discovery through a socially conscious lens that will begin a dialogue where there may not have been opportunity previously.

<u>Title</u>	<u>Media</u>	<u>Original Format</u>
Figure 1: What Was She Wearing Macro	Video	MP4, 1920x1080, 02:31min, 120 Mb
Link: https://youtu.be/q9z_yY3Vvol		
Date of Creation: 12/10/2015		
Major: Fine Art		
Focus: Electronic Art		
Course: ART 458-L01 Advanced Experimental Video		
Programs Used: Adobe Premiere		
Description: This video functions in conjunction with two other videos to be played on a loop simultaneously. It is meant to be played on a wall with a projector and demonstrates a macro or societal view of issues relating to slut-shaming. The images were collected using YouTube videos either discussing or demonstrating different topics related to the sexual double standard.		

Figure 2: What Was She Wearing Micro 1	Video	MP4, 1920x1080, 04:45min, 39.9 Mb
Link: https://youtu.be/9Y-8TzbqgFA		
Date of Creation: 12/10/2015		
Major: Fine Art		
Focus: Electronic Art		
Course: ART 458-L01 Advanced Experimental Video		
Programs Used: Adobe Premiere		
Description: This video depicts the actions of a woman getting ready for the day in two different ways. It takes a micro or individual view of a dichotomy of choices that must be made each day in the process of getting dressed. The two outfit choices demonstrate		

two poles of how women are viewed and judged based on their appearance; these judgements reflect what is assumed about her sexuality and therefore influences what kind of human she is presumed to be. The video should be played on a small screen synonymously with the macro video and other micro video.

Figure 3: What Was She Wearing Micro 2

Video

MP4, 1920x1080, 04:13min, 38 Mb

Link: <https://youtu.be/7v9kfCWFkUU>

Date of Creation: 12/10/2015

Major: Fine Art

Focus: Electronic Art

Course: ART 458-L01 Advanced Experimental Video

Programs Used: Adobe Premiere

Description: This video is also a micro or individual view meant to played in loop on a small screen at the same time as the first micro video and the macro video. It depicts another element of a typical woman's dressing process; the makeup. The way a woman applies, or chooses not to apply, her makeup sets the stage for the day, and it is almost as important as the clothes she chooses to cover her body. It influences the way she is viewed and judged as moves throughout the world.