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# **Outgraced: Karen Miranda Augustine**

## **Exhibition Explores the Sexual and the Sublime through Female Icons and West African Spirituality**

June 20th – July 19th, 2014

**Artist's Talk: Saturday, July 5th | 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.**

A Space Gallery, 401 Richmond Street West, Suite 110, Toronto

Curated by Rachel Gorman

Richly textured icons unite the sexual, the soul wound, and the sublime in ways that are deeply rooted in indigenous Caribbean and West African spirituality to meditate on violence and harm, grief and serenity, exaltation and delight.

Curated by **Rachel Gorman**, **Outgraced** surveys **Karen Miranda Augustine's** mixed-media work over the past decade. Early video and recent installation flank the heart of this exhibit, focused on four series of paintings that rehumanize the dehumanized female figure.

From the sex industry worker to the grief-stricken, the fallen celebrity and activist, these works — a synthesis of collage, mixed media, textile, and street art — are rooted in contemporary and avant-garde cultural references, which are imbued with historical, mystical and magic realist elements.

**Outgraced** opened June 20th and **runs until July 19th, Tuesdays to Saturdays at A Space Gallery, 401 Richmond Street West**. An **artist's talk** will take place on **Saturday, July 5th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.**

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**BIOS:**

**Karen Miranda Augustine** is a Canadian artist, writer and videomaker whose works have exhibited in Canada, the US, Scotland, and Haiti at the 2nd Ghetto Biennale in Port-au-Prince. She has been published and cited in several books and publications, including *Caribbean InTransit Arts Journal*, *The Queer Encyclopedia of the Visual Arts* (Cleis Press) and *The Art of Reflection: Women Artists' Self-Portraiture in the Twentieth Century* (Columbia University Press). Her creative projects ride on the confluence of sex, pop culture, spirituality and the underground. She holds an MA in Interdisciplinary Studies from York University.

**Rachel Gorman** is assistant professor in the Graduate Program in Critical Disability Studies at York University. She has held a lectureship at the Women and Gender Studies Institute – University of Toronto, as well as fellowships at Manchester Metropolitan University and the University of Buffalo. She has worked on the A Space programming committee and the editorial committee of *Fuse* magazine. She has a background in dance, theatre and performance art, along with two decades of anti-occupation and anti-violence organizing.