## **Ramiro Wong**

Celebrations: A table for one or a table of one's own.

Approximations on the Aesthetics of Otherness.

Assemblage/Mixed Media (An array of digital A/V recordings of a variety of performances and a selection of food)

Variables Measures

June 2020

Excuse my French but I'll tell you a story, I'll tell you a story about loud Americans and lazy African Americans, and how the latter are more prone to crime. A story about stingy Jews and terrorist Muslims, about weak homosexuals and emotional women; about angry Arabs, smelly Pakistanis and Indians, dirty Mexicans, greasy Hispanic people and all kinds of tasteless poor folk like the Argentinians who love steak but can barely afford it these days. I'll tell you a story about how Germans drink a lot but not as much as the Irish or the Scottish (who also share this characteristic with the Indians); I'll tell you about the hula dancers in Hawaii, all the gambling in Thailand and the swindlers in Southeast Asia. I'll tell you about a country named Africa and the savages, nudes and pagans that live there. I'll tell you a story about us all, 'cause we all have told these stories, and while the stories, and the people they are referring to may change, the odds are that we are not going to, not for all the tea in China.

What is this here?
Hmmm, it smells like rice.

They were just being oversensitive,

I was only asking...

I mean they looked that way, didn't they?

Totally.

I really don't know why they were so offended,
Like, hello!, do you speak english?
Thought it could be a language problem
and they did not look like they did...
and I thought they were working there...
were they?
I think so, definitely right
Why else would they be there?

It was a fair mistake.

It was the same for me...

You know...that's the reason why I don't watch these movies
I always get confused with the characters

And they are so loud!

It's just more of the same...

...all the time.

but how can that be?

The other night I was walking around and I saw this guys, and I was totally sure it was them, but as it turns out it wasn't.

They just look the same

What is this smell?
it reminds me of...
Oh this smells good!
Mmm, this smells good!
Must be the spices.

What about them?
aren't they also from?
That would be too much
They are ok...
They aren't too...

I just don't understand these people
Why bring so much attention to yourself?
You are here!
You are here,

You have the same rights!
Why bring so much attention to yourself?
Why can't you just be chilled,

relaxed?

like everyone else?
we have the same rights!
we have the same value!
we both matter!

it's just a matter of respect...

...I mean...

it's just a matter of respect...

I don't have to have interest in what you are interested in,
I know it's hard being an immigrant here, but...

...I wouldn't want to be one.

But aren't we all privileged in a way?

I mean...

...we are all living in a privileged part of the world and we are all free, so why can't I have my own opinion?

I don't have to agree with you.

Am I not entitled to my own opinion?

I don't have to agree with you.

But maybe that's not...
...maybe they meant something different...
could it be?
Maybe I didn't understand...
...I mean their German was good
but...
...anyways, it upsets me.

I have the right to be upset, I've been ignored too.

I also have been bullied,
anyways...I have also been harassed,
I have been in situations where I felt like people treated me unfairly
haven't we all been?
and it hurts my feelings.

We all deserve better.

Why bring more separation?

I just don't see these differences.

I just want to be able to say whatever I want whenever I want,

it's called freedom of speech.

Why focus on the differences so much?

why do not just embrace diversity?

## really...

I just feel like I was blamed for something and how can I be blamed for this?

This is not my responsibility
This is not my responsibility at all.

How can it be?

...and I didn't say that,
 right...they did.

And I didn't say that,
 they did.

I just had to leave the conversation.
 it just sounds weird to me,
I doesn't make any sense to me either.

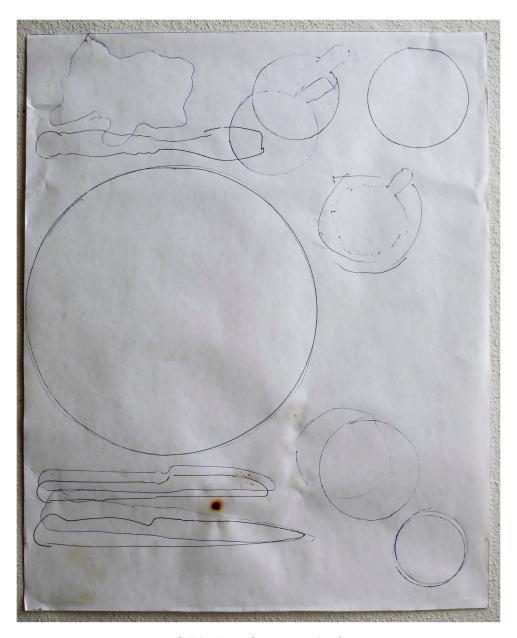
It's too much

I just feel like they should understand better.

Is it warm outside?
This weather is strange today,
I think the weather isn't helping anybody...
...what is it?
Is somehow familiar,

. . .

but I love it.



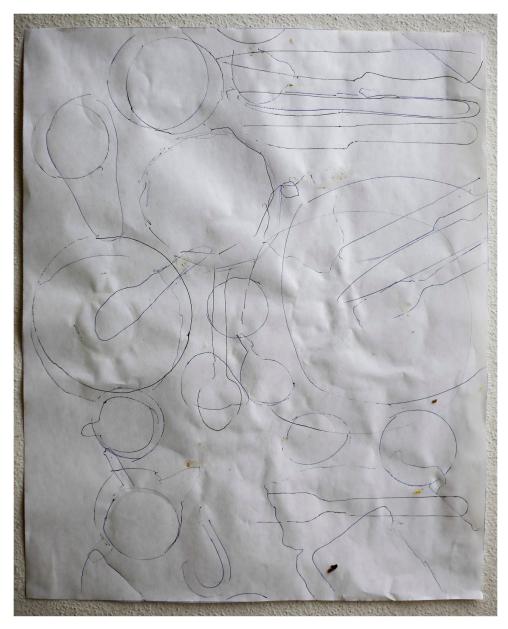
Celebrations: Spare some beef



Celebrations: Spare some noodles



Celebrations: Spare some curry



Celebrations: Spare some avocado