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Cuerpoclickbait

Josue Chavez

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(https://adanewmedia.org/issue13/chavez/index.html)

"Cuerpoclickbait" is a mixed-media essay/collage that participates in the speculative non-fiction genre. It imagines Susana Chavez's blog as an anti-dystopic object that brings attention to the condition of disposability surrounding queer bodies and their cultural production in Ciudad Juarez. Susana Chavez was an activist/poet who was very involved in campaigns against the femicides in Ciudad Juarez and the authorities' lack of accountability. In 2011, her body was found dead in her own neighborhood, with police saying she was murdered after hanging out late and drinking beer with men. Reading her blog in disrepair with spam and pop-ups flooding the screen at every mouse-click calls attention to the way in which Chavez's poetry and her writing (like Chavez herself and the female maquiladora workers who are often the victims of the femicides) exist in a condition of waste-as-value-in-the-making where they remain valuable insofar as they are "expendable." Imagining the blog as this dystopic space where the logic of disposability has reached an extreme becomes then a point of enunciation to call out the regime of disposability that has come into being through the workings of transnational capitalism, patriarchy and racism.

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♦ DYSTOPIA **♦** GENDER **♦** INTERNET **♦** LABOR **♦** PEER REVIEWED **♦** POETRY

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Josue Chavez just finished an undergraduate degree in Comparative Literature and Society, with a focus on Spanish and Mandarin, at Columbia University. He experiments with a hybrid artistic-academic mode of knowledge production in order to explore the ways in which technology (both its production and usage), language and aesthetics are sites of subjectification for capitalist globalization. He is also interested in how different networks of people, in the Global South, are using these same "sites" to negotiate the threats to their ability to continue existing in space that the creative destruction of capitalist globalization poses to their material and social conditions.



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