

Celebrating Women in Photography Today

NARRATIVE: KANA'S VOICE

Ayaba Arówólò

'Narrative: Kana's Voice'

"Born in 1972, the Singapore Airline Stewardess dress helped create "Singapore Girl" - the beautiful and exotic icon that emphasised Asian values and hospitality. She was the ideal Asian woman. Through the airline's success, she became more than a commercial product - she became a national symbol. Her exotic demeanour, her submissive beauty, her perfection is mythical; a dream.

This photos series depicts Kana, an artist of Japanese and Chinese-Singaporean heritage, who uses the dress and her body to subvert these notions, giving her agency over its narrative - who is the Singapore Girl? Who she is supposed to be?"

This series refuses to depict Asian feminist issues as a selective option, but more so the standard, front and centre. 'My diversity is not going anywhere' espouses that we are different, but that doesn't mean we shouldn't be all acknowledged equally without being fetishized or objectified which is prominent in academia.

AYABA is a writer, poet and London based photographer who highlights cultural concepts through multiple creative expressions that present the diverse ways to be human. Through her multi-disciplinary works, human cultural experiences are narrated. Through her practise she examines the way social actors interpret the social world around them. Her intention is to make you aware of what is outside your own bubble of privilege. AYABA is currently studying Culture, Criticism and Curation at Central Saint Martins.

MORE INFO

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