

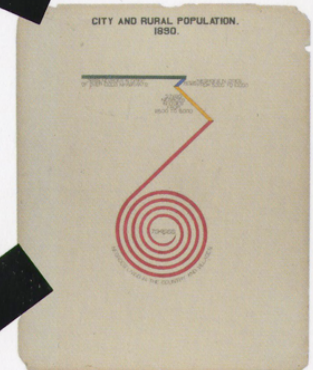
VISUALIZING,



MAPPING,

# DIAGRAMS OF POWER

AND PERFORMING



RESISTANCE

Edited by Patricio Dávila





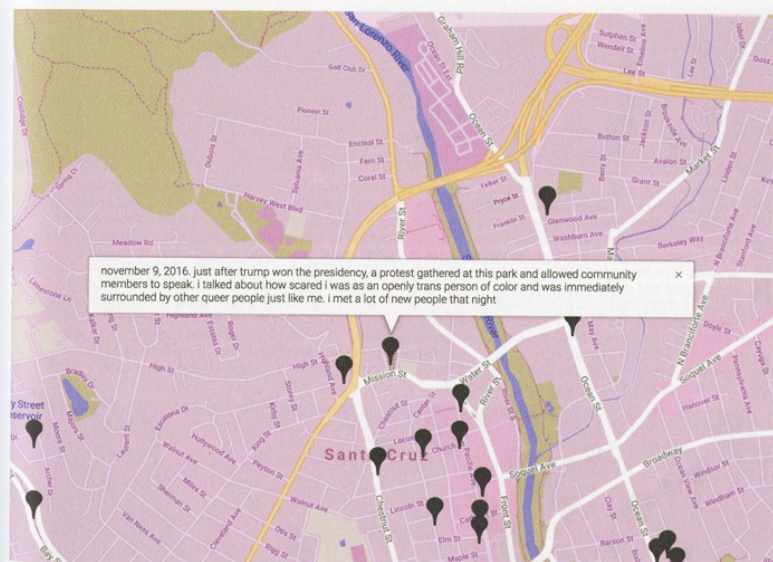
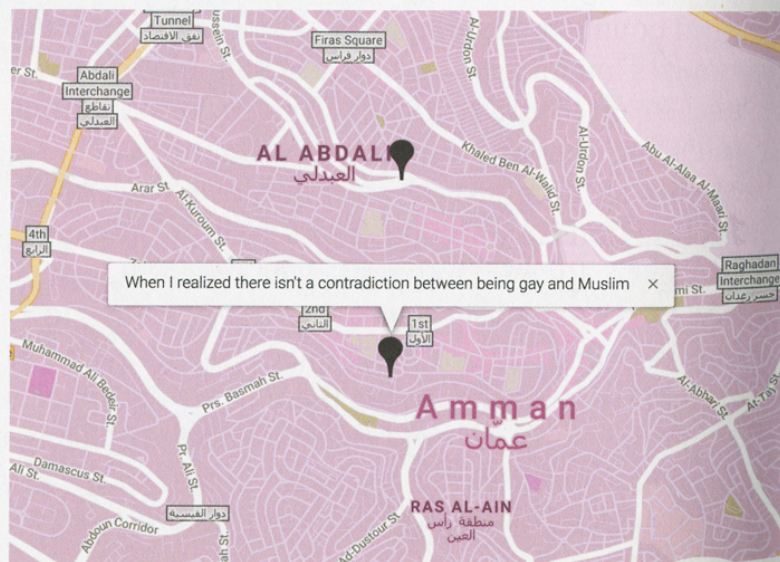
To queer space is to point to the limits of current realities that do not adequately consider the safety and wellbeing of marginalized bodies, and in doing so, point to other possibilities. These spaces of possibility are often ephemeral, and are produced through the actions of queer bodies resisting or even simply existing in the face of dominant power structures that would rather we not exist. Despite their ephemeral nature, these actions of resistance do not simply disappear into the ether once they have been performed, but rather hold the possibility to act as catalysts for a reimagining of a queerer, more radically open world.

*Queering the Map* is a community generated digital counter-mapping project that archives queer moments, memories, and histories in relation to place. From direct action activism to conversations expressing gender pronouns, from feelings of isolation to moments of rapturous love, *Queering the Map* functions as a living spatial archive of queer experience. By mapping out queer experience in all of its permutations, *Queering the Map* aims to extend the lingering of these queer potentialities in physical space, by archiving them in virtual space. By merging subjective experience into the collective, *Queering the Map* works to create a sense of queer solidarity across difference and across borders.

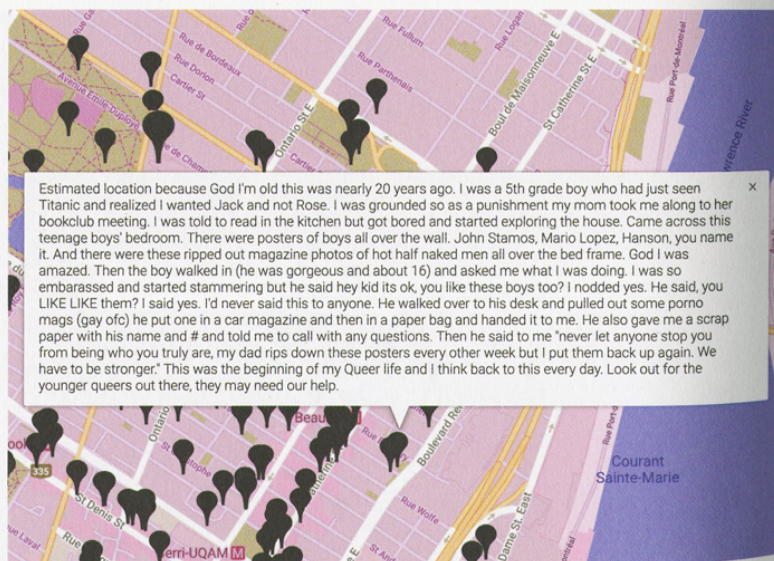
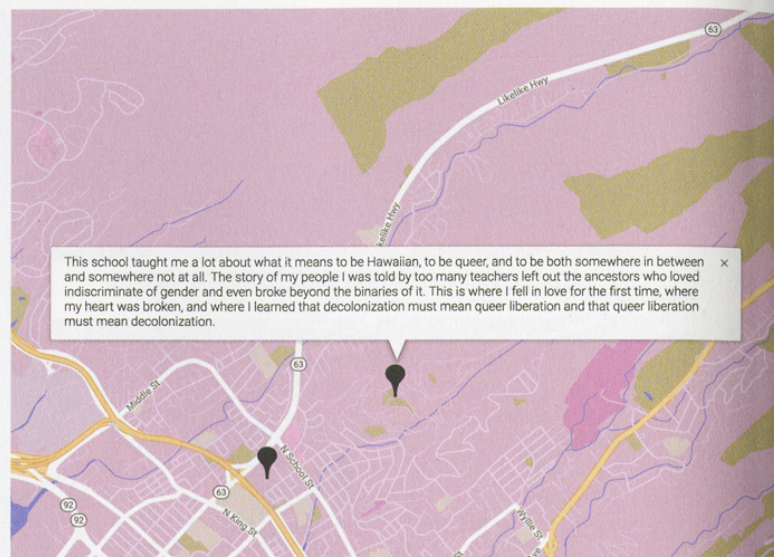


*Queering the Map* was launched in May 2017 to document the diversity and history of queer life. In February 2018, the project went viral, garnering 6,000 new submissions in a period of three days. This level of visibility was inevitably met with resistance, and on February 11, 2018 the site was spammed by Trump supporters who injected malicious code into the database, generating pro-Trump pop-ups across the map. The site was taken down and a call for support was issued, attracting a group of LGBTQ2+ coders who worked collaboratively to ensure the security and sustainability of the site. *Queering The Map* was re-launched on April 3 2018, and now holds over 60 000 stories of queer experience across every continent and in 23 languages. The following are a selection of stories submitted to *Queering The Map* so far:

All stills. Lucas LaRochelle, *Queering the Map*. Website. Courtesy of the artist.











(English translation, previous page, top right) Tehran, Iran: Nine years ago, there were two boys sitting in the metro wagon facing me. Their hands on each others neck, their eyes on each others eyes, and sometimes also they kissed each other's face. It was nobody's business/no one minded. I was happy about them and hopeful for myself, but I did not say anything.





We draw diagrams to help us think, communicate and put forth what we think is important or what we want to be true. While some diagrams are seen as statements of fact, they can also further agendas by discounting other realities beneath a cloak of perceived objectivity. Diagrams of power work against representations that claim omniscience by speaking from a position, and making visible what and who gets represented and who does the representing. They also make us consider how we create and maintain relations between producers and receivers of particular forms of knowledge.

*Diagrams of Power: Visualizing, Mapping, and Performing Resistance*, brings together the work of designers, artists, cartographers, geographers, researchers and activists who create diagrams to tell inconvenient stories that upset and resist the status quo.

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