

# YANAHARA MAURI VILLARREAL

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# From the series: Rites and other stories

Photographic installation (Digital photography, scanned photography, audio and video)

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## Theoretical Foundation:

What is gender? What roles should we play according to sex? What rites of passage or social commitments are almost inescapable? Where are the ruptures with social morals and how do they manifest? What happens when there is a change in the gender paradigm that takes place in an area of society, attacks the established archetypes, confronting those archetypes with a visual and signal force? When and how does gender become true? Which archetype is more sincere and more authentic? They are constructions of opposite senses in the same body.

In Cuban society, as in other countries, there are a set of activities that mark the transition from one state to another in people's lives. In the case of women in Cuba, there are a series of Rites of passage that are almost inviolable, given the significance they have within the social framework, as these contain a symbolic transformation related to the development of personal life. Among these rites are: the traditional celebration of 15 years, with photos, choreographies and parties, the wedding with their usual attire, pregnancy and procreation, as some of the most important.

They are almost obligatory rites that are sustained in being and becoming a woman. Leaving, evading or circumventing these rites implies a social disenchantment, a derogatory criticism on the part of the family, a divorce with tradition, which is the same as a confrontation and a rejection of society towards the "other" subject. Under these circumstances, the De Ritos project and other stories arise ... in which two visuals face each other, look at each other, question each other. The same body interpreting two visuals and two dissimilar and irreconcilable roles, one devouring the other, only then remains, the trace of the rite.

For the development of the project it was necessary to collect images of various stages or rites of passage, which have occurred before the transformation: photos of 15, weddings, pregnancy, childbirth. These images will be displayed in unison with current photographs of the photographs, along with audios and videos that show, not only their visual and body expression, but also their narratives of the experiences related to the change, dreams and circumstances that have affected those areas. of conflict with today's society.



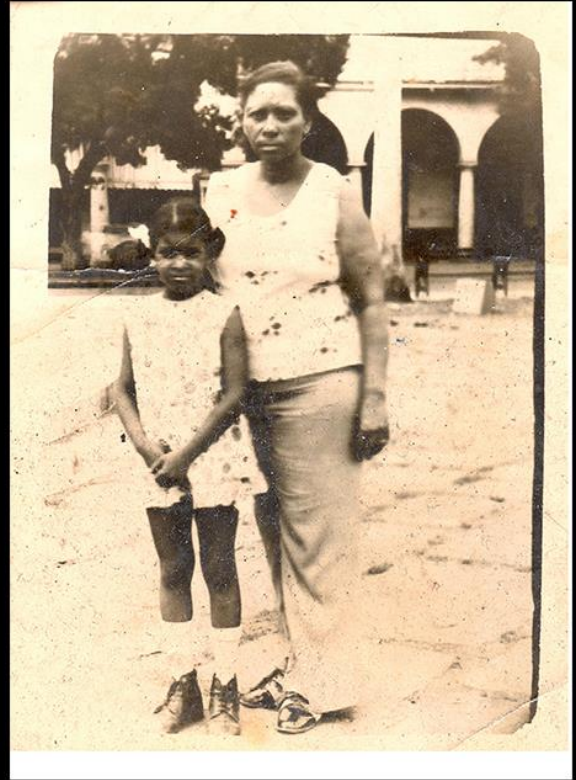
*Leticia 24 años*, Holguín / Fotografía digital 2018



*Leticia 15 años* / Fotografía escaneada



Niuris 47 años, La Habana / Fotografía digital 2018  
(No quiso fotos de 15)



Niuris 8 años / Fotografía escaneada



Jenny Karel 41 años, Bauta. Fotografía digital 2018  
(No quiso fotos de 15)



Jenny Karel 4 años, Fotografía escaneada



Carmen 37 años, La Habana. Fotografía digital 2018



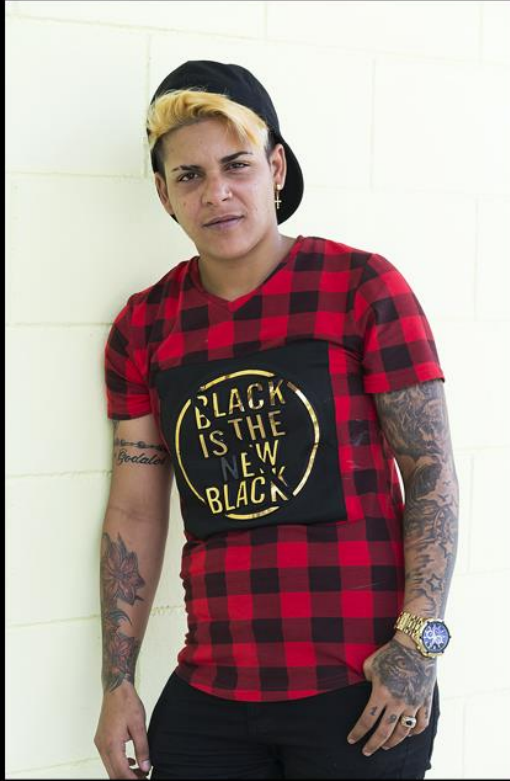
Carmen 12 años / Fotografía escaneada



Sheyla 18 años, Holguín. Fotografía digital 2018



Sheyla 15 años / Fotografía escaneada



*La Negra 26 años / Fotografía digital / 2018*



*La Negra / Fotografía digital*



*Ariannys 33 años / Fotografía digital 2019  
(No quiso fotos de 15)*



*Ariannys 1 año / Fotografía escaneada*



Melanin 20 años, La Habana. Fotografía digital 2019



Melanin 15 años. Fotografía digital



Lisandra 31 años, Santa Fé / Fotografía digital 2019



Lisandra 15 años / Fotografía escaneada