

## Individual Contribution [Koko]

### Body Politics

The body is never just a body. It is a battleground, a form of protest. It is where resistance begins.

To speak of body politics without speaking of queer bodies, women's bodies, trans bodies, is to speak in absence. These are the bodies that have been legislated, pathologized, fetishized, erased, questioned by law, by strangers. These are also the bodies that have danced in defiance and birthed new ways of being.

The woman's body - still a site of endless public debate, as if it were public property. The right to choose, to carry or not carry, still under scrutiny. Abortion as if it's a moral dilemma. It is healthcare. It is autonomy. It is survival. The fight for reproductive justice is a fight for bodily sovereignty, for dignity.

Existence of our queer bodies, trans bodies, long policed and punished, recently declared as nonexistent by law, is political. Our bodies rewrite the script. They refuse binary logic, disrupt heteronormative choreography. Queer movement in sex, in protest, in everyday gesture is a kind of counterspell to a world that demands conformity.

My body is the politics. I'm living it. In the choices I make. In the skin I show or hide. In the way I take up space, unapologetically. In the way it simply exists.

Because my body is not neutral.

It is political.

It is personal.

It is powerful.

It is a statement.

And I'm done asking permission to be in it.