

## Artist B.B. Gunn for Art Debutant

### **Tell us a little bit about yourself, Age? Location? Hometown?**

Born & raised in Santa Cruz, California. I'm 21, and when I'm not working on current projects, I'm working on developing future projects.

### **Describe your art?**

I consider myself to be a living sculpture. I live my life with artistic intention, constantly striving towards a balance between the realities of life and the illusions of art. As a performance artist who is "on" 24/7, I invite those who wish to participate to join me in challenging the limitless possibilities of the self. Reality is something to be tampered with, why not use art as a tool?

### **What is your favorite piece?**

Myself! The daily performance I give audiences (specifically through my style) is something that I know entertains our culture's desire to be individualized and to be free. I hear from people that I've inspired them to wear more "outrageous" clothing—not necessarily to stand out, but to feel more comfortable in their own skin. How we dress (and how we interact with each other) has become so standard, and it's such a mundane standard. If everyone performed externally as they felt internally, our social standards would be much more exciting.

### **Your favorite virtue?**

Ambition. Lethargy is one of the most boring traits a human being can have, so I love meeting individuals who have a set goal and spectacular determination. People with drive get to where they're going (no pun intended, kinda), and find the willpower to accomplish their goals no matter how much time and hard work it takes. I don't meet people like this everyday, but when I do it's a match made in heaven.

### **Your favorite qualities in a man?**

Fearlessness. I feel throughout the world, and specifically in America, the male is tethered so tightly to this general understanding of socially constructed masculinity, that rarely does he manage to escape. It's difficult to go against the grain of culture, but ultimately the choice to either conform to gender norms or be yourself, is your own. Most men don't challenge the standards, but those who do, gay and straight, stand out as fearless and honest individuals.

### **Your favorite qualities in a woman?**

Independence. A woman who can let go of her societal role as dependant, much like males letting go of rigid masculinity, is a woman who can take care of herself. I've met many women who are waiting for a man to save them, or to be taken care of by others, and it always appears incredibly helpless. I like women that save themselves, and if they got a man on the side, that's great too.

**What do you appreciate the most in your friends?**

Effort. I treat my friends like family, and it means a lot to me when I see someone caring for me the way I care for them. It's great to know I can count on my friends to be there for me when I need them, whether it's to figure shit out, or head to a party.

**What is your main fault?**

I work too much, if that's possible. I got so many projects in motion at one time that it's hard to stop and focus on one thing. But juggling responsibilities is part of the game, right?

**What is your idea of happiness?**

The meaning of life.

**If not yourself, who would you be?**

Jesus or Oprah.

**Where would you like to live?**

New York, which is why I'm moving there in a year. If you want to live somewhere, make it happen. I've accepted that I'll be spending the next few years living in a shoebox with strangers paying double my current rent.

**What do you hate the most?**

Wasted time and energy.

**How do you wish to die?**

Like everyone else, I want immortality. If I can't have it in the literal sense, I'll take what's left, which in our society is fame. To reach a certain point of celebrity, to die, and to forever be remembered as I lived: as myself. That, and placed in a glass coffin so gallery onlookers can witness my bodies' banality as it decomposes.

**What is your present state of mind?**

Futuristic. I can't help but look forward to the future. Everything's great now, but it 's only going to get better.

**Your favorite motto or quote?**

"To free yourself, you must let go of everything but yourself." –B.B. Gunn