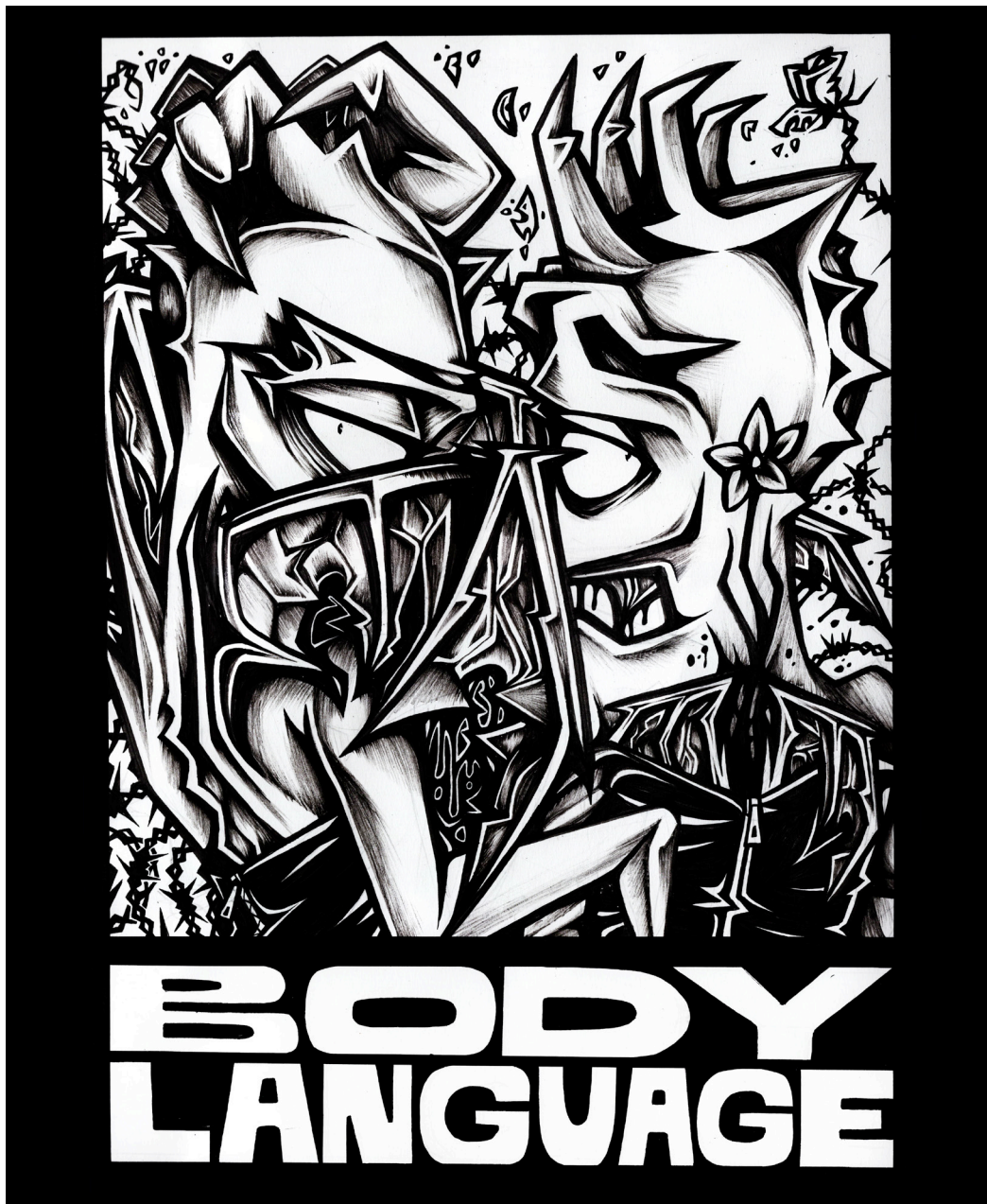


# HINK

## BODY LANGUAGE

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**DEPS ARTIST PROFILE SERIES**

June 22–September 13, 2023

# BODY LANGUAGE

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*BODY LANGUAGE* takes the form of a mock flyposting campaign in which Hink encourages the viewer to claim their own language regarding the restriction of one's physical form. In this exhibition, repetitious blunt wording and elemental body horror are combined to advertise the landscape of a loosely autonomous existence.

Limitations tear us apart; using our voices paste us back together.

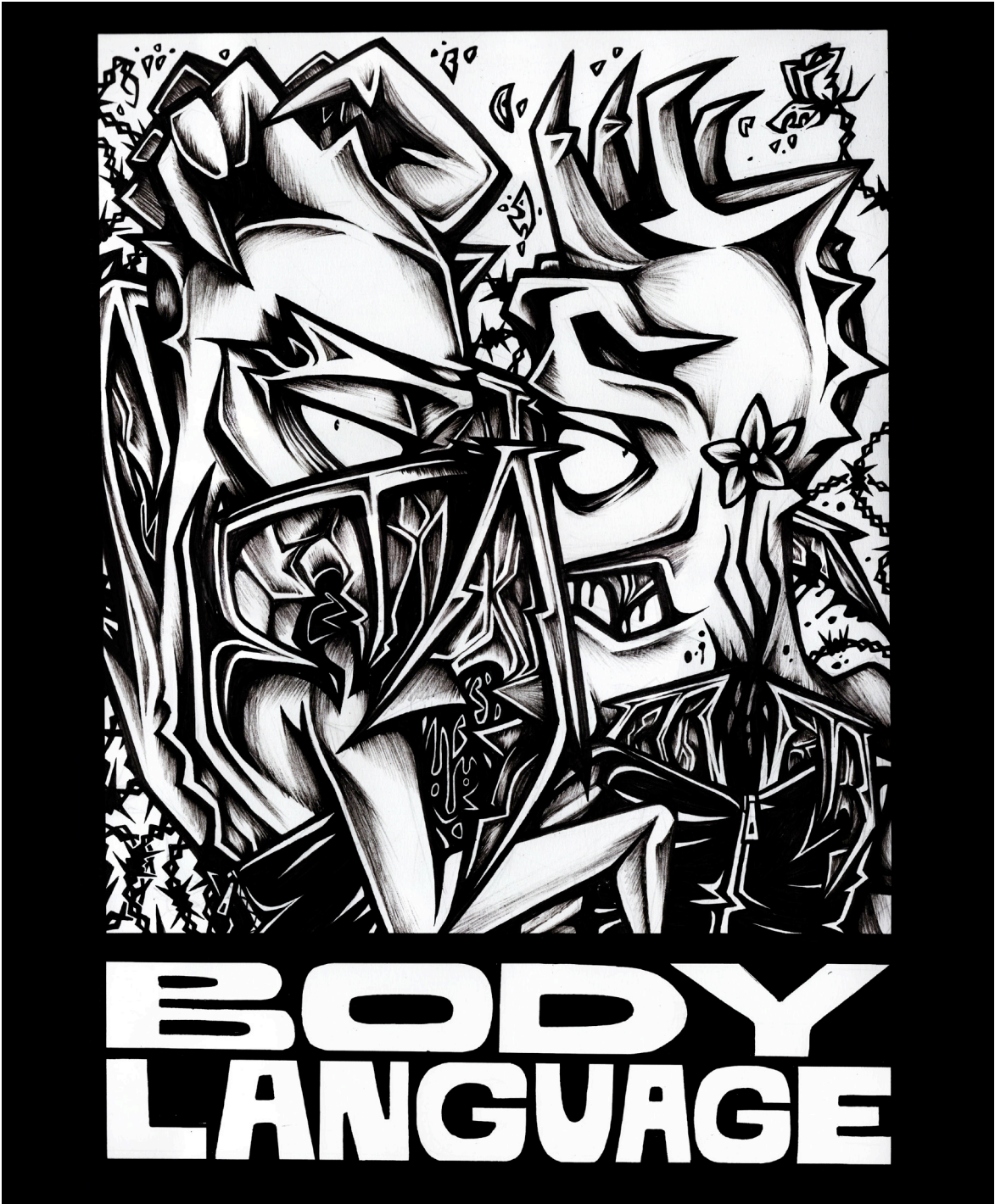
# HINK

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**Hink** explores stylized narratives surrounding gender, sexuality, intimacy, and mental illness through a variety of creature occupied figures. They see their work as a self-dissection, confronting their innards and combining what they find with sharp graphic lines and unapologetic pinks and purples.

**Hink** is a Chicago based comic artist, illustrator, muralist, animator, and creature person. Their self-published work can be found in various shops around the city, as well as Silver Sprocket in SF, Desert Island Comics in NY, or wherever they happen to be vending at the time.

**Website:** <https://www.hink.club>



*Body Language, 2023, ink, 14" x 17"*



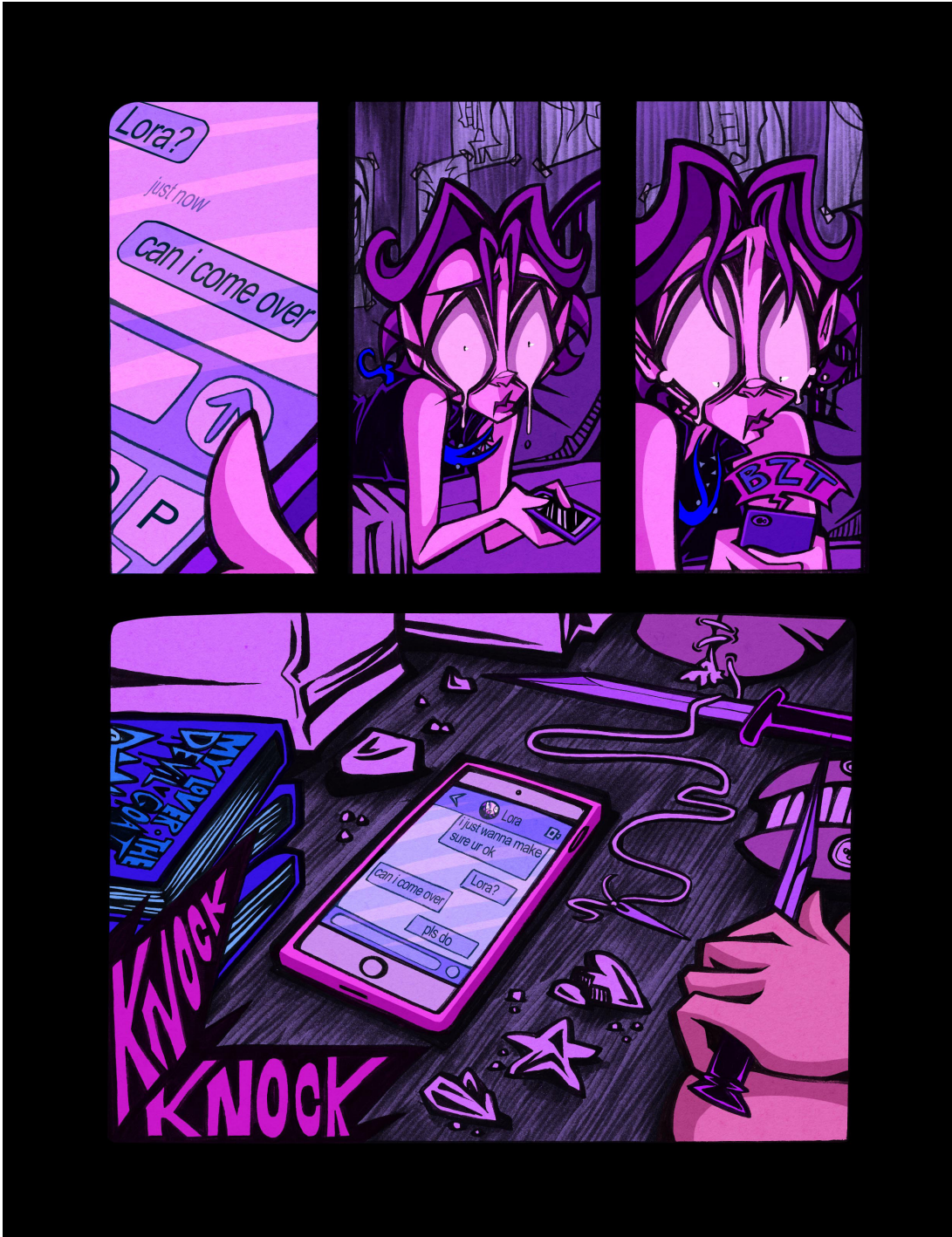


Choose My Growth, 2022, ink and digital, 9" x 12"

**CONNECTED REGARDLESS.**



*Connected Regardless, 2022, ink, 40" x 40"*



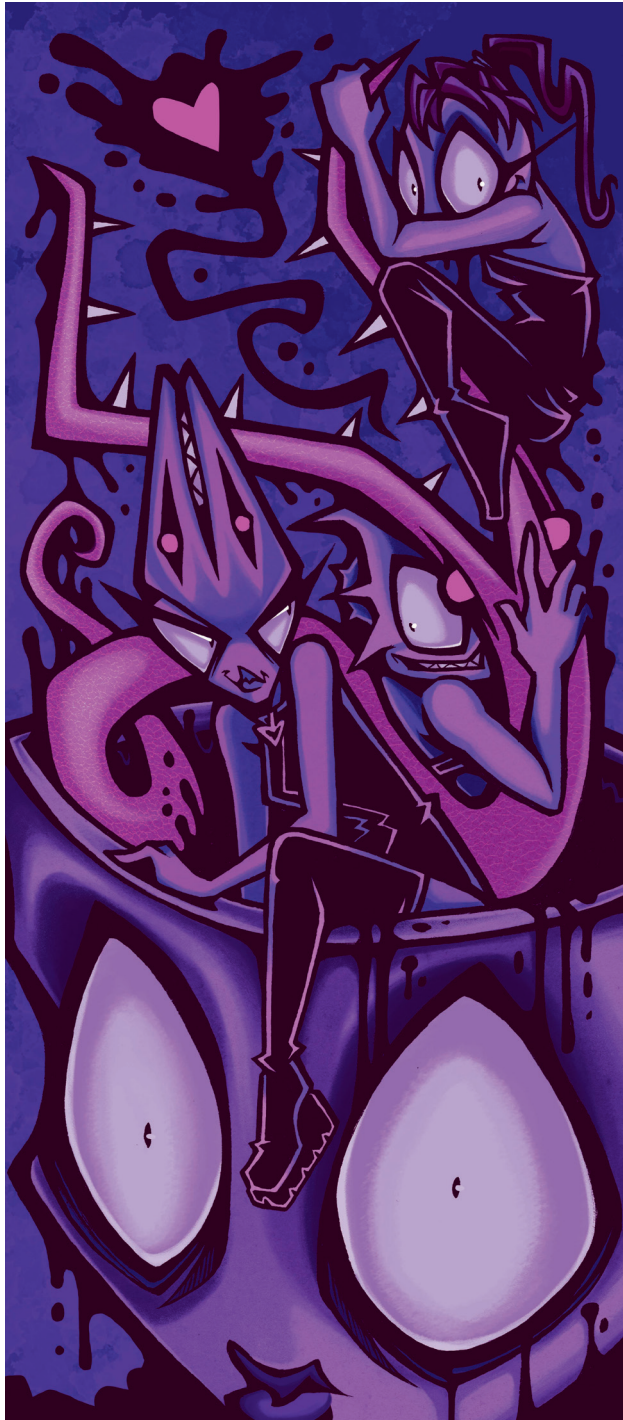
Lora Page 57, 2022, ink and digital, 8" x 10"





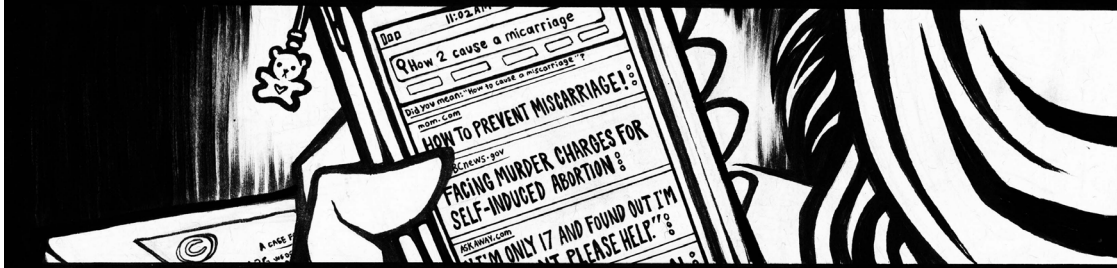
*Paranoid*, 2023, ink and marker, 7" x 16"





*Snake Brain*, 2023, ink and digital, 7" x 16"

# STOP THE SHAME



# ABORTION IS HEALTHCARE

Stop the Shame, 2022, ink, 11" x 14"





T4T, 2023, ink and marker, 5" x 7"

# INTERVIEW WITH HINK

Conducted by Rachel Manlubatan

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**Rachel Manlubatan:** What specific artists, musicians, or pieces have you drawn inspiration from to develop your style? Can you speak on the different practices you have experimented with that have resulted in where you are now?

**Hink:** I have always been inspired by comics, specifically I remember *Bone* being the series that kicked off my love for comics in grade school. As I got older I got really into works such as *Black Hole*, *Saga*, *Locke and Key*, and manga such as *Death Note*, *Fruits Basket*, etc. More presently I'm inspired by indie comics artists such as Eddy Atoms, Simon Hanselmann, and Abby Jame, as well as local street artists. I grew up in Oak Park and would be in the city a lot, so I've always been a fan of Penny Pinch, T Money, and Shawnimals. I also pull a lot of inspiration from music. I have a handful of 300+ song long playlists that curate to different moods since music helps me to visualize stories and characters in my head. I love anything ranging from Nine Inch Nails to Charli XCX.

**RM:** What does your color palette and character design represent in your art? What are your reasons for using primarily deep pinks and purples, and what attracts you to using creatures as your subjects?

**H:** My color palette is kind of accidental, before I figured out how to color digitally, I mostly used earth tones because that was the marker set I had, but there were a few straggler hot pinks in the set that I started to use and I loved how intense it was. Now I just like something that will look cohesive but also extreme, so I really love playing with bright pinks and purples, but also black and white works for the purposes as well. Also I like how pink is kind of 'girly' coded, and I have always wanted to try and reclaim pinks into something beyond that. I draw a lot of what I call 'creature people'

or occasionally 'monster babes', and a lot of the time I draw this character with an empty head with this hot pink 'snake' busting out. That symbol just started off as doodles I'd do in high school that were actually just self-deprecating, like as if there's this unpredictable creature that lives in my brain. But the concept just really stuck with me and now I blend 'creatures' with people to represent not simply imperfections, but also authenticity, queerness, and the depths of my personal emotion/expression.

**RM:** Can you explain what your story creating process is like? What do you hope readers take away from your comics and the social commentary you include in your artwork?

**H:** When I was younger I would write insanely long stories with like overpowered axe wielding super heroes like totally as an escapism thing, but now when I write stories/draw I'm usually unpacking/exploring something within myself. There is definitely still a surrealist, escapism element to my narrative process because I do like to not live in reality 24/7, but I've found the more vulnerable/explorative I try to push myself to be when thinking of concepts, I help myself understand myself more. I also love when I find artwork that feels so raw, but I really relate to it, so I just hope my work can inspire others to communicate and feel seen as well.

**RM:** How does your artwork change when presented in various forms? What separate influences do murals, comics, and wheat pasting have on your message as an artist?

**H:** I used to think that my comics, illustrations, posters, and murals all had to have a different purpose. Like comics look a certain way, muralists format things another way, but I'm honestly trying to unlearn that since I want all of these formats to blend. Like for



## INTERVIEW CONTINUED

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example, Penny Pinch and T Money are artists I've always looked up to since I felt like they blended poster art with comics. Another example, I love Ryan Heshka because his surrealist paintings have the same voice that his comics do. I just want all of my work, no matter the format, to have a narrative drive fueled by a personal anecdote, social commentary, or just anything I want to say to the world.



## THE DEPS ARTIST PROFILE SERIES

The DEPS Artist Profile Series presented by Columbia College Chicago's Department of Exhibitions, Performance and Student Spaces (DEPS), is a virtual publication on select artists involved with the DEPS Galleries and the Columbia College Chicago community. Our goal with this series is to connect artist and viewer on a deeper level, and to highlight the amazing works and thoughts of our featured artists through interviews, artist biographies, and catalogs of work. Art has always been a way to connect with others, no matter where one may physically be. We hope by presenting the creativity and insights of the people involved in the DEPS Artist Profile Series that viewers may have one more way to stay in touch with and support the arts community. The DEPS Artist Profile Series and graphic design is managed by DEPS Exhibitions Assistant Rachel Manlubatan. This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency.

**Learn more at:** [colum.edu/deps](http://colum.edu/deps)

**Contact information:** Mark Porter, [mporter@colum.edu](mailto:mporter@colum.edu) / 312.369.6643

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**C33 Gallery:** 33 E. Ida B. Wells Drive, First Floor, Chicago, IL 60605

**Gallery Hours:** Monday–Friday 9 a.m.–5 p.m.