

PHANTOMTITS

BY CARA TIERNEY AND PASCALE ARPIN

PRESS RELEASE

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Phantomtits vol. 1
by Cara Tierney
and Pascale Arpin
\$20.00 CAD
Paperback 7"x10"
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Phantomtits vol. 1 is the first instalment of a graphic novel told in three parts. It recounts the real-life story of Cara Tierney's top surgery/double mastectomy, recast as a superhero-ish creation tale. Blending biography and fantasy, volume 1 lays the groundwork by explaining how Phantomtits comes into being, leaving us with a tantalizing cliff-hanger.

As a trans, non-binary individual, Phantomtits' story raises important questions with regards to the experience of gender creativity, highlighting double-standards in the medical treatment of trans people while also challenging dominant ideas of what it means to be transgender. The graphic novel is an artwork, an educational tool, and a documentary reflection of a time and place in which the conversation on gender has never been so prolific and, at times, polarized.

While the hard copy book is being released for sale it can be enjoyed in its entirety online for free. For all this and more visit www.phantomtits.com

For interviews please contact: phantomtitscomic@gmail.com
613.799.5819 (Cara Tierney)



Cara Tierney is an interdisciplinary artist whose work bridges visual art, activism and pedagogy. Proudly trans, Tierney's practice questions language, desire and materiality to investigate how the political and social landscapes impact our relationships to our bodies and identities. They teach History and Theory of Art and Relational Sculpture at the University of Ottawa as well as Critical Trans Studies at Carleton University where they are a PhD candidate in Cultural Mediations. Tierney is the 2019 Artist in residence in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Ottawa.



Pascale Arpin is a freelance creative from Ottawa, Ontario whose first loves are painting and illustration but whose practice has grown to include a wide range of media and disciplines such as carpentry, photography and production design. As a self-taught artist, Arpin is particularly concerned with the democratization of art and with finding ways to erode the barriers that restrict the creation and enjoyment of art. For Arpin this goal has taken many forms, from: running a weekly volunteer arts program at the Nunavut Women's Correctional Centre in Iqaluit, Nunavut for over five years, to learning the traditional art of signpainting and contributing to the beautification of her community.