

Outing Disability

A photographic journey

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) people with disability are often excluded from both disability and LGBTIQ communities. They face multiple discriminations that can inhibit their ability to experience sexuality, sex and gender as positive aspects of their lives.

Outing Disability is brought to you by Family Planning NSW in partnership with internationally acclaimed photographer Belinda Mason. This photographic series invites you on a reflective journey into the lives of this group as they dispel myths about disability and share their struggles and triumphs of coming out, discovering love, exploring identity and finding pride.

As you move throughout the exhibition, each portrait is interrupted by reflections of yourself and the surrounding environment. Here, as in our community at large, the assumptions we make about people with disability must be negotiated in order to clearly see the individual for who they are.

Outing Disability encourages you to reflect on your attitudes and assumptions about the sexuality and gender of people with disability. You are invited to consider how we as individuals and as a community can work to become more inclusive and uphold the sexual rights of LGBTIQ people with disability.

Belinda Mason

Belinda Mason has worked as a freelance photographer in Sydney since 1990. Since 1998 Belinda's work has focused on taboo social issues that explore the very personal and sometimes difficult subjects of grief, body image, identity and family. For the past 6 years, Belinda has collaborated with emerging artists with disability or disadvantage to create collaborative and inclusive multimedia exhibitions.

Belinda is the 2008 winner of the richest photography prize in Australia, The Moran Prize with her image entitled "Four Generations". In 2016, her project Silent Tears was a finalist in the United Nations Australia Media Peace Prize. Belinda is also regularly invited to speak at professional conferences and events such as the United Nations Commission of the Status of Women in New York in 2016, and the United Nations Commission on the Rights of Persons with Disability in Geneva also in 2016.

Her photographs are held in national and international museums and galleries including Shape Arts Gallery UK, Museum of Sex New York, the Australian Commercial and Media Photographers Collection and the Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, Canberra.

www.belindamason.com

The participants

Family Planning NSW would especially like to thank all the people who chose to tell their stories as part of this project. This project would not exist without them.

Family Planning NSW

Family Planning NSW is the leading provider of reproductive and sexual health services in NSW. We are experts on contraception, pregnancy options, sexually transmissible infections (STIs), sexuality and sexual function, menstruation, menopause, common gynaecological and vaginal problems, cervical cancer screening, breast awareness and men's sexual health.

As an independent, not-for-profit organisation, we recognise that every body in every family should have access to high quality clinical services and information. Our services are targeted to communities, including people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, refugees, people with disability, young people, people from rural and remote communities and LGBTIQ people.

Our work with people with disability

We provide education and training for teachers, disability workers, clinicians, family members and carers about sexuality for people with disability. Our clinics are a safe place for people with disability to talk about intimate and sometimes challenging issues and to access confidential reproductive and sexual healthcare. We also provide innovative easy to read resources to support our professional and community education activities. Our work aligns with the priorities of people with disability and the organisations that support them. For more information about our disability programs and services go to: www.fpnsw.org.au/disability

Family Planning NSW has an extensive Disability Resource Collection. These resources are available for loan, for download from our website www.fpnsw.org.au/disability or purchase from our online shop www.fpnsw.org.au/shop.

Family Planning NSW Talkline is a confidential telephone service staffed by experts in reproductive and sexual health. Family Planning NSW Talkline is open 8.30am to 5pm weekdays for information and referral advice. You can call the Family Planning NSW Talkline if you have any questions, or would like to know more about resources. For the cost of a local call, you will be able to speak to clinical nurse specialists who are trained in disability issues.

1300 658 886 | www.fpnsw.org.au/talkline

Education and Training: Family Planning NSW delivers best practice education and training in reproductive and sexual health. To find out about training courses for disability workers, teachers and clinicians contact Family Planning NSW.

02 8752 4300 | education@fpnsw.org.au | www.fpnsw.org.au/education

An audio description of the exhibition, provided by Insightful, and an easy English version of this document and are available at www.fpnsw.org.au/outingdisability

