The Crossroads of Being

Zine by Pierre Sanon
Digital art created by Pierre Sanon
Intersectionality (n):

The interconnected nature of social categorizations such as race, class, and gender as they apply to a given individual or group, regarded as creating overlapping and interdependent systems of discrimination or disadvantage.
Sonnet on Intersectionality

You belong to us and us only,
Do not think twice, for your skin is black.
My mother shunned me, all I felt was lonely,
I had no chance to take it back.

Where do I go, to whom do I turn?
One values my skin, the other my love.
In between, peace lost, I mourn,
Familiar feeling of being outside, away I cannot shove.

We’ll praise you for being queer, but in practice you are of no worth.
Fake uplifting, inclusive, false desire, attraction,
You cannot change the factors of birth.
So it is time, move forward, no stopping, take action:

“You owe your allegiance to your skin!”
“You owe your allegiance to your queer kin!”

Photograph taken at “Camp” exhibit, 2019
"I felt like I needed to be more close with the LGBTQ side of my Haitian heritage."

"After the earthquake, things got a little bit harder in terms of, you know, safety for LGBTQ people. In Haiti, there's a lot of religious people saying that it's gay people's fault that the earthquake happened."

"LGBTQ people are everywhere"

"You're Haitian. You're not supposed to be gay."

"Succumb to Community"
For many queer individuals, a sense of community has been the one positive in the sea of hatred and tumultuous processes that we as individuals have to go through. Having another human to understand and assist in the process is almost invaluable and instrumental in fighting oneself and the outside world to just exist. Queer community has been the backbone of queer liberation movements and queer presence in America, but a problem has always presented itself within this concept. America (and largely the world) exist in a space of anti-color and especially anti-blackness, and unfortunately, sometimes queer spaces are no exception. Intersectionality is defined as an understanding of how aspects of a person’s social and political identities combine to create different modes of discrimination and privilege. It becomes a multi-faceted space of oppression, discrimination, allegiance to one marginalized group over the other, and an internal conflict that culminates from all of this. Queer people are all too familiar with experiencing othering, as do black people. But then, where do queer black people stand?

“Drag has always been a cornerstone of activism.”