



Episode #5: Culturally Queer - Who gets to perform drag and why a deep 1st convo Fauxnique

SHOW NOTES



The performance of the feminine and the performance of drag is mine to embody as much as it is a man's. —
Fauxnique

INTRO

This week's guest is incredible, with amazing energy! For that, this interview is completely unedited! I came prepared for this interview, but this was long overdue, so the list went right out the door! We just dove right in! The energy was amazing, which brought about some great topics for us to discuss! You guys will experience the same excitement from the refreshing dialogue that we as a community need to hear!

TOPICS DISCUSSED

- How our paths Crossed aka Faux Queen Pageant 2014 (2:20)
- How i first heard/met Fauxnique (6:00)
- Her upcoming book (7:35 + 63:58)
- How she feels about success (9:13)

- Discuss the idea/quote “you should never meet your mentors” (12:38)
- Appreciation practice in her drag and her life (14:15)
- Who Fauxnique is and her engagement of the term faux queen (16:20)
- We discuss performing femininity and what the performance of drag is (20:18 + 23:35)
- Being Culturally Queer and what does the term queer include (22:38)
- The semantics of drag, the word tranny, and fauxnique speaks on “Inclusive Terms” (27:56)
- Is drag inheritably misogynistic (37:11)
- **Flamininity** - new term i created to describe the “inity” a drag queen performs (38:46)
- Her entry into drag (39:41)
- We discuss *Paris is Burning* and the two articles written about it (42:15)**
- Are “real” women appropriating gay male culture? (45:10)
- What culturally queer means to Fauxnique (57:43)
- Feminism (62:00)
- Rapid Fire Q’s with Fauxnique (71:00)

** Get bell hooks’ critique *Is Paris Burning?* [here](#).

FAUXNIQUE - HERstory:

“My name is Fauxnique, like the fake version of Monique, which is my name. I live in San Francisco, and my name plays on the word Faux Queen. So for those in the community where Faux Queen is a problematic term, I’m fully engaging with it” - Fauxnique

“I love the phrase Faux Queen.” -Fauxnique

“The reason why I choose Fauxnique to play with Faux Queen, is because I love the idea that there is authentic drag and inauthentic drag. It’s like girl, it’s ‘also’ drag.” -Fauxnique

“I’m a dancer, and my early history training was ballet then contemporary dance. There is an idea that contemporary dance is more authentic than ballet. I found there was a way I was struggling a lot at first with contemporary dance. I actually crave sequin, and that seemed more authentic to me.” - Fauxnique

“I have a struggle with what authenticity is in my life I love to problematize the notion of authenticity in my world. I found doing drag, putting on face..kind of brought me more to an authentic place.” -Fauxnique

“My kind of one sentence definition of my work is that, I make work that always uses movement and usually uses drag to look at the performance of femininity as a powerful, vulnerable and ss act.” -Fauxnique

“I’m not saying drag is femininity, I’m saying my work uses drag to express this idea around femininity.” -Fauxnique

FAUXNIQUE - SUCCESS:

"I'm so glad the work has landed with you, and with other people. This is all I can kind of hope for, for my work. When people say things like that, it's when I go that is why I do what I do. To feel the work resonate with people, it's a success." – Fauxnique

"There are many definitions of success, but the definition I love is of course John Waters definition of success which is Success means never having to work with assholes."

"But also a definition of success is like having things ripple out to and being able to connect with people whom it's rippling out" - Fauxnique

"What's the queerer experience? The closeted football player or the straight boy who looks like a faggot?" -Fauxnique

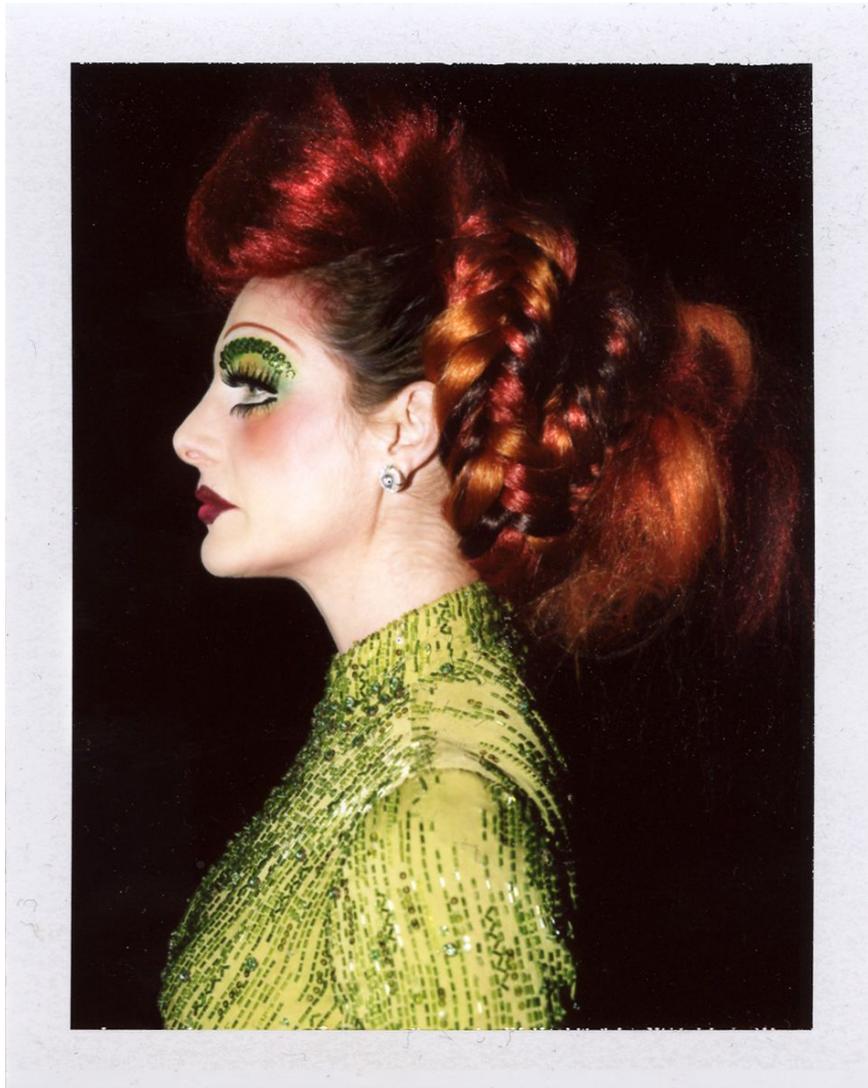


Photo by Mark Christopher

FAUXNIQUE - IDOLS AND MENTORS:

"I haven't found that to be true, either. And I think like you, I don't fangirl randomly, but the people I love, I love. -Fauxnique

"So many of the people I love, I have had the good chance to meet and become friends with." -Fauxnique

"I think it's acceptable in a lot of ways, of course some people have bad days and some people won't live up to the part. I totally get it." - Fauxnique

"If you are in a situation where you can make an authentic connection with someone, there is usually a reason why you connect with that person. Lately, I've been trying to put into practice appreciation." -Fauxnique

"People don't live forever, so it's also like tell you friends you love them. Tell your mother you love her. Just in the moment, there is no limit on love. It's like be generous." -Fauxnique

FAUXNIQUE - INCLUSIVE TERMS:

"It was a name of a club where this word started as a term of endearment. Everyone used it with each other, and not just Trans women." -Fauxnique

"A lot of trans women were empowered to perform their gender and express their gender in the comforts of drag before they came out to live as trans." -Fauxnique

"My whole thing with language, like we need to put a stop to this word or that word. I love words, I love having as many words as we can have to describe and participate in the language in really specific ways.." -Fauxnique

OUTRO

That was my interview with the amazing Fauxnique! Such a breath of fresh air!! The interview was SO surreal, and I could barely catch my breath after!

Tune in next Wednesday for the next episode of The Drag Show Podcast!

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That's our show for today beautiful dragsters! Thank you to my guest Fauxnique for sitting through all my questions and outbursts of love and adoration — because there were a few.

And of course thank you to YOU!

For listening. For sharing your art. For doing drag your way. Or for loving it for the diverse spectrum it is. Don't forget to subscribe to our show via iTunes and while you're at drop me a like and or a review or two.

Whatever it is you do, keep doing you. Remember your otherness is your power. And go forth and be the slay you wish to see . . . flawlessly. Drag on, bitches!

THINGS MENTIONED

[Drag University - THE online school of drag](#)

[#wearedrag YouTube channel](#)

Devin Dame & Gage Gatlyn - [Gatlyn Dame Group](#)

Thank you Dana!!!!

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[Faux Queen Pageant](#)

Brandi Amara Skyy's first book: *Faux Queens - Fauxing the Real* (no longer for sale)

[Miss Piggy](#)

[John Waters](#)

[Krista Tippett](#)

[Justin Vivian Bond](#)

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