

# FreeSwim: Edition 01: The PostModern Grotesque

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The human body, art, and social hierarchy are all connected through the performance of disgust. In *The Mindscales: An Essay and Series Reclaiming the Uterine Body and Exposing Politics of Disgust*, Cortney Connolly (Editor-In-Chief of FreeSwim) unapologetically paints with her menstrual blood as societal confrontation and act of reclamation. If disgust is a learned emotion, Connolly suggests The Mindscales' reaction of disgust exhibits how the emotion has been manipulated by the patriarchal society to oppress the uterine body.

If disgust is a learned emotion, how is it manipulated and applied to organize, suppress, and restrict autonomy?

Centered around this theory, FreeSwim Ed 01: The PostModern Grotesque uncovers the politics of disgust in regards to bodily autonomy and artistic freedom. The exhibition featuring 11 artists, creates a space of free expression without censorship through the suggested framework of disgust: *The Mindscales: An Essay and Series Reclaiming the Uterine Body and Exposing Politics of Disgust*.