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Power Positions: A Dismantling of Phallacies

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Statements

From soft curves to hard lines, our bodies are all unique. How we look and how we are perceived by the world varies wildly based on our environment, our relationships, our communities, and faiths or lack thereof. These are the boundaries that cage us from the moment of birth. Society tells us that there is a correct form that we all need to fit. That we

must look and act a certain way. We are taught that physical appearance determines our value. Yet how can one mold fit millions of individual backgrounds, physical journeys, medical conditions, sexualities, and personalities? One size doesn't fit all. The beauty of shape is that of uniqueness and empowerment. Size does not determine intelligence or worth. We have the power to decide how the world sees us. The falsehoods that whisper in our ear everytime we look in the mirror are simply that - fallacies and deceit. By embracing and loving our bodies we can rid ourselves of these societal pressures. We are valid. We are worthy. We are enough.

Artist Statement

Body is a series about the human form. The women photographed in this project all identify as plus size. As a plus size woman I've had the opportunity to learn that flaws are not always negative. Flaws are personal. We might see our stretch marks as a disruption in our ideal beauty or that our back rolls halt the smooth flow of a garment. Others might find them sexy, strong, and even empowering. Our bodies change throughout our lives. We can alter our shape intentionally by dieting, exercise, or even surgery. Sometimes our bodies even change inadvertently, from stress, health conditions, pregnancy, or aging. Representation and acceptance is critical in how we see ourselves. *Body* is meant to showcase vulnerable moments in hopes that we can see that we are not alone. We are all in this fight together. There is unity in compassion for ourselves or others. Love takes strength and determination. Our bodies deserve nothing less.