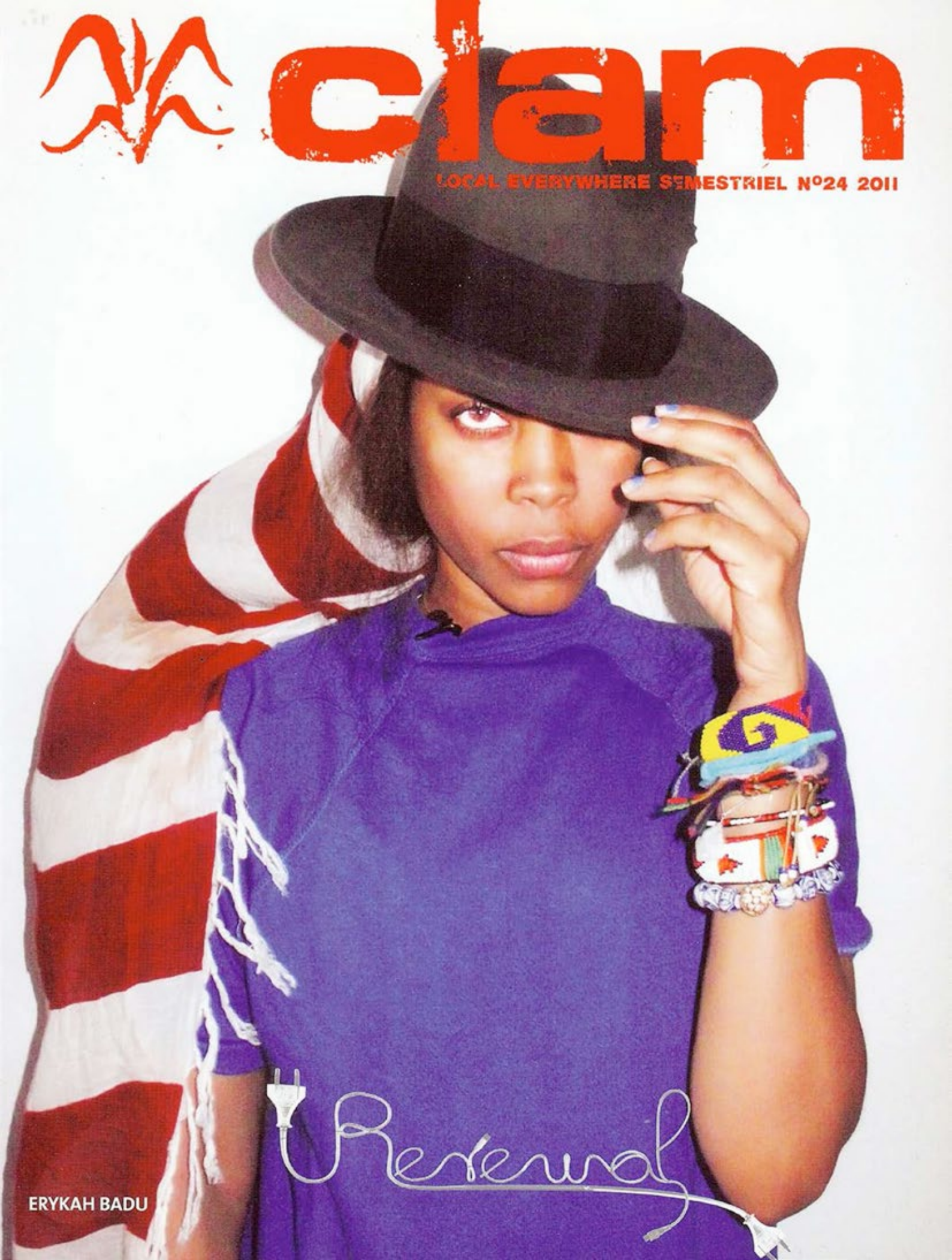


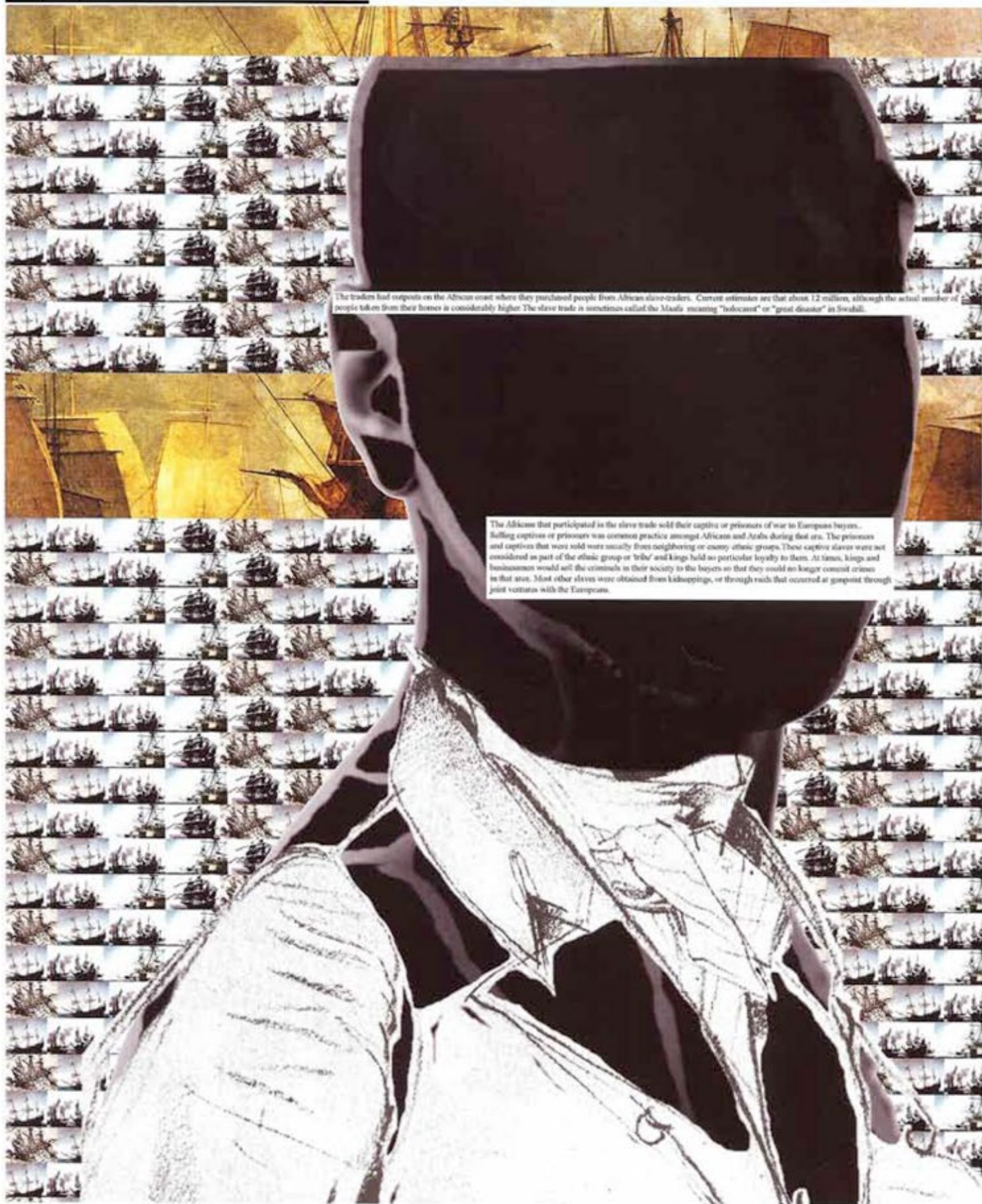
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LOCAL EVERYWHERE SEMESTRIEL N°24 2011



ERYKAH BADU

Renewal



The traders had outposts on the African coast where they purchased people from African slave-traders. Current estimates are that about 12 million, although the actual number of people taken from their homes is considerably higher. The slave trade is sometimes called the *Masa*, meaning "holocaust" or "great disaster" in Swahili.

The Africans that participated in the slave trade sold their captives or prisoners of war to European buyers. Selling captives or prisoners was common practice amongst Africans and Arabs during that era. The prisoners and captives that were sold were usually from neighboring or enemy ethnic groups. These captive slaves were not considered as part of the ethnic group or tribe and kings held a particular loyalty to them. At times, kings and businessmen would sell the criminals in their society to the buyers so that they could no longer commit crimes in that area. Most other slaves were obtained from kidnappings, or through raids that occurred at govt. through joint ventures with the Europeans.

WHAT'S YOUR NAME? GAVIN ANDREW BENJAMIN. **WHERE DO YOU LIVE?** BROOKLYN NY. **WHAT DO YOU DO?** I DO MANY THINGS. MY FIRST LOVE WILL ALWAYS BE BEING A ARTIST. **IN A FEW LINE DESCRIBE YOUR WORK AND YOURSELF...** MY WORK IS A MASH UP OF MANY THINGS, INFLUENCES CINEMA, ART HISTORY, PHOTOGRAPHY, POP CULTURE, MUSIC. **THE THEME AS ALWAYS WITH CLAM IS A REFLECTION OF WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR WORLD NOW...** I AM CURRENTLY IN A FLUX. MY WORLD IS CONSTANTLY CHANGING AND EVOLVING **WHAT ARE YOU WORKING ON AT THE MOMENT?** I AM WORKING ON A FARM BUILDING MY NEW ART STUDIO, ALSO I AM TWEAKING A NEW SERIES LEGENDS AND LEGACY THAT WILL HAVE ITS DEBUT THIS FALL AT GALLERIE 13 JM. **WHAT IS THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF THE WORK YOU ARE**

DOING? THIS NEW BODY OF WORK IS AN EXPLORATION OF THE BEGINNING OF SLAVERY AND THE WHAT COMES AFTER WITH A TWIST. **FROM THE WORLD EVENTS... WHICH OF THESE EVENTS HAVE AFFECTED YOU MOST PERSONALLY: THE UPRISING IN THE ARAB COUNTRIES... THE SOMALIAN FAMINE... THE JAPANESE EARTHQUAKES... THE LONDON RIOTS... WHY & HOW WERE YOU AFFECTED?** The uprising in the Arab countries and the riots in London, shows when you believe and fight for your believes change can happen. In America we are more passive, in other parts of the world when you don't have a lot to lose you take more risk and you speak out more about the injustices. **WHAT IS YOUR TAKE OF THE WORLD NOW?** There is so much fighting

Charlestown, July 24th, 1769.

TO BE SOLD,

A CARGO

OF

NINETY-FOUR

PRIME, HEALTHY

NEGROES

in the world today for power and money. A perfect example would be the fight between republicans and democrats in America over the country's budget. The people lost. **DOES THE IDEA OF RENEWAL INSPIRE YOU...** Always is **RENEWAL NECESSARY OR IS IT JUST A FASHION & TREND ORIENTATION OF MAKING EVERYTHING IN LIFE DISPOSABLE?** Renewal is the opposite of disposable and yet it is quite necessary. I do believe as artist I am always renewing old ideas presented by others in past. The difference is my take on renewal. **WHAT'S WRONG WITH OLD STUFFS & WAYS?** IDEAS ARE ALWAYS EVOLVING. TO LIVE IN THE PAST MEANS A QUICK DEATH. **CONCRETELY PLEASE HOW IN YOUR WORK, LIFE OR THOUGHTS THAT YOU**

THINK A RENEWAL CAN HAPPEN? Himm that is a very interesting question. Renewal is always happening. Look around the world we are always looking for new ways to improve the past. **GIVE US YOUR IDEAS FOR RENEWAL AND IF POSSIBLE YOUR RENEWAL STORY...** My art work is what tells that story better than I can put into words. **PREDICT WHAT WOULD BE OLD AND NEED RENEWAL IN THE NEXT 5 YEARS!** That would be me. Lol. **IS THERE ANY QUESTION YOU WOULD HAVE LIKED ME TO ASK YOU? ASK IT HERE AND GIVE YOUR ANSWER...** No I think you have it covered. **LET US ASK A SILLY QUESTION TO END IT ALL, DO YOU LIKE FEMALE FOOTBALL (SOCCER)? HAVE YOU EVER WATCHED IT AND WHY? No**