



"I'm tired of living with labels. I just want to be who I am.
I am Sylvia Rivera"

Her legacy includes the **Sylvia Rivera Food Pantry** and **Sylvia's Place** queer youth shelter, run by the NY Metropolitan Community Church, and the **Sylvia Rivera Law Project**, dedicated "to guarantee that all people are free to self-determining gender identity and expression without facing harassment, discrimination or violence." In 2000, Sylvia was guest of honour at **World Pride** in Italy, where she was acclaimed, "**the mother of all gay people**." Her life and work continues to inspire activists around the world.

Action Revolutionaries. Sylvia was angry that gender nonconforming people were being excluded by a mainly white middle-class and conservative gay rights movement in order to achieve mainstream social acceptance.

A revolutionary who believed in liberation not assimilation, Sylvia reformed **STAR** in early 2001 (the "T" now standing for transgender), campaigning for a New York City Transgender Rights Bill and a trans-inclusive state wide Sexual Orientation Non Discrimination Act.

A survivor of sexual and physical abuse, homelessness, addiction and depression, Sylvia's compassion and energy meant she never stopped



"I will struggle till the day I die
and my main struggle right now
is that my community will seek
the rights that are justly ours"

Latina **Sylvia Rivera** is famed for her fiercely impassioned "GAY POWER" speech at the 1973 Christopher Street Liberation Day Rally in New York, four years after the **Stonewall riots**.

Rejected for her gender nonconformity, effeminate behaviour and wearing makeup to school, she became homeless before her eleventh birthday, and survived by "hustling" on 42nd street. She was taken in by the local community of drag queens, where she became close friends with **Marsha P Johnson**.

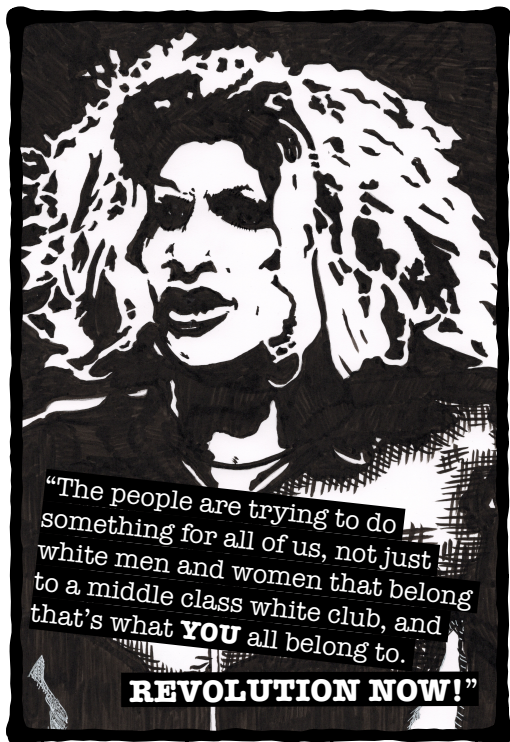
Rivera and Johnson were leading front-line activists at gay liberation protests, and in 1970 co-founded **STAR**, the Street Transvestite

SYLVIA



"mother of all gay people"

Stoner Mouse
July 2022



"The people are trying to do something for all of us, not just white men and women that belong to a middle class white club, and that's what **YOU** all belong to."

REVOLUTION NOW!

SYLVIA

Sylvia Rivera, July 2, 1951 to February 19, 2002



"In many ways
Sylvia was the Rosa
Parks of the modern
transgender
movement, a term
not even coined until
two decades after
Stonewall"

- Riki Wilchins
trans activist

community
control