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## My Own Wings

### Bio

[Katia Repina](#) is a Russian documentary photographer, filmmaker and visual artist. In 2009 she moved to Barcelona where she studied photojournalism and documentary photography. In 2017 she moved to NYC where she is currently based. She works on documentary projects which focus on intimate stories and spotlight the issues of gender, identity and sexuality.

Her projects and short films were screened and exhibited in France, Spain, Argentina, Belarus, USA, Canada, Romania, Malaysia, Cambodia, Germany, Australia. Her images can be found in publications like The New York Times, The Washington Post, Wordt Vervolgd – Amnesty International Netherland's magazine, The Huffington Post, Stern.de, Playboy Mexico, Tages-Anzeiger.

[Carla Mora](#) is a Spanish photographer and videographer. Since 2010 she works as a freelance photographer for different Spanish newspapers, combining photography with being a sailor. Carla is interested in social issues with a special emphasis on identity and a sense of self belonging.

### About the project

My Own Wings is an ongoing transmedia project that explores the intersex identity.

Intersex people are born with a variation from the standard of what is normally socially accepted as a male or female body. Historically the term "hermaphrodite" was used in describing the concept, but it is no longer considered appropriate.

The project is based on different testimonies from intersex people living in Spain, USA, Ukraine, Russia, Mexico, Chile, Panama and Colombia. It also includes research on different social, medical and legal issues involving the intersex community.

According to the advocate group InterAct, experts estimates that as many as 1.7% – 2% of the world population is born with intersex traits. The greatest challenge for people born with ambiguous sex variations is social acceptance and stigmatization. The need to be "normal", a concept in this case that is usually created and defined by doctors & medicine, has led many in the intersex community to feel shame. Some intersex infants and babies are surgically or hormonally altered to create more socially acceptable sex characteristics even when there is no risk posed to their health.

With this project we want to raise awareness about intersex human rights issues. In addition, we want to help increase and change the public dialogue surrounding gender identity. We hope this project reflects the beauty, power and resiliency that so many of these participants have shown in relating to society not as victims but as empowered and equal members. We want to invite people to celebrate the beauty of being different.

The short film "My Own Wings" was shown at Film Festivals in Germany, Australia and the USA. Currently we are working on a book.

Here you can find the trailer:

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Katia Repina & Carla Moral

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