

7
Butterflies--- butts that flies--- I understood butt that flies...or butter that flies? did not get that at all

Too loud the crowd and the music in the club

He said you come upstairs ? I did not feel like going---
Paladium—Palace..Studio 54---upstairs was sex---drugs

You are a butterflie he said, you go that way and another way---then you dissapear then you appear flying away..

Butterflies do buterflies live long---I do not think so---do they ?

Short short life buterflies

Known resplendissant ones--- beautiful buterflies, trashy buterflies, flamboyant buterflies, talented ambitious arrogant.. nice gentle---nasty succesfull--- bitchy wealthy and poor. Cut short short buterflies

Life of buterflies

I kept the small article as I keep stuff--- it is in bad shape now---

When remember looking at the NYTimes that I bought every day, corner street-- blue box---25cents---summer 1981.

It was like hidden the small article left column.. not front page---capturing -attracting my eyes--- the word gay--- "gay cancer" rare cancer killed 41 men--- intriguing indeed---

Kept reading the news, returned to the article two times during the day. Like having a finger pointing at me. No phone in the atelier. No calls possible another

time. Needed to talk .. no other artists downstairs at the greek coffe shop for lunch.. anyway some would not be interested---gay cancer cancer gay.

2

It is where it all began, like a declaration of war that would destroy so much our lives---. It was not a cancer but an epidemi

Of course I had to cut this article---- collecting collecting stuff of life...

Back home some messages on the answering---called a friend..he had read it..he had called other friends--- they had read it , he had received calls about it----it is like all New York had read it---the small article. I guess the people who where concerned. The word gay---gay cancer ---like a question mark hanging

Strangely few days after it was almost forgotten---no big concerns from the medias and people for sure. Life keeps going isn't it? Partying going out and having a good time

I had to go to Fire Island that week end

People mentioned it. Buterflies went to the bushes frolicking it was free and innocent and the wind blowing on the beach

Then happened things--- the top neigbourg who got so thin last year who acted as a concierge in the building too weak to fix the boiler that would stop on the weekend (of course).. calling screaming at me not able to fix it--- hated that cellar..water buggs..rats..then this young promising dancer I had seen in a sauna... in a dance of sex beauty. it was just in the air--- this famous designer waiting for his limo in the morning not far

from where I lived---it was in the water---it was in a kiss--don't touch...the list started to be long

The guy upstairs dissapeared died in an hospital, no one came to empty the flat, the landlord did..everything up in front , books.. clothes in sealed bags--- a record of Maria Calas...found a very expensive book kept it--- sold it.. he liked opera, ballet typical cultivated new yorkish homo---I kept his bike (pause)

Anxiety, night- no sleep, sweating and nightmares , my first look at the New York times was the section--- obituary-- this one had passed away that you had met few months before in a restaurant, or you had seen this one at gallery opening. Every day every day really every it was. ...you could decipher the writing---

Short illness/long illness we knew--sometimes written AIDS related sometimes. Then--- David sweet David we had to help him dying--- he wanted to be in his flat.. spot on the skin..holding his hands.. sarcoma cancer--- he said at one point at least my work will stay---nice painter..no one can admire his work on line--- too bad. No one has put his work on line---what happened to his works?

First HIV test available mid 80's, you had to go uptown..east spanish harlem never went there before--- facing reality thinking like many that I was contaminated..it took 5 years---before I acted---you had to wait two weeks for the result.. two weeks to prepare yourself for the worst---condamnation. lotery. I have been lucky, was lucky is lucky.

Every time I see that in my files I get nervous still now the first Hiv test--- as I kept the first small article--- It seems forgotten now---the trauma is still there for the

lucky---the ones left from that time---it is like the Covid-
--do you remember it? Wasn't it scary at one point---
imagine

As I keep holding in memory still the hands of some
alone in their flats I visited--- they were flying away
butterflies beautiful butterflies in my hand.

