

to the theories and practical application of new media technologies, they acquire the confidence and skills to edit video, produce audio documentaries, or participated in other media and tech-related projects. In most cases they rise to the challenge and in all cases they learn that a tech-geek girl is somewhere in all of us.

When I'm not teaching I spend most of my time in front of computers in my office even though it's getting kind of cramped in here. I've become involved with documentary work and somehow I keep acquiring more gear: monitors, speakers, hard drives, a new lighting kit. But despite all the tech I've still cornered off space for what came before—books printed on paper and Barbie dolls, though newer versions like Beyoncé in her Grammy-winning garb, and extreme sports buff Tori from the Generation Girl series. It's unfortunate that only Blaine—the lone male doll in the Generation Girl series—comes with a set of turntables but at least Tori's got a snowboard. It's long overdue. I've also got a soft spot for My Little Ponies—Bowtie in particular—who occupies a permanent place on my desk to the left of my power-book. The red, blue, and violent streaks in her hair mesmerized me long before the advent of the rave days.

Most of the members of the mid-west raves crew have dispersed over the years but in cyberspace we are never out of reach. A few of them even showed up at the opening of my first multi-media installation project in Chicago I completed with a colleague at my new academic home. And while I still listen to EDM it now competes for time with all the other genres of music in my iTunes library.

So, despite the occasional butterflies in my stomach, technological mishaps, and having to work on Friday afternoons, I've realized a few things from traversing tech-geek and cyber scapes over the years. I no longer perceive tech-related projects and interests to be beyond my reach and in my teaching I aim to empower young women to adopt a similar vantage point. Traversing tech-related sonic and cyber scapes has enabled me to fit into my own skin—despite pop culture's media generated depictions of what qualifies as girly, techy, or lady like in the oughts.

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## France Boucher

### Lionnes Lucides

une femme avance  
dans l'inhabituelle plénitude  
d'être là  
au coeur de son essence

le sang fouetté  
par de nouveaux filons  
elle marche  
avec ravissement

son courage gravit  
pour ses pareilles  
un à un  
les échelons de l'égalité

tout à fait vivantes  
majuscules même  
leurs luttes l'accompagnent

à sa porte  
veille un canari  
la protégeant du grisou

finement inquiète  
son âme colore  
les moments plus sombres  
de ses multiples audaces

lionnes lucides  
nous mordons toutes  
à la même soif

vigies sensibles  
dans sa foulée  
nous portons le flambeau.

*Depuis 1989, France Boucher fait paraître des chroniques littéraires et des poèmes dans diverses revues et publications collectives. Elle est l'auteure de trois recueils aux Écrits des Forges: Le temps au passage en 1998, L'espoir autour du cou en 2000 et Sur l'échiquier en émoi en 2003, coédité par Le Temps des Cerises. Son prochain recueil, Tournoiement des désirs, paraîtra prochainement aux Écrits des Forges.*