

# punto.



“My whole life I’ve held back, so worried about what others might think or about looking foolish that I’ve grown into this timid girl, afraid to live out loud—though all I’ve ever wanted to do was scream and explode. During my weeklong adventure at the anything-goes Burning Man festival in Nevada’s Black Rock Desert, I was able to let loose—once I hushed my insecure inner critic. I felt calmer, lighter, liberated. There I was, in a giant playground for the soul, where creativity and acceptance pulsated day and night. I had finally found a place where I could be unapologetically me and allow myself to take up space and explore the inner and outer me without hesitation. And that me was going to dance in the desert—no fear.”

***Dorkys Ramos, 31, Dominican***

*The Moment:*

*Dancing with Marco Cochrane’s Truth Is Beauty sculpture at Burning Man, August, 2013.*

PHOTOGRAPH: ANDREW GONSALVES.