

# CHEAP MYSTICISM

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*"its all about believing in magic - some kind of collective fucked up spiritualism/hedonism in a bunch of cynical gen y kids."* – from my blog *'crumpled clothes and tampon wrappers'* May 28, 2009.

Its hard to say why, but I feel like people of my demographic (18 to 25, upper-middle class) want to believe in some kind of magic. People call us Gen Y kids apathetic. We don't protest much on the streets and we're always on Facebook. We operate with a whole lot of logic and computers and we aren't quite sure if we're alienated by it or not. Creation is always to some degree reactionary, and I think we appropriate and create some kind of a cheap mysticism as a reaction to the analysis-laden world we live in. I say 'cheap' because we don't want to take anything too seriously, but we're looking for some kind of magic between thirteen standard drinks on Saturday night and awkward text messages to a lover on a Monday. We're not really sure where that magic lies – I think it must be constructed of a unicorn's tusk, some glitter and plastic flowers from Go-Lo and a Tumblr<sup>1</sup> account.

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Connor Tomas O'Brien's various online guises available at [connortomas.com](http://connortomas.com)

Thalea Hurren's photos online at [thalea.tumblr.com](http://thalea.tumblr.com)

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<sup>1</sup> A Tumblr is a short-blog platform on which a user can post their own images/words, repost other people's images/words, and follow other Tumblrs.