



other organized events that continually tried to ground the space in the Black struggle, to make it so that identity was trying to staying there. I think it's yet to be determined if that was a success or not. It definitely became like a tourist attraction on weekends. There's a nightly rotation at the barricades and crews that are doing that, who maintain that.

TFSR: In terms of like the barricades and defense of the space, I've heard about community patrols to stop white supremacists attacks. Can you talk briefly about this fear and say what you can about what security's looked like? Do you have an honest impression of – like, the right wing has all these talking points (and probably a lot of centrists and liberals) about 'lawlessness' and 'violence being created in the space' and I have no sense from out here if that's an on the ground reality or if I just have my ideological perspective that people tend to take care of each other if they have the ability to.

D: One thing I can't stress enough is that the on-the-ground-reality is constantly in flux there, but in terms of your question, the barricades themselves were a response initially to street battle with the cops and then became more fortified, but they're very modular so people can open them up for cars that need to come in for whatever reason. There's no checkpoint, anyone could just walk in. I think the difficulty with that is that the heterogeneous nature of the crowd, there were a lot of liberals and a lot of progressive types who were still very adamant about free speech and so as the right-wingers and the alt-right and the white supremacists have been trickling in to see what's there, confronting them has often leads to a couple of people from the crowd trying to defend their right to be there and their right to free speech, often because they don't understand who these people are or the history or the violence these people enact. So that's very difficult. I think once you get enough people who know that or are with it they can get them out of the zone, but I've also witnessed some conservatives, maybe not alt-right or people who flirt with that, come to the space and are kind of like disappointed. One person vocalized that they felt lied to by the conservative media and they don't know what to think anymore. Which was very interesting.

It's hard, security, there's different formations that I think if we knew ahead of time what was gonna happen we would have been more organized and maybe politicized those barricades a little bit more. I think again it was like, woah, we were just given this zone, we didn't expect it. But I think because of the history of Seattle and the radical organizing over the last 15 years in that town people kind of fell into natural roles that they knew needed to be done, maybe natural is the wrong word but it just fell into place.

