



12 Moons Film Lounge

5. Mond: 15.5. – 12.6.2018

**T-Shirts, moustaches and theories in progress –
artistic femmifestations**

The films in the 5th program of the *12 Moons Film Lounge* are declarations of both war and love: against colonial-racial repression, against the Othering of bodies, against rigid identity concepts and for the development of new languages, forms and coordinates. For self-determination and collectivity, physical thinking and its resonance spaces. There to live manifestos and to dream theories.

In the form of **dance, performance, painting, rap, text, music and experimental video**, the artists subject existing power relations to negotiation, feminisms and identity politics of different generations rub against each other, positions fuse together and come apart. The film selection, shown as projections and on two monitors in the *12 Moons Film Lounge*, condenses **artistic perspectives from three decades** into a complex survey of the **politics of speaking about identities and bodies**.

Can we possibly come closer to the answers by autoperforation? And should we print them on t-shirts? Do we read glued mustaches in this part of the earth the same way as elsewhere and how can the experiences of “female” “bodies” remain relevant in the postidentitarian discourse? How can avatars help us to develop a radically new language, the blurred of which may allow something like solidarity to seem possible. Text meets body, word meets movement, story meets future. “Exhaustion is wicked. Kissing is too”.

Projected films:**Bolita Berlinesea – La Vuelta de la malona**

Verena Melgarejo Weinandt
Argentina, 2014, 3 min.
Text in Spanish

Verena Melgarejo Weinandt's alter ego *Bolita Berlinesea* uses the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes Buenos Aires for her fight of the Lucha Libre. This museum of national Argentine art exhibits almost exclusively European paintings. The only picture that points to the indigenous population of the country is the painting *La vuelta del malón* from 1892 that justifies the genocide of the indigenous people of southern Argentina by General Julio Roca around 1880. Through revealing the symbolic struggle against this picture, *Bolita Berlinesea* exposes colonial continuities, negotiates colonial depictions and projections upon indigenous people, attacks a national narrative whilst relating it to Bolivian migrants' circumstances in Argentina, and negotiates the framework of institutional art presentation.

Impossible Bodies

Lani Rodriguez
USA, 2014, 13 min.
English

Choreographer niv Acosta talks about his current dance piece and the corporeality of ethnicity and gender in public space. He problematises the messages imposed on our bodies outside of our own safe-spaces, the lack of vocabulary for his identities and the current hype and tokenization of LGBTIQ+ Black and of Color artists.

Our Vagina, Ourselves

Dajing
China, 2017, 5 min.
Mandarin with Engl. subtitles

A rap music video by Dajing and Evange for the recognition of non-binary gender identities, women's rights and sexual self-determination.

Das Loch

Julia von Randow (Camera: Lisa von Treskow)
Germany, 1993, 19 min.
German

Whole, the whole hole, is regarded as a hopeful thought model for the 90s, it re-sets the gender question with it's own theory: the gender of the surface of a body is in proportion to the number of its holes. The gender dualism is resolved to infinity. Assumptions about the existential state of the hole and its physical behavior lead to metaphysical conclusions. The confetti master's work, the Hollow Earth Theory, the autoperforation and the Slip Hole Model illustrate the dynamic transition from the passive to the active state of the hole.

Working On It

Karin Michalski, Sabian Baumann
Germany, Switzerland, 2008, 50 min.
German with Engl. UT

Film description by the film makers:

Working On It is a film about gender and sexual identity.

With interviews and stagings the film wants to interfere into the discourse of gender and identity. It thematizes how these are constructed at workplaces, in the movies/on TV and in relationships at home. How can one deal with these ascriptions? The 15 protagonists show images, make performances, play queer electronics and talk about queer strategies in the field of sexual politics.

The protagonists: artists, theorists, activists and musicians
The place: The market place of a supermarket

The filmmakers Karin Michalski and Sabian Baumann had talks with the protagonists about their observations in everyday life and their partly labourious reworkings. The protagonists were interviewed as specialists for such reworkings in daily actions but also including activities and cultural products. They talk about how it is possible to interfere in public images of gender, sexuality and *whiteness*, to invent a new language for more than only two genders, how to reverse devaluations referring to sexual identity at workplaces, to produce T-shirts, to make performances.

One year later, all the protagonists meet again in a former supermarket in Berlin, where they construct thematical settings and create a meeting place. Together they watch and discuss extracts of the interviews. The interviews give the occasion for more performances and songs.

The film refuses to show the narratives of sexuality and gender as *authentic* in the sense of classical documentations. It rather seeks for experimental filmic means that show "the talk about oneself" as a useful fiction and a necessary *work*.

Contributors:

amongst others Pauline Boudry, Renate Lorenz, Brigitta Kuster, Tünya Özdemir, Sam Sherlock, Andriana Andrew, Jasco Viefhues, Annekäthi Wehrli, Beatrice Michaelis, Elahe Haschemi Yekani, Jannik Franzen, Steffen Kitty Hermann, Doro Wiese, Elfe Brandenburger, Ins A Kromminga

Music by: Heidi Mortenson, Rhythm King and Her Friends, Scream Club, Lesbians on Ecstasy

#manifestA

Nathalie Percillier
Germany, 2012, 80 min.
German with Engl. subtitles

Film description by the film maker:

"Virgin Mary ... become a feminist, become a feminist, become a feminist!"

Maria Aljochina and Nadezhda Tolokonnikova sit in a labor camp, it has become quiet around *Pussy Riot*, *Femen* is probably some men thing, women populate the middle level, the men sit at the top. The ratio of men films to women feature films is still 5:43 in Germany and it does not look any better on the art market either. Although we have a chancellor who was not even able to install the women's quota, but a bonus for day-care waivers that ties women to the stove. "My body belongs to me" was also such a beautiful sentence. The female body, however, has vanished from theory due to deconstruction in queer, diversity and gender studies. Women are being traded, they are being raped by individuals and by groups and somehow they are still to blame. "All in all, there is still a clear asocial assymetry between the sexes". (Anja Kühne) There is a lot to do in this field and a new feminist manifesto could be written daily. In 1998 several artists met in Basel and proclaimed the First Manifest of Great and Renowned Female Artists. Every article in this manifesto can still be printed on the t-shirt today, and each sentence leads to the most beautiful table discussions, it triggers polemics, outrage and enthusiasm.

"Disclose your strategies to each other and become idols with the pistol", is what the protagonist do in *#manifestA*, "Thinking alone is criminal". They reflect on the good, the power, the money "plays a role. Get it and let it flow", the mainstream and alternative paths, "Capture the main street of the art market with guile and ingenuity". They politicize and practice "the immediate transformation of thoughts and feelings into words". "Artists, seduce! be machines, spit it out". All the actors in *#manifestA* are artists who not only think about the manifesto but work in front of the camera. "Exhaustion is wicked. Kissing is too". Not only did I want a stream of consciousness, but a stream of images of artistically working women. They work in their studios, gardens, on stages, in exhibition and rehearsal rooms, sing about and play the manifesto. Looking at female artists at work is highly contagious. The talks around the manifesto are the framework, the images and the music the spirit. They join in the jubilant power of the manifesto.

Contributors:

amongst others Les Reines Prochaines, Ulrike Haage, Andrea Saemann, Brigitte Schlögel, Chris Regn, Sophia Schama, Monika Dillier, Beate Spalthof, Walli Höfing, Martine Ledieu

<http://www.dieheldinnen.de/>

Films on monitors:**"Hello! My name is B__ o _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
_ _ d _ y _ _ and I am here to abduct
the f _ _ _ ut _ _ u _ _ _ _ _ _ _ re _ _ _"**

Vassiliea Stylianidou
Germany, 2017, 46 min.
Language and text: German, English, Greek

Film description by the film maker:

The project is a polyphonic–both real and fictitious–discussion between five people and one narrator. As its starting point, it poses the question of the relation between the body, gender, language and the future. More specifically, it explores the political dimension of trans*/ inter*/ non-binary/ de-gendered identities and their relation to language and their visions about the future.

The discussion begins with the following assumptions and inquiries: We cannot speak about the future without first speaking about gender. And we cannot speak about gender without modifying the language in which we speak and feel and understand and love one another. The future–if something like this exists–passes necessarily through the de-/re- construction of language. Language becomes not just the means but the body itself. How is this possible? Is a gender transition possible only through language?

The project proposes to design of a new language of the future for the trans*/ inter*/ non-binary/ de-gendered body. For the body that wants to construct/ form a new identity. Or even a language for the erasure of identity.

Contributors:

amongst others: Lorenz Erdmann, nanavongestern, Nana, Jamie Diker, Ria Klug, FOR AN ANONYMOUS FUGITIVE AUTHOR*, Frank Wismar, Lann Hornscheidt, Ria Klug, Tucké Royale, Jayrôme C. Robinet, Konstantine Matsoukas, SN.

Since 2014 Vassiliea Stylianidou is working on the process of constructing FOR AN ANONYMOUS FUGITIVE AUTHOR*. This author* who is not one. Gender: fugitive. Genre: fugitive trope. FOR AN ANONYMOUS FUGITIVE AUTHOR* is

1. a machinic artistic medium in transition,
2. an assemblage of singularities,
3. a migrating dispositive of names, bodies, knowledge, lack of knowledge, organs, instruments, private and public histories and places... and the gaps, differences, misunderstandings between them (...).

12 Moons

A year-long program featuring films by feminist filmmakers and video artists

For *12 Moons*, one of the exhibition rooms at Schwules Museum is transformed into a film lounge inviting visitors to encounter various cinematic formats and international (queer) feminist positions. The film lounge is open during regular Museum opening hours, with each new moon initiating a new program cycle.

The series is a yearlong intervention against the underrepresentation of women's* perspectives, specifically in media and museum contexts, but also in the arts and society overall. Month by month, the screenings raise questions about the construction and communication of forms of *femininity_ies*, and also gauge the potential of an alternative gaze.

In search of classics in lesbian and feminist film history, of contemporary queer positions and of the voices of women* of color, we will turn to the OWLs (Older Wiser Lesbians) and talk to experts of porn film. We will dig through archives and visit festivals and ask the communities about the stories that need to be seen and heard.

The selected films provide insights into everyday lives and desires, they question relationship structures and power constellations. A critical eye is cast on societal pressures, while times of uprising and resistance against coercive gender norms offer inspiration. The utopian concepts and moments of healing emerging from the selected films are testimonies to the global struggles of women* for respect, self-determination and spaces to unfold.

12 Moons is funded by the Senate Department for Culture and Europe as part of the project *Year of the Women**.

Team

Curator: Vera Hofmann

Assistance: Felix Roadkill

Thanks to Alexia Apolinario, Marie Vermeiren

Engl. proofreading: Hannah Curran-Troop

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**Sun, Mon, Wed & Fri: 2-6pm,
Thu: 2-8pm, Sat: 2-7pm,
Tue: closed**

7,50 € (4 € reduced)

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